

MARTIN WITH MARTIN DALES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 30 March 2010 in the Village Hall. The start of this meeting was delayed by a Public Meeting held earlier in the evening to address speeding/traffic concerns and began at 2050.

The meeting opened with the Chair welcoming Mr Matthew W Fletcher and Mr J A (Andy) Wilkes who were in attendance as potential candidates to join the Council.

1. Apologies for absence/attendance

No apologies for absence have been made.

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 present were County Cllr P Bradwell and District Councillor F Ambridge.

2. Declaration of interest (if any).

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. None were made at this time

3. Minutes

To receive and approve for accuracy purposes the minutes of the meetings held on 18 November 2009 and Monday 25 January 2010.

Cllr H Whittle asked if Item 4 a, could be clarified with regards to the provision of a younger persons playground. It was agreed that a note should be added to this item reading:

“Although not a part of the present project to replace the playing field due to the funding provision, it is an ongoing aspiration of the Council to provide play 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”

Cllr H Whittle further drew to attention that at item 7a, LALC Consultation - the second part of the Council decision is omitted. The item is to be added to “Where the body, as a Council, is seeking employment advice in relation to the Clerk, this will be raised through the Chair and replies sent to this person”.

The minutes of the public meeting held on 18th November were once more considered. No amendments were required.

Both minutes duly approved and signed.

4. Resignations

Resignation letters received from Cllr MJ Stephens MBE and Parish Clerk Mrs K Stephens circulated to all Councillors prior to meeting.

5. Appointment of new councillors.

As a result of the advertisement seeking prospective new Councillors two individuals, Mr Mark Fletcher and Mr Andy Wilkes have presented themselves for consideration. Both have met with the full council in advance of the meeting. In accordance with due process as there are two vacancies and only the two applicants it is not necessary to hold an election but co-option is permitted. Proposed by

Cllr H Whittle and seconded by Cllr W Vickers with all other Councillors in favour that both be duly co-opted.

6 Reports from Outside Bodies

- a. C Cllr P Bradwell – due to the lateness of the meeting commencing and the impact of the previous meeting County Cllr Bradwell was unable to make her report.
- b. D Cllr F Ambridge - nothing further to add to the proceedings other than what has already been addressed at the Public Meeting.

7. Public Question Time

To receive questions from members of the public notified to the Chairman before the start of the meeting.

Mrs Anna Jackson, 52 High Street and Mr D Holvey 23 – can the bus stop just after Mill Lane be relocated and improved. Although this had been raised as an issue during the earlier public meeting, no decision had been made by the Council in this regard. After a short discussion it was resolved that the Council supported the request in respect of the upgrading to allow disabled access but were not minded to support that it be moved. The Clerk is to advise the relevant authorities.

8. Clerks Report

- a. Burial Ground – The Solicitors have confirmed that they have put in hand negotiations in respect of the proposed land purchase and the response from the Church authorities is awaited. Concerns were expressed by some Councillors that the same firm of solicitors was representing both parties to this hoped for transaction. However, the Chair confirmed that this had been accepted after verbal/telephone contact with all Councillors, the majority of who had expressed a willingness to accept this situation as it should reduce delays and thus costs. In parallel to this activity the Chair has begun negotiations with the Church authorities on having the unconsecrated area of the existing ground consecrated (as advised at the last meeting due to a family reservation of plots presently only one plot remains available should need arise). The unconsecrated area has seen only one burial in the lifetime of the burial ground and given that one further unconsecrated plot would remain available was accepted as appropriate by the members. Cllr W Vickers drew to attention however that the consecration will attract significant expense.
- b. Playing Field – a separate report from the meeting between the Playing Field Sub Committee and NKDC Officers is appended.
- c. Allianz – a note from our insurers advising that protection did not extend to officers reported to the Standards Committee for alleged misconduct has been circulated earlier.

9. Correspondence

For Information

- a. SLCC CPD course – employment matters £95.00 per person 15 March 2010.
- b. Marshalls – The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (amendment) (No.2) (England) Order 2008.
- c. NKDC – Council’s housing register by Parish in order of housing need.
- d. Local Councils Update January/February.
- e. Holy Trinity Church – thank you note for generous donation.
- f. NSPCC- how do you protect more local children from abuse and neglect?
- g. NKDC – the Fifth North Kesteven Annual Monitoring Report 2008/09
- h. NKDC – Calendar of Meetings 2010 – 2011.
- i. Clerk – Notification of potholes.
- j. LCC – Grit bin provision by Lincolnshire County Council Highways.
- k. NKDC – Brains of Kesteven “Charity Quiz Night”.
- l. LCC – Changes to Lincolnshire County Council Mobile Library service to Early Years Settings and Schools.
- m. LCC – new funding to improve access to key services in your area.

- n. NKDC – Footway Lighting.
All the above were duly noted

For Action

- a. LCC – Lincolnshire Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund. Noted as potential funding source for the future.
- b. Litter Picker/Dog Warden vacancy adoption of policies. The appropriate papers had been circulated in advance of the meeting but the Council were unable at this time to determine their response. A proposal was unanimously agreed that in order that advertisement of the posts and thus recruitment not be further delayed each Councillor will contact the Clerk to confirm agreement or otherwise within the week.
- c. Community Lincs – Play Area Safety Training. Noted but no action at this time.
- d. Community Lincs – Lincolnshire Best Kept Villages and Small Towns Competition 2010. It was unanimously agreed that the Parish will not enter this competition.
- e. Pip Batty NKDC- North Kesteven District council’s press release mailing list. Having confirmed that the Clerk routinely receives these it was determined that no Councillor wishes to receive this direct.
- f. Leake’s Masonry Ltd – memorial request Amy Holvey. This request was circulated and reviewed. Proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Downing that the request as made be agreed. The Clerk to take the necessary action.

10. Planning Applications

- a. Planning Application Reference 10/208/FUL erection of prefabricated building to house displays associated with Metheringham Airfield Museum. The Chair advised that since the Parish have already supported this application with a funding grant a response to this effect was made to NKDC. District Cllr Ambridge advised that the application had that evening been approved at NKDC.
- b. Notes on planning sub-committee meeting 4 Feb 10- these are appended and were accepted by the Council.
- c. NKDC – Notification of amended/additional information West Grove Martin. No further action was considered as necessary in respect of these amended plans.
- d. NKDC Notification to allow felling of tree at 8 High Street, Martin. See item 9b above.
- e. NKDC – Notification of intention to fell/lop or uproot tree in conservation area Leam Cottage, 1 High Street. After a short discussion it was agreed that the Council have no concerns about this intention.
- f. NKDC – notification of planning meeting to consider display building for Friends of Metheringham Airfield Museum. See item 9a above.
- g. NKDC – approval of reserved matters following outline planning permission West Grove, plots 1 & 2. It was by the Chair that the main impact of this is to alter the roofing material to traditional tiles. In the light of this advice it was agreed the Council have no comments.
- h. LCC – Application for planning permission to erect grain store to meet requirements for crop scheme. It is noted that this application is not within the Parish, the Clerk is to advise NKDC accordingly.
- i. NKDC – application for alterations to existing office building, including the alterations to existing windows inserting new windows and provision of new entrance lobby, 15 Church Road Martin Dales Woodhall Spa. After a short discussion it was agreed that the Council have no comments on this application.

11. Financial Matters

Insurance Quote. – The Clerk advised that a quote has been received from a possible new insurer that is considerably higher than previous years, but that the current insurers have yet to advise their quote for the coming year. It was agreed to defer this matter to the next meeting.

Cheque 726 £300.00 Friends of Metheringham Airfield authorised at last meeting and paid.

The Chair declared a personal interest at this point as the Parish Clerk is his wife and withdrew from the discussion in regard to her salary.

Cheques for payment by 31 March 2010

NKDC - Emptying of Dog Waste Bins	Cheque No 727	£270.00
CommuniCorp – Local Councils Update	728	£ 70.00
K Stephens – Clerk’s Salary /expenses being Wages £506.20, Expenses £15.58 and £43.00		
Land Registry and Ordnance survey maps to establish land ownership	729	£564.78
	Total	£904.78

Bills for payment 1 Apr 2010

LALC Training Scheme		
Already approved at previous meeting	730	£ 65.00
LALC Annual Subscription	731	£ 215.03

Proposed by: Cllr Judy Evans and seconded by Cllr C Vickers with all voting in favour, less the Chair when it came to the Clerk’s salary. Cllr H Whittle enquired as to the detail of the clerks payment period, it was confirmed that this covers the period February to March being 1/6th of the annual salary.

Bank Reconciliation 22 March 2010

Balance B/Fwd	7446.96	
Plus Receipts	6791.09	
sub total	14238.05	
Less payments	5285.15	
	£8,952.90	
Represented by:		
Current Account Statement 26 Feb 2010		£2,303.38
Reserve Account statement 26 Dec 2009		£6,765.77
		£9,069.15
less cheque not on statement £300.00		£8,769.15
Plus deposits not shown £183.75		£8,952.90

Current Account Balance after deduction of payments to be made

Current a/c Balance	£8,952.90
less payments	£904.78
	£8,048.12

12. Meeting dates for 2010

Monday 24 May – normally this would also be the Annual Parish Public Meeting. However, due to the co-option of 2 new Councillors and uncertainty as to the future Clerk it was agreed that this should not be the case this year but that the meeting is to be a routine one. It was advised by District Cllr F Ambridge that should the Clerks post fall vacant, the Council would not be duly constituted and full Council meetings might be invalid.

Monday 26 July
Monday 27 September
Monday 29 November