

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF DEEPING ST NICHOLAS PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL, ON MONDAY 17TH MARCH 2008, AT 7.30PM

PRESENT Mr D Chappell (in the Chair)

Mr P Barrett; Mr John Davis; Mr D Branton; Mrs G Scholes; Mrs L McGuinness; Mr I McDonald; Mr G Fitzgerald and Mrs E Firmager

The Clerk

Cllr S Williams (SHDC, LCC) and Cllr B Alcock (SHDC, Crowland)

APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Mrs E Williams, Mr Julian Davis and Mrs A Harrison (SHDC, Crowland)

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Non declared

POLICE MATTERS

Nothing further to report

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14TH JANUARY 2008 FOR APPROVAL

Proposed by Mr Branton, seconded by Mr Fitzgerald and AGREED to approve the Minutes with the following amendment:

P.131/08 ***Lucks Road/Jordans Bank Crossing***
Mr Williams to read Mrs McGuinness

MATTERS ARISING

Lucks Road Level Crossing

Mrs McGuinness had received a letter from the Department of Transport stating that it is satisfied with the current arrangement as are the ORR (railway health & safety regulator)

Crossing Closures -Deeping St James to Spalding

A letter had been received to say that there would be no closures

PLAYING FIELDS

St Nicholas Park Play Area

Mr John Davis and Mrs Firmager had attended a site Meeting with 4 representatives from SHDC, including Steve Williams (Head of Planning). Although SHDC are willing to follow up the unfinished pathway and poor green condition, Councillors did not feel that a solution of 6" of top soil was very satisfactory.

It was agreed to ask SHDC to pursue the matter with the Developers as an enforcement issue, Mr Alcock also agreeing to discuss it with Steven Williams (Head of Planning).

Although the Playing Field will be the responsibility of SHDC, Mr Branton felt that the Council ought to consider eventually taking it over.

Hop Pole Improvements

The Clerk had attended a LCC Community Grants Scheme presentation, and prepared a report detailing a list of requirements to accompany all applications. Paula Hill, LCC Community Grants Officer, said that the budget is already over subscribed and very competitive, and the Clerk felt that the Parish Council's current surplus could be a disadvantage.

Campains Lane fencing

Mr Barrett reported that he was quite happy with the new fencing erected by Network Rail..

Grass Cutting for 2008 season

Complete Weed Control	£1800.00 + VAT
T N Sneath & Sons	£1476.00 + VAT
T A Blackamore	£1959.21 + VAT

Proposed by Mr Branton, seconded by Mr John Davis and AGREED to accept the Tender from T N Sneath and Sons.

As only 2 quotations so far had been received for the Mole Contract, it was agreed that the Chairman and Vice Chairman make a decision after the closing date of 23rd March.

Annual Playing Field Inspection

Commencing at 9.00am on 20th April from the Hop Pole Playing Field.

HIGHWAYS

Interactive signs -not working again

Carrington Drive Street Light – The Clerk to write to SHDC to ask why this had been cut down, and when it would be replaced

Campains Lane Passing Bay – The Clerk to write to LCC to ask why this work had not been included in its Quarterly Highway Works Schedule, as expected.

PLANNING

H03/0232/08 Mr S Dalton Conversion of existing 5 bed dwelling into 6 self contained residential units

The Council have concerns over vehicle parking and turning

TRANSPORT FORUM

Mrs McGuinness reported that a further application to the Wind Farm Committee had been refused on the grounds that they are not considering paper projects. The Forum is hoping to raise further funds for a feasibility study from SHDC

COMMUNITY CENTRE FUNDS

Mr Branton reported that the Funds are in a Nat West Treasury Reserve Account earning 4.84% until 8th April and totalled £99,000.00 plus 2 months interest, with £400 in a current account..

Alternatives looked into were:

Abbey National Account – Interest of 4.5% per annum and able to withdraw up to 5 amounts in any one month or the whole amount

Halifax 6 Monthly Investment Bond – Interest of 5.13 per annum and not withdrawable. Re-invest after 6 months

Proposed by Mrs McGuinness, seconded by Mrs Firmager and AGREED to take the Halifax option, and Mr Branton to make the necessary changes.

WIND FARM COMMITTEE MEETING

Following a recent meeting, the Committee had now prepared a Constitution, although a few details needed to be finalised.

DONATIONS**Deeping St Nicholas Chapel**

The Chapel had received a cheaper quote for new windows and had kindly offered to return the Council's donation of £500. It was proposed by Mr McDonald, seconded by Mr Fitzgerald and AGREED that they be allowed to keep it.

Parish Magazine

A request for a donation towards running costs of the Parish Magazine had been received from the Church. £50 was proposed by Mr Branton, seconded by Mr John Davis and AGREED; however, the Clerk to write and express the Council's concerns at the lateness of its circulation.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting, the Annual General Meeting, will be held on 19th May 2008

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Proposed by Mrs Scholes, seconded by Mr Fitzgerald and AGREED to pay the following accounts

Clerk salary & expenses Feb/Mar	411.51
School Hire – LCC	18.00
Petty Cash	25.00
LALC – Annual subscription	328.23
Annual Mole Control Contract – 2007/08	587.50
LCC Allotment Rents	713.00
Bus Shelter Cleaners	300.00
Sneath & Sons – grass cutting 2007/08 (a/c not yet received)	
TOTAL	£2383.24
Wind Farm Committee	
Hire of Jubilee Hall (26.11.07 & 11.02.08)	£35.00

HALIFAX SHARES & JUBILEE FUND

The Chairman is still waiting for the necessary form to arrive to transfer the Shares, and Mr Branton needs to verify some details regarding the Jubilee Fund.

CORRESPONDENCE

National Probation Service – Details of a 'Local Crime, Community Sentence' project

SHDC – Code of Conduct DVD

SHDC – Voting form for additional Parish Member to Standards Committee

SHDC – Flower Parade Civic Luncheon invitation

OPEN SESSION

Carrington Drive hedge – Mr Fitzgerald to consult the owner of a too high hedge at entrance

Hop Pole Gateway Signs – these are still down

By-pass Speed Camera – reported to have been burnt out

Enquiry regarding Turbine noise – to be placed on Agenda of next meeting

CLOSURE 9.22pm.....CHAIRMAN.....DATE