

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF DEEPING ST NICHOLAS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
MONDAY 13TH JULY 2009 AT THE COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL AT 7.30PM**

**PRESENT** Mr P Barrett (in the Chair)

Mr A Etherington; Mrs E Firmager; Mr G Fitzgerald; Mrs L McGuinness; Mr R Ivatt and Mrs G Scholes

The Clerk, Cllr B Algood (Crowland, SHDC)

Mr & Mrs Parker and Mrs Etherington

The Chairman began the Meeting by welcoming those present, in particular Mr Ivatt to his first meeting and on following his father in representing Tongue End on the Parish Council.

Mrs McGuinness arrived at 7.03pm

**APOLOGIES**

Mr D Chappell (representing the Parish Council at a meeting in the Village to discuss the Jubilee Hall); Mrs E Williams; Mr I McDonald; Cllr S Williams (LCC, SHDC) and PC Nigel Smith. Mr Branton did not attend.

**POLICE MATTERS**

PC Smith had spoken to the Clerk to say that it had been very quiet in the Parish, with no further burglaries. He also wished to contact Mr Branton in order to liaise further over the hare coursing issue. Mr Ivatt stated that it has not been such a problem in his part of the Parish as there are not so many easy exit routes for vehicles.

A letter had been received thanking the Council for its recent donation to **CPR FOR LIVES**

A letter had also been received from Mr R Boot of Crowland Parish Council (Cabinet Representative for Parish Councils) to say that the Police Community Support Officers will continue under the present funding arrangements for at least another year. He believes that Neighbourhood Panels can be very successful in liaising with local Beat Teams, and that small Parishes without a Panel would benefit by combining with adjacent parishes.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – non declared

**MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON 18TH MAY 2009 FOR APPROVAL**

Proposed by Mrs Scholes, seconded by Mr Fitzgerald and AGREED to sign the Minutes as a correct record with the following amendment: **P162/09 formerly to read formally**

**MATTERS ARISING**

**St Nicholas Park Notice Board**

Mr Etherington had obtained another and cheaper quotation for this item of **£647 exc. VAT** [of heavy duty aluminium construction complete with aluminium posts and S/S fittings] from Elementary Signs in Surrey. It was proposed by Mrs Firmager, seconded by Mr Fitzgerald and AGREED to order one in **Dark Green**, to be delivered to Mr Etherington and installed by residents. The Clerk to apply to the Wind Farm Committee for funding for this and the new goal posts at Hop Pole.

**Eon – cable laying**

Mr McDonald had attended a meeting with Eon when it was agreed that they would dig up the cable at 10 properties in order to sleeve it. However, as this did not tally with information received by the Clerk from Eon, and also made no mention of any of the cabling previously installed throughout the Village, it was agreed that the Clerk contact Mr McDonald to discuss this further.

### **Standing Committees**

Although the Allotment Committee was one person short, the Council decided to leave it for the present, there still being 5 members.

### **Gift for John Davis**

The Clerk had received an e mail from the LALC to say that it was only possible to buy a gift in this instance by a collection. An amount was agreed on and it was decided to ask Julian Davis if he would assist in choosing a suitable clock to mark the occasion

### **RISK ASSESSMENT AND COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES**

A **Risk Assessment** report for 2009/10 had been prepared and it was proposed by Mr Fitzgerald, seconded by Mrs Scholes and AGREED to adopt it.

It was proposed by Mr Fitzgerald, seconded by Mrs Firmager and AGREED that any **Complaints** concerning the Parish Council or Councillors would need to be in writing to the Clerk, to be dealt with at the first meeting following the complaint; unless of a more urgent nature, then a Special Meeting would be called.

### **HIGHWAYS**

#### **Banks Drove**

Apparently new mapping systems gradually being introduced do now show this road as Banks Drove. LCC had also confirmed that they would be updating their records to show this, although it would still be cross referenced as Jordan's Cradge Bank Road. Mrs McGuinness to take the issue of the crossing up with Paul Fullwood of Passenger Focus

#### **Ash Tree Farm sign**

Carol Modd (LCC Highways) is arranging for the design and installation of an additional sign at this *parish boundary* location.

### **LCC Matters**

**A16 extension to speed limit** - this has been put on hold until the A1073 improvements are finished, and then a review will be carried out by the end of 2010

**A16 County Primary School** - to be assessed during the review for the design and implementation of a safety zone. This will include speed limits and pedestrian movements; however, 30mph interactive speed signs are due to be in place by September 2009.

**Weeds and rubbish** – Following this matter raised by Mr Etherington, the Clerk to request that SHDC arrange for a Road Sweeping Vehicle to go through the Village, although St Nicholas Way would not be included as it is still unadopted.

Mr McDonald wished the Council to report that the uneven road [outside his property] needed attention as it was causing problems, particularly when large vehicles went over it. A Highways Inspector had visited the site, but did not seem to think that there was a problem.

### **PLAYING FIELDS**

#### **St Nicholas Park play area**

The Council's request for improvements was now being dealt with by Elmer Fischer who had returned to work. It was also felt that improvements could be gained if St Nicholas Park residents formed their own group, as they could then better apply for funding themselves. Mrs Williams had already started involving the local children for equipment suggestions and Mr Etherington agreed to discuss this further with her.

**PLANNING**

SHDC – details of changes to the **Planning Appeal Process**  
**Refusal of Planning Permission** for 2 metre boundary fence at Chestnut Farm

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

21<sup>st</sup> September 2009 at the County Primary School

**REGISTERING COUNCIL LAND WITH THE LAND REGISTRY**

This was still being progressed.

**ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

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

Clerk – Salary & expenses June/ July	430.76
Petty Cash	25.00
LCC School Hire	21.10
Sneaths – grass cutting March-May	407.10
Mrs Robinson – Annual Internal Audit	50.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£933.96</b>

**TRANSPORT FORUM UPDATE**

The Forum are still waiting for confirmation of the £3500 application for a Feasibility Study  
Copies of the now published **Littleworth Survey** were provided for all Councillors  
The next **Quizz Night and Fish & Chip Supper** will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> July – Tickets £12.50

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Assorted Circulars & Periodicals

LCC – The Free Trees & Hedging Plants Scheme has re started

**OPEN SESSION**

~**Harrow Road grass cutting** – the Clerk to report to SHDC that there is considerable mole activity at this site, which is now causing problems for their grass cutting equipment.

~**Chappell Road Allotments** – SHDC had written to say that the Matter had been considered by the Council's Capital and Assets Working Group, but that a decision could not be reached until further consideration has been given to the possible future use of the site [that had originally been purchased for housing needs]. The Chairman felt that the provision of allotments was an issue that the Parish Council seriously needs to look into. As this gave rise to a general discussion concerning providing affordable housing, the Clerk to contact Mr James Furlough at SHDC, at Mr Alcock's suggestion, to discuss the Tongue End Playing Field.

**CLOSURE 8.47PM.....DATE.....CHAIRMAN**