

NOCTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Nocton Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Main Street, Nocton on Tuesday, 6 May, 2014 at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT

Cllr Kate Tyler (in the Chair)
Cllr Ian Goldsworthy (Vice-Chair)

Cllr Jilly Burr
Cllr Neil Faulkner

Cllr Graham Jones
Cllr MaryAnn Williams

In Attendance: Steve Altridge, Clerk, Cllr Rob Kendrick, North Kesteven District Council (NKDC), and Cllr Marianne Overton (Lincolnshire County Council (LCC)).

Four members of the public were also present.

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Neil Summers and Cllr John Money, NKDC.

1 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

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

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interest were made.

3 MINUTES – 1 APRIL, 2014 AND 15 APRIL, 2014

- (a) The Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 1 April, 2014 were taken as read and signed as correct.
- (b) The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 15 April, 2014 were taken as read and signed as correct, subject to Cllr Burr's attendance at the meeting being recorded.

4 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Parish Council received the following reports:-

(a) Local Police

No police representatives were present at the meeting. The Parish Council noted that there had been no reported crimes in the village over the past month.

(b) **Nocton Community School**

No School representatives were present at the meeting.

(c) **Village Hall Management Committee**

1 The Parish Council noted the Minutes of the meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) held on 31 March, 2014, and the draft Minutes of the meeting of the VHMC held on 28 April, 2014.

2 The Parish Council:

(1) noted Cllr Summer's report, which had been circulated previously. (during discussion of the report, Mr Nigel Tomlinson, Chair, VHMC, indicated that he would ensure that the fire exit sign on the back door to the Social Club was secured properly).

(2) agreed to defer consideration of the VHMC application for grant aid until its next ordinary meeting on 17 June, 2014 because the application had been received too late for proper consideration to be given to it, and a copy of the VHMC audited accounts was still awaited.

(d) **Dog Warden**

The Parish Council noted Mr Cummins' report, which had been circulated previously.

(e) **Village Keeper**

The Parish Council noted the Village Keeper's activities during the past month.

(f) **Clerk**

The Parish Council received the Clerk's report, which had been circulated previously.

The Clerk undertook to:

1 write to NKDC expressing the Parish Council's concern that the grass cutting bill for 2013/14 had only just been received, and to emphasise that the situation made it extremely difficult for the Parish Council to budget effectively. The Parish Council agreed that payment of the bill would not be made until an explanation for the delay in receiving it had been received. Cllr Kendrick requested that the letter was copied to him as well.

2 submit an invoice to the Social Club to reclaim the one-off payment of £50.00 for the Gaming Machine Permit that the Parish Council had made.

3 invite Cllrs Overton, Kendrick and Money, and neighbouring Parish Councillors to attend the visit to the Lutterworth Wind Farm site on 17 May,

2014, and to send the programme for the day to Emily Faull, Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd. Cllr Burr also agreed to send a reminder about the visit to the recipients of the electronic version of the Nocton Doodle.

(g) **District Councillor R Kendrick**

Cllr Kendrick updated the Parish Council on developments in the NKDC area and indicated a major refurbishment of the North Kesteven Sports Centre was planned.

(h) **County Councillor M Overton**

Cllr Overton updated the Parish Council about her concerns regarding planning issues locally, and the potential shift of NHS services away from the County as part of NHS restructuring proposals. Cllr Overton also emphasised her concern about the impact that the significant savings that LCC would be required to make would have on service provision.

5 **NOCTON VILLAGE REFURBISHMENT PROJECT TEAM**

The Chair informed the Parish Council that an informal meeting with Mr Steve Saunders, William Saunders Ltd, would be held on 22 May, 2014 to discuss the Village Hall refurbishment proposals. Mr Saunders had been contacted by ProHelp to ascertain whether his company would be able to support the refurbishment. A meeting of the Project Team would be held to draw up a list of refurbishment priorities prior to Mr Saunders' visit.

The Parish Council agreed to ask the Clerk to contact Cllr Overton for any funding advice regarding the refurbishment of the Village Hall that she may be able to provide.

6 **ANNUAL VILLAGE LITTER PICK – 24 MAY, 2014**

The Parish Council noted the insurance requirements for the Litter Pick on 24 May, 2014, and agreed to:

- (a) ask Cllr Burr to finalise the risk assessment and other documentation needed to meet the insurance requirements for the Village Litter Pick.
- (b) request the Clerk to approach Winchester Growers to ascertain whether it would be possible to borrow a supply of hi-viz tabards for the litter pick volunteers to wear. If that was not possible, the Parish Council authorised the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and/or Vice-Chair, to purchase hi-viz tabards to a maximum value of £20.00 for use at the litter pick.
- (c) approve expenditure of up to £30.00 for the provision of refreshments for the litter pick volunteers.

7 NOCTON VILLAGE GREEN - TREES

(a) NKDC Tree Surveying and Maintenance Service

The Parish Council agreed to request the Clerk to inform NKDC that it wished to express an initial interest in the tree surveying and maintenance service that NKDC was proposing to provide.

(b) Village Green - Horse Chestnut Tree

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that he had been informed by Greenvale Tree Services that the horse chestnut tree was in a safe condition, although it might benefit from some minor treatment work. Cllr Kendrick informed the Parish Council that he had made an enquiry about why the NKDC Tree Officer was not in a position to provide such advice, and a response was awaited.

The Parish Council agreed to request the Clerk to ask Greenvale Tree Services to confirm the position regarding the condition of the horse chestnut tree, and to ask them to quote for the removal of a low-hanging branch.

8 NOCTON YOUTH WORKER

The Parish Council received a verbal report from Cllr Goldsworthy regarding the appointment of the Nocton Youth Worker.

Cllr Goldsworthy explained that Jacqui Thornley, Senior Youth and Community Development Worker, LCC, had assessed the two candidates for the post, and recommended that they both be interviewed. The County Council would provide the appropriate training as necessary when an appointment had been made. He had discussed the position with the Nocton 200 Club organiser, and agreed that funding was potentially available to employ both candidates if the Parish Council so decided. That would help to meet a key priority in the Community Plan.

The Parish Council noted that the Chair and Cllr Burr had been invited to visit Potterhanworth Youth Group, and agreed to:

- (a) invite the two candidates to attend an interview, and to employ them both, subject to them each having a satisfactory interview.
- (b) ask Cllr Goldsworthy to liaise with the Clerk to confirm that funding was available to employ both candidates for the post if so decided.
- (c) invite Jacqui Thornley to join the interview panel, and to request the Clerk to arrange for it to meet.

9 **VATTENFALL PRE-PLANNING FORUM MEETING**

The Parish Council noted a verbal report from Cllr Burr regarding the Vattenfall Pre-Planning Forum meeting held at NKDC on 29 April, 2014. Cllrs Kendrick, Money and Overton had attended the meeting, and asked a number of questions about the proposals.

10 **NOCTON BRIDLE PATH DOG WASTE BIN**

The Parish Council agreed to request the Clerk to purchase a 'Fido 25' Dog Waste Bin in red, at a cost of £95.74 plus VAT, to replace the bin located at the bridle path crossroads.

11 **NOCTON PARK TENNIS COURTS**

In response to a request from Nocton Park Management Ltd, the Parish Council agreed to:

- (a) inform Nocton Park Management Ltd that the Parish Council fully supported its proposal to refurbish the tennis courts located at Nocton Park. The Tennis Courts would be available for use by all villagers.
- (b) invite Nocton Park Management Ltd to apply for a grant of up to £500.00 (to be met from 200 Club funds) towards the costs of the purchase of specific items of equipment required as part of the refurbishment.

12 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND ISSUES**

- (a) The Parish Council considered the following planning application:

Nutwood, The Green, Nocton

The Parish Council agreed not to comment on the application.

- (b) The Parish Council noted the decision by NKDC to consent to works on trees located at:

1 *Abbot's Grange, The Green, Nocton*

2 *Embsay House, Main Street, Nocton*

- (c) The Parish Council noted the decision by NKDC to grant planning permission in respect of the following applications:

1 *Hallsyard House, The Green, Nocton.*

2 *Nocton Nurseries, Nocton Fen.*

3 *Land adjacent to 7 The Avenue, Nocton.*

4 *The Vicarage, The Green, Nocton.*

13 **PROGRESS REPORTS OF PARISH COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Williams suggested that the Road Safety Partnership, as well as Alan Brown (LCC Highways), should be invited to visit the village to consider speeding and other road safety issues. The Parish Council agreed to invite both parties to a meeting when the SID data had been disseminated.

The Parish Council also agreed to Cllr William's suggestion that the Community Plan was included on the agenda for its meeting on 17 June, 2014.

The Clerk was asked to remind Network Rail that it had agreed to replant hedging next to the B1202 railway bridge as part of its bridge replacement work.

Cllr Burr reported that she was waiting for a response from the Environment Agency about the proposal to conduct a water vole survey in conjunction with Nocton School.

Cllr Faulkner reported that building work was ongoing on the latest phase of the Nocton Park development. He also agreed to confirm that if a grant was made from 200 Club funds for the provision of play equipment at Nocton Park, it would be available for village use.

Cllr Jones indicated that some villagers had informed him of their objections to the NKDC fly tipping warning signs that had been put up in the village.

14 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

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

The members of the public present did not ask any questions.

(The Parish Council agreed to pass a resolution under Standing Order 1(y) to extend the duration of the meeting by up to thirty minutes)

15 **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 the financial or business affairs of any particular person.

16 **NOCTON HALL**

The Parish Council received a verbal report from Cllr Jones regarding a meeting that Cllrs Tyler, Goldsworthy and himself had on 1 May, 2014 with representatives of LEDA Properties regarding Nocton Hall. The meeting had considered not only the Parish Council's on-going concerns at the lack of progress on plans for the development of the site in accordance with the previously agreed Options Appraisal but also the problems of fly tipping, general security issues and anti-social behaviour.

The LEDA Properties representatives indicated that they had met Karen Bradford and Andrew McDonough, NKDC, earlier that day, and that they wished to progress the site as quickly as possible. It was felt that the previously proposed 'Option C' was the most acceptable option to take the scheme forward. LEDA Properties had agreed to establish a Nocton Hall Steering Group to progress the proposals, and had suggested that two Parish Councillors sat on it in an advisory capacity.

The Parish Council agreed to appoint Cllrs Goldsworthy and Jones to the Nocton Hall Steering Group, and noted the report.

17 **NOCTON PARISH COUNCIL – FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

The Parish Council considered a suggestion from Cllr Goldsworthy to add a fourth signatory to its bank account.

Accordingly, the Parish Council agreed to add Cllr Jones as a signatory to its bank account, and requested that Clerk to undertake the necessary arrangements.

(The meeting ended at 9.50 pm)

CHAIR