

MARTIN WITH MARTIN DALES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 January 2010 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

1. Apologies for absence

Letters of resignation have been received from Cllr L Sanby and Cllr S Phillip both with immediate effect. Action has been taken to advise NKDC of the vacancies and the announcement will be published on the notice board from Tuesday 26th January. The public will then have two weeks to request an election failing which NKDC will authorise the co-option of replacements. Cllrs Evans and Mrs Whittle asked to be kept informed of progress as they are aware of interest from potentially suitable individuals.

Present were Cllr M J Stephens MBE (Chair); Cllr C Vickers (Vice Chair); Cllr W Busby; Cllr B Downing; Cllr J Evans; Cllr L Whittle, Cllr H Whittle and The Parish Clerk Mrs K Stephens.

Also in attendance County Cllr P Bradwell, District Cllr F Ambridge, Mrs S Bark and Ms J Williams from NKDC.

2. Declarations of interest

In accordance with the Local Code of Conduct any personal or prejudicial interest must be declared and if personal interest the nature of that interest must be given. Note that declaration of interest must be made as soon as it becomes apparent to a member. A member can declare the interest when the item is first discussed.

- Cllr Evans declared a person interest in respect of item 9 – she is a Trustee of the Friends of Metheringham Airfield.
- Cllr Mrs Whittle declared a personal interest also in item 9 – she is a member of an informal working group intending to improve the facility – Village Hall.
- Cllr C Vickers declared a personal interest also in item 9 – he is a Trustee of the Village Hall.
- The Chair Cllr M J Stephens MBE also declared a prejudicial interest in respect of item 9 as he is married to the Parish Clerk.

3. Minutes

To receive and approve for accuracy purposes the minutes of the meetings held 18 November and 30 November 2009.

It transpired that the minutes of the meeting of 18 November circulated in advance of the meeting were incomplete. Since the missing page covers a major part of the meeting and no copies were immediately available for consideration it was resolved that fresh and complete copies will be circulated in due course and considered for accuracy at the next meeting.

The minutes of the meeting of 30 November required to be amended at item 9a. Cllr H Whittle had suggested a rate of £6.15, but Cllr J Evans suggested a rate of £5.00. After a short discussion this latter proposal was adopted. These amendments were made in manuscript and the minutes duly signed off.

4 Reports from Outside Bodies

- a. Mrs Sharon Bark – Playing Field update. It was indicated that methodology and costing were now to hand and that the project is expected to go out to tender within the month. The method to be followed is:

Dry Screening

- Remove 300mm of soil from the surface;
- Pass the 300mm of soil through a dry, vibrating powered screen on site, which is placed on a setting to screen out the desired contamination (e.g. glass);
- Backfill, roll and compact the screened waste materials (e.g. crushed glass / oversize) back into the area from which it has been excavated. (This will likely be only 1 to 5% of the total soil volume excavated). Any remaining oversize could be installed at the edges of the pitches.
- Backfill and compact a layer of crushed concrete (150mm).
- Replace a minimum of 200m of screened topsoil.
- Reseed

A short discussion ensued as to the practicality of grass on such surfaces and the potential implications for dry weather deterioration/irrigation – these will be taken into account in the project. Conversely concerns were raised as to the impact upon drainage of the area, it is considered that the project takes proper account of this aspect and with the exception of limited improvements to the drainage ditches, no other work will be required and no problems are envisaged. The NKDC Officers were reminded that a section of the land in question is owned by the school trustees and it was agreed that the PC will arrange a meeting with them as soon as practicable in order to set out the planned project and to seek their approval. Although not a part of the present project to replace the playing field due to the funding provision for the younger children of the village. It is anticipated that when able the PC will take appropriate action. It was also noted that as the project develops and preparation is made for the play area, there is an intention to consult throughout the Parish and particularly the younger community. The school would be a logical route to achieve at least part of this. The Clerk is to contact the school to arrange this. It was also resolved that the time has come to re-activate the Playing Field sub-committee – Cllr H Whittle asked to be added to this.

- b. County Cllr P Bradwell advised that efforts to resolve the speeding concerns of the PC had effectively stalled. This prompted a wide ranging discussion as to the areas of concern, the circumstances of the recent fatalities and also the implication of the increased traffic and pedestrian flows in the area of the school resultant on the withdrawal of a bus service for Timberland pupils. It was resolved to take up the suggestion by County Cllr Bradwell that the PC arrange a meeting with the Highways Department responsible officers to which all parties involved should be invited in order to make clear the concerns and explore what can be done. It was resolved that the Clerk will seek to arrange this. The discussion also took note of the previously agreed intention to seek to provide 2 re-active speed signs for the village. Both County Cllr Bradwell and District Councillor Ambridge advised that their attempts to obtain these had not been successful but that costs are considerable. The Parish Clerk indicated that she had independently sought guidance and pricings from a supplier but that no response had yet been received. (After note – this response came on 26th January and a copy will be circulated to Parish Councillors as soon as possible).
- c. District Cllr F Ambridge spoke at some length on the intention to relocate the old visitors centre building from Witham Bank to the Airfield and the costs that fall to this. It was noted that the Cluster Meeting had supported and agreed a bid for some funding and he thanked the PC for their support. He noted that the PC are to consider

a bid for further funding later in this meeting and commended the project to the PC as being a significant improvement to the visitor centre that will impact to the benefit of the village and community.

5. Public Question Time

- a. Ms GL Searle Clerk to the Governors- Mrs Mary King's C of E (Cont) School. The school authorities have written formally to the PC to confirm their concerns about speeding and traffic flows in the area of the school and to clarify their position in respect of reported previous objections by them to various proposals. It has never been the case that they had effectively blocked these, rather quite the opposite they are fully supportive of whatever action can be taken to improve the situation.

6. Clerk's Report

- a. Burial Ground – Apparently after all this time the said land is not owned by the Church. Application has been made to the Land Registry at the cost of £5.00 to resolve ownership of the land, awaiting response.
- b. NKDC – Lighting fault – reported to NKDC and lights are now working
- c. NKDC have advised that no extra costs will fall to the PC with the introduction of the improvements to the dog waste bin emptying due to any phone calls being received from the public requesting the bins to be emptied.
- d. Lincolnshire County Council – have responded to the recent communication from the PC. The Head of Spatial Planning advised that the Planning application for CEMEX was considered on 7 December 2009 and in brief as it appears in the letter the recommendation is that, following the completion of a legal agreement (Planning Obligation), planning permission should be granted subject to 56 conditions. The most significant of these in respect of this area being tight restrictions on HGV flows through the Parish. This prompted some discussion with a consensus that already there is a significant increase in quarry vehicles through the Parish. It was resolved that the situation will be kept under review and should significant problems arise, the matter will be taken up once again with the County Council.
- e. Litter Picker/ Dog Warden draft protocol for these posts will be circulated shortly, for consideration at next meeting.

7. Correspondence:

For Information

- a. LALC – Notification of change of address, LALC News.
- b. Local Councils update – December 2009
- c. NKDC- Consultation draft, Rural Affordable Housing in North Kesteven.
- d. NKDC - Shaping the future of North Kesteven LSP Consultation Event.
- e. NKDC – Memorandum referring to planning applications for roundabout sponsorship.
- f. NKDC – Footway Lighting Programme – lighting specification.
- g. Lincolnshire Police Authority – appointment of an Independent Member, poster has been placed on notice board.
- h. Rural Services Network – Parish Newsletter.
- i. Rural Services Network – ATU (Asset Transfer Unit).
- j. NKDC – The Fifth North Kesteven Annual Monitoring Report 2008/2009.
- k. East Midlands Fire and Rescue Control Centre – pamphlet and preparing to manage 999 fire call across the East Midlands publication.
- l. Lincolnshire Police – Chief Constable Richard Crompton 6 monthly update.
- m. NKDC – Register of Interest.

For Action

- a. LALC – Consultation paper. It was agreed that the PC endorses that written/email/phone requests will only be through the Parish Clerk apart from key personnel matters relating to the Clerk, this would be done by the Chair, with responses through that person. The Clerk is to advise LALC accordingly.
- b. Community Consultation Limited - Rural Parish Council Insurance Scheme. For discussion with a view to obtaining a quote. Cllr H Whittle declared an interest as she works in the same office; Community Consultation is the trading arm of her employer. It was resolved that there are potentially significant savings to be made through this scheme and that in accordance with best practice the PC should both review insurance cover needed and seek best price. The Clerk is to undertake appropriate action

8. Planning Applications

- a. Lincoln County Council Planning Permission – granted for the installation of 27 pv solar panels on the south facing roof of the school hall at Martin Mrs Mary Kings Church of England School. The PC had supported this proposal and welcomed the granting of permission.

9. Financial Matters

- a. Donation requests.

- Holy Trinity Church
- Cricket Club
- Village Hall
- CAB Sleaford
- Lincolnshire Playing Field Association
- NKDC - Relocation of visitor centre to Metheringham Airfield.

The declarations of interest noted at Para 2 above refer. These six applications were considered in turn (during this process Cllr H Whittle had to leave the meeting) and in the light of the current financial circumstances and anticipated expenditure It was agreed by all that as the CAB had failed to follow the laid down procedure in that they had not directly indicated benefit to the Parish, this bid should be disregarded. It was also resolved that at this time the PC would not make any grant toward the Lincolnshire Playing Field Association. It was further agreed that notwithstanding the late bid from NKDC for the moving of the visitor centre building, this would be considered. After this discussion the following grants were agreed:

- Holy Trinity Church £100.00
 - Cricket Club £200.00
 - Village Hall £200.00
- All above proposed by Cllr J Evans and seconded by Cllr L Whittle with all in favour.
- NKDC relocation of the visitor centre building £300 – the Clerk is to determine to who this payment is to be made.
Proposed by Cllr MJ Stephens MBE and seconded by Cllr L Whittle with all in favour.

- b. LALC Training Scheme 2010/2011, permission for payment, however invoice is not due until 1 Apr 2010 – agreed for action at next meeting. Proposed by Cllr Stephens MBE, seconded by Cllr Downing with all in favour.
- c. Cllr Stephens the Chair withdrew from the discussion at this point and handed the meeting over to the Vice Chair. Cheque for payment 721 – Clerks salary and expenses £554.76, being Salary for Dec/Jan £506.20 at increased rate of 8.344 per hr in accordance with NALC rate authorised at Nov meeting. £27.57 being back dated element £9.19 per month for Sep/Oct/Nov and Expenses 20.99. Proposed by Cllr WK Busby and seconded by Cllr B Downing, with all those eligible to vote and present in favour.
- d. The Chair resumed control of the meeting. Grass Cutting Burial Ground Mr Graham Smith £60.00 Oct/Nov 2009. Proposed by Cllr MJ Stephens MBE and seconded by Cllr C Vickers that payment be effected with all in favour

Bank Reconciliation 16 January 2010

Balance		
B/Fwd	7446.96	
Plus Receipts	6491.84	
sub total	13938.8	
Less		
payments	3870.39	
	£10,068.41	
Represented by:		
Current Account Statement 24 Dec 2009		£3,340.14
Reserve Account statement 24 Dec 2009		£6,765.77
		£10,105.91
Minus chq not cleared on statement 720		£69.00
		£10,036.91
Plus credit not shown on statement		£31.50
		£10,068.41

11. Remaining Dates of Meetings for 2010

Monday 29 March – this meeting is now to be postponed to Tuesday 30th March due to a clash of commitments.

Monday 24 May

Monday 26 July

Monday 27 September

Monday 29 November