

NOCTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Nocton Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Main Street, Nocton on Tuesday, 13 January, 2015 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Cllr Ian Goldsworthy (in the Chair)

Cllr Neil Faulkner
Cllr Graham Jones

Cllr Jane Kania
Cllr MaryAnn Williams

In Attendance: Steve Altridge, Clerk.

Nine members of the public were also present.

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Kate Tyler, Cllr R Kendrick (North Kesteven District Council) and Cllr John Money (North Kesteven District Council).

1 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A villager asked if action could be taken to deal with the problems caused by (a) overgrown hedges obstructing footpaths (particularly that on Main Street opposite the beck); and (b) cars parked on the verges fronting properties at Nocton Rise which can inhibit the view of vehicles pulling out onto the B1188 from Wellhead Lane.

The Parish Council indicated that these issues, together with other concerns including the poor marking of the B1202 and B1188 junction and Nocton sign posts would be discussed with Alan Brown, Lincolnshire County Council Highways Officer, on his next visit to the village.

2 WELCOME TO NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR – JANE KANIA

Councillors joined the Vice-Chair in welcoming Cllr Jane Kania to her first meeting of the Parish Council.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No Declarations of Interest were made.

4 MINUTES – 2 December 2014

The Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 2 December, 2014 were taken as read and signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

5 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Parish Council received the following reports:-

(a) **Local Police**

PC Hanson informed the Parish Council that a horse had had its tail “marked” at Wasps Nest indicating that it was a possible target for being stolen. He also reported that he had been contacted by a villager regarding car parking near to the bus stops in the village. The police continued to respond to incidents at Nocton Hall when informed of them.

Following a comment by Cllr Jones, PC Hanson undertook to ask his CID colleagues why it appeared that comparatively trivial incidents were reported through the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, but a more important case involving the possible abduction of a child in Nocton in early December had not, despite it being reported on the local news. PC Hanson also agreed to provide more detailed information in the monthly crime reporting sheets presented to the Parish Council.

Cllr Goldsworthy reported that it had been noticed that the wiring to the Christmas Tree lights had again been cut. The wiring was previously cut two years ago.

The Parish Council noted the position.

(b) **Dog Warden**

The Parish Council received Mr Cummins’ report which had been circulated previously, and noted that following two recent incidents in the village, the Warden had advised that should a dog attack a person it was a reportable incident, but if a dog attacked another dog, it was a civil matter.

(c) **Village Keeper**

The Parish Council noted the Village Keeper’s activities during the past month. The Clerk asked that he be informed of any issues such as the need to clear pavements, etc, so that he could draw them to the Village Keeper’s attention.

(d) **Clerk**

The Parish Council received the Clerk’s report, which had been circulated previously. The Clerk undertook to:

- 1 write to North Kesteven District Council to express the Parish Council’s concerns about the difficulties encountered during the Parish Councillor election process following the resignation of Cllr Summers.
- 2 indicate the Parish Council’s support for the campaign calling on the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs not to withdraw funding for the ACRE Network of Rural Community Councils.

3 inform the Dog Warden that the Parish Council agreed to his suggestion that dog waste bags sourced locally by him at a cost of £5 per 1000 be used in the bridle path bag dispenser for a trial period.

4 publish Cllr Williams' summary of each Parish Council meeting on the Parish Council website in addition to the Doodle and Nocton Blog.

The Parish Council noted the Clerk's report.

(e) **District Councillors J Money/ R Kendrick**

Due to previous commitments, neither Cllr Money nor Cllr Kendrick was present at the meeting.

(f) **County Councillor M Overton**

Cllr Overton was not present at the meeting.

6 **NOCTON PARISH COUNCIL – PRECEPT AND BUDGET 2015/16**

The Parish Council agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting on Tuesday, 3 February, 2015 at 7.00 pm to set its annual Revenue Budget and Precept requirement for the forthcoming financial year.

7 **NOCTON VILLAGE HALL REFURBISHMENT PROJECT TEAM**

The Parish Council received a verbal report from Cllr Williams regarding progress with the Village Hall refurbishment.

The Parish Council noted that to date Option 3, involving major changes to the existing internal layout of the Hall, was favoured by those residents who had given their opinion. The next stage was to submit a planning application to NKDC before the work of obtaining grants and appointing a builder could begin. It was intended to display details of the "final" scheme at the Parish Council Meeting on 24 February, 2015 so that any further comments from residents could be considered before the scheme was submitted for planning approval. The Village Hall Management Committee would also be consulted about the proposals.

The Parish Council noted the position.

8 **NOCTON YOUTH CLUB**

The Parish Council considered a progress report from Cllr Goldsworthy regarding Nocton the Youth Club.

The Parish Council noted that the Club was continuing to prove very popular with the village's younger teenagers. It was hoped to build on that success over the coming year and to develop activities, etc for Nocton's

older teenagers. The Parish Council also agreed to convene a meeting of Parish Council, VHMC and Social Club representatives to discuss a number of issues relating to the operation of the Youth Club.

The Clerk undertook to arrange for the Village Hall youth club hire payment to be settled and confirm the Hall booking dates for the remainder of the year.

9 **BROADBAND IN NOCTON**

The Parish Council agreed to ask the Clerk to write to County Councillor Richard Davies (Executive Member for IT) to ask him when Nocton residents could expect to benefit from the roll-out of superfast broadband across the County.

10 **NOCTON VILLAGE HALL - CCTV**

The Parish Council agreed to consider the installation of CCTV as part of the Village Hall refurbishment.

11 **NOCTON AND POTTERHANWORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

The Parish Council considered a report by Cllr Goldsworthy regarding the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Parish Council noted that unfortunately progress had been slow, and funding to support preparation of the Plan in conjunction with Potterhanworth PC was currently unavailable. It was anticipated, however, that financial support may be available again in the forthcoming financial year.

The Parish Council agreed to consider ways to bring together a small group of interested residents to take the Plan forward (as was the case with the preparation of the Parish Plan by the efforts of CLAN) at its next meeting on 24 February, 2015.

12 **VATTENFALL WIND POWER LTD – COMMUNITY INVESTMENT WORKSHOP**

The Parish Council received a verbal report from Cllr Jones regarding the Community Investment Workshop hosted by Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd on 9 December, 2014.

The Parish Council noted that Cllrs Jones and Goldsworthy, together with a number of other interested representatives from surrounding villages, had attended the Workshop. Some concern had been expressed that Vattenfall appeared to be setting out potential community benefits before a planning application for the site had been submitted, and that should the

development go ahead, no community funds would be available until at least 2021. Further information from Vattenfall on the proposed Wind Farm would be made available in the lobby of the Village Hall.

The Parish Council noted the position.

13 NOCTON ROAD SIGNS

The Parish Council received a verbal report from the Clerk regarding the possible provision of 'Welcome to Nocton' type road signs.

The Clerk explained that the County Council was prepared, in principle, to provide such signs, subject to the road verges being suitable to accommodate them. Each sign would cost in the region of £1,200, and the Parish Council would be expected to meet half of that cost.

The Parish Council agreed to discuss the matter further with Alan Brown when he visited the village to discuss highway issues. The Clerk undertook to ask Beeswax Farming to remind delivery drivers to drive at an appropriate speed through Wasps Nest.

14 MAIN STREET/JUNCTION WITH WELLHEAD LANE, NOCTON – STREET LIGHT (NO. 30)

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that street light No 30 outside the Old Post Office was not maintained by E.ON, despite it being fitted with an E.ON sensor.

The Clerk undertook to ask E.ON to repair the light and maintain it in the future.

15 NOCTON NEWSPAPER DELIVERY ARRANGEMENTS

The Parish Council received a verbal report from Cllr Goldsworthy regarding Nocton newspaper delivery arrangements.

The Parish Council noted that whilst it was not its responsibility, the recent ending of the regular paper delivery service in the village would be a significant loss to local residents. After consultation with the newsagent concerned, it was proposed to arrange for residents wishing to continue to receive a daily paper to have it delivered to a 'drop box' outside the Village Hall where it could then be collected by the person concerned. That service was scheduled to commence on Monday 3 February, 2015, if the proposals were approved by the Parish Council.

The Parish Council agreed:

- (a) to support the proposed newspaper delivery service in Nocton, and to authorise Cllr Goldsworthy to purchase a suitable newspaper storage box

at a maximum cost of £100 plus VAT.

- (b) to consult the VHMC regarding the location of the newspaper box.
- (c) to ask any villagers interested in taking part in the service to email Cllr Goldsworthy by no later than 28 January, 2015. A notice providing further details would be displayed in the Post Office.

16 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND ISSUES**

The Parish Council noted the decision by NKDC to consent to works on trees located at 4 to 8 Bridleway Close, Nocton.

17 **PROGRESS REPORTS OF PARISH COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Faulkner reported that concerns had been raised by Nocton Park residents over possible asbestos contamination from the old hospital site, which had not been inspected for at least 10 years. The Clerk undertook to raise the matter with NKDC.

Cllr Faulkner also reported that Phase 2 of the Nocton Park development was nearing completion, although the construction of a culvert had been delayed to early February, 2015.

Cllr Jones explained that the Speed Indicator Device would be deployed in Nocton throughout January and the 30mph speed aware signs had been erected in various locations throughout the village. Four Nocton Welcome Packs had been provided to new residents.

Cllr Jones also reported that the Parish Council lawnmower required a service before it was used during the new grass-cutting season. The Parish Council agreed to ask Cllr Jones to arrange for it to be serviced, at a maximum cost of £120 plus VAT.

Cllr Williams reported that she had spoken to Lincoln City Council about the on-going Coronation Coach and Horses storage arrangements. It would be necessary to temporarily rehouse the Coach and Horses from 17 January, 2015 prior to a permanent storage arrangement being put in place.

Cllr Williams also explained that Winchester Growers had again agreed to provide summer plants for the village planters.

18 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

- (a) The Parish Council noted that its next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 3 February, 2015 at 7.00 pm.

- (b) The Parish Council agreed to adjourn to allow members of the public to ask questions on matters relating to items discussed at the meeting.

No questions were asked by the members of the public present.

19 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The Parish Council agreed to pass a resolution under Standing Order 1(d), that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting, and they be instructed to withdraw.

If the press and public were present during the business to be transacted there would be a likelihood of disclosure to them of exempt information of the following description:-

Information relating to any individual.

20 **NOCTON PARISH COUNCIL – MEMBERSHIP**

The Parish Council agreed unanimously to co-opt Dr Elisabeth Murray to fill the vacancy on it for the remainder of the quadrennium.

(The meeting ended at 8.35 pm)

CHAIR