

NOCTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Nocton Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Main Street, Nocton on Tuesday, 7 January, 2014 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Cllr Kate Tyler (in the Chair)

Cllr Jilly Burr
Cllr Ian Goldsworthy

Cllr Graham Jones
Cllr MaryAnn Williams

In Attendance: Steve Altridge, Clerk, and Cllr Marianne Overton (Lincolnshire County Council).

Eleven members of the public were also present.

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Neil Faulkner, Cllr Neil Summers and Cllrs Rob Kendrick and John Money (North Kesteven District Council)

The Chair congratulated David Chapman, the Christmas Fayre Photographic Competition winner, prior to the start of the meeting.

1 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

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

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

(a) **Agenda Item 11 (a) – Application for Caravan Site: Kelkherd House, Main Street, Nocton**

Cllr Tyler indicated that she had written in a private capacity to the Caravan Club, which had now determined the application.

(b) **Agenda Items 15 – Nocton Village Hall – Part 1, and 18 – Nocton Village Hall – Part 2**

Cllr Tyler declared a personal, non-pecuniary interest in the above agenda items, and indicated that she would leave the meeting whilst they were discussed.

3 MINUTES – 3 December 2013

The Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 3 December, 2013 were taken as read and signed as correct.

4 **REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES**

The Parish Council received the following reports:-

(a) **Local Police**

PCSO Flannigan informed the Parish Council that there had been one recorded crime of theft in the village since its last meeting. A pine tree had been cut down with a chainsaw on the outskirts of the village.

(b) **Nocton Community School**

The Parish Council received a progress report from the Head Teacher of Nocton Community School. Mr Canadine emphasised that the School wished to play a full part in the life of the village and to be the school of choice for parents living in Nocton and the surrounding area.

The Parish Council noted that the Chair and Vice-Chair were due to meet with the Headteacher and the Chairman of Governors on 16 January, 2014 for their termly meeting.

(c) **Village Hall Management Committee**

The Parish Council noted that the Annual General Meeting/Inaugural Meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee would be held on Wednesday, 29 January, 2014 at 7.30 pm.

(d) **Dog Warden**

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

The Clerk undertook to ask the Dog Warden to investigate incidents of fouling on the footpath from the Old Post Office to the entrance to Nocton Hall.

(e) **Village Keeper**

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

The Clerk undertook to ask Mr Fisher to clear litter from the top of Wellhead Lane, and requested residents to inform him of any incidents of fly tipping or other littering.

(f) **Clerk**

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

The Parish Council noted that the supply of road salt had been delivered by Lincolnshire County Council to Wasps Nest for residents' use during the remainder of the winter. Cllr Goldsworthy had been informed by Royal Mail that the plates for the new post box at Nocton Park had been ordered, and it would be put into use soon.

The Clerk undertook to contact Tony Deakin to ascertain the position regarding the installation of the Dragons Teeth on the Village Green and to remind him that the bench outside the Village Hall needed to be secured.

5 NOCTON YOUTH GROUP LEADER

The Parish Council received a verbal report from the Vice-Chair regarding the Youth Group Leader appointment position.

The Parish Council was informed that Jacqui Thornley, Senior Youth and Community Development Worker, Lincolnshire County Council, had been appointed recently to her post. The Chair and Vice-Chair, Cllr Burr and Caroline Cunningham would meet Ms Thornley to discuss the Youth Group Leader position further. The Parish Council also agreed to extend the closing date for applications for the post until 3 February, 2014.

The Parish Council noted the position.

6 NOCTON VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – CHANGES TO CONSTITUTION

The Parish Council received a report from the Vice-Chair regarding further amendments to the new Constitution for the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC), which it had approved at its meeting on 3 December, 2013. The report proposed a number of minor changes to deal with various issues which had come to light since then and the arrangements for the first meeting of the VHMC under its new Constitution.

The Parish Council

- (a) approved the proposed amendments, including the deletion of all references to the first/inaugural meeting which were no longer necessary.
- (b) agreed that any amendments to the Constitution or the Service Agreement proposed by the VHMC must be considered at either its AGM or an Extraordinary Meeting of the Committee convened specifically for that purpose. Those amendments would require the formal approval of the Parish Council before they took effect.
- (c) asked the Clerk to inform the VHMC of the changes to the Constitution, to publish the Constitution on its website, and to forward it to Mr Hall for publication on his 'Nocton Blog'.

7 VILLAGE HALL LICENSEE

The Chair reminded the Parish Council that the Village Hall License was held by Mrs Doreen Green in her capacity as the Secretary to the VHMC. Recent changes to licensing legislation allowed the licence to be held by a corporate body rather than by an individual alone.

It was noted that the NKDC Licensing Officer had advised strongly that the licence should be held by the Parish Council to ensure its continuity and to benefit from the insurances which the Council has in place. In the circumstances, the Parish Council agreed to thank Mrs Green for her role as licence holder over the years and asked the Clerk to make the necessary arrangements for the licence to be transferred to the Parish Council.

8 LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – SPEED MANAGEMENT REVIEW

The Parish Council received a report from Cllr Williams suggesting a Parish Council response to the Speed Management Review.

The Parish Council agreed to endorse the proposed response, and Cllr Williams was asked to submit it accordingly.

9 JOINT NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Parish Council received a verbal report from the Vice-Chair regarding the proposal to produce a joint Neighbourhood Plan with Dunston Parish Council and Potterhanworth Parish Council.

The Parish Council was disappointed to note that Dunston Parish Council had decided not to participate in the joint Neighbourhood Plan. In the circumstances, therefore, the Chair, Vice-Chair and Cllr Williams would be meeting representatives of Potterhanworth Parish Council on 21 January, 2014 to discuss the preparation of a Plan covering these two parishes only.

The Parish Council agreed to proceed along these lines.

10 BIG ENERGY SAVING NETWORK

Cllr Williams informed the Parish Council that the Big Energy Saving Network was aimed primarily at groups of up to ten people who would be invited to attend a meeting to receive advice about their energy consumption. It was not envisaged that a village energy saving champion would be appointed in the immediate future.

In the circumstances, the Parish Council suggested that that it would be more appropriate to invite the Network to attend the Village Hall coffee

morning on 12 February, 2014 to offer energy advice to villagers. Cllr Jones agreed to take the proposal forward with the Chair of the VHMC.

11 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND ISSUES**

(a) The Parish Council noted the decision by NKDC not to make a Tree Preservation Order on a Blackthorn at Embsay Holt, Main Street, Nocton.

(b) **Application for Caravan Site: Kelkherd House, Main Street, Nocton**

It was understood that the Caravan Club had now approved the certification of this site although it appeared that the construction of the access did not accord with the Highways Authority's guidance.

Accordingly, the Parish Council agreed unanimously to ask the Clerk to write to NKDC, the Highways Authority, the Caravan Club and the applicant requesting them to work together before the site became operational to ensure that the access way was constructed in such a way as to minimise any impact on road safety. That would be in strict accordance with the Highway Authority's previous recommendations.

12 **REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR M OVERTON**

Cllr Overton was not present at the meeting at the time when the item was considered.

13 **REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLOR R. KENDRICK/ J. MONEY**

Neither Cllrs Kendrick and Cllr Money were present at the meeting due to previous commitments.

14 **PROGRESS REPORTS OF PARISH COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Jones reported that the Speed Indicator Device (SID) would be returned by Potterhanworth Parish Council when some software issues had been resolved. The SID would be deployed in the village for the remainder of the month before it moved to Dunston.

Cllr Jones also indicated that he had suggested to Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd that the proposed visit to the Lutterworth Wind Farm site took place on Saturday, 17 May, 2014.

Cllr Jones informed the Parish Council that together with the Chair and Vice-Chair, he had attended a meeting at NKDC to discuss the current position relating to the Nocton Hall development. The Parish Council was, however, extremely disappointed to note that there had been no contact recently between LEDA Properties and NKDC and that, consequently, no further progress had been made. It was also understood that Living

Villages would no longer be progressing its development proposals for the site.

The Parish Council agreed to invite LEDA Properties to attend a meeting with Councillors to update them on the position. The Parish Council also asked the Clerk to contact LEDA Properties to thank the company for its installation of new security fencing at the site, and to point out that bracken, trees and shrubs which had been cut down during the recent filming had yet to be removed.

Cllr Burr reminded the Parish Council that that the road verge in Potterhanworth Road had not yet been repaired. The Clerk undertook to raise the matter again with the Highways Authority

The Parish Council agreed to discuss the Bridle Path vehicular access issue with Mr Robert Hall, Beeswax Farming, at its next meeting on 4 February, 2014.

15 **NOCTON VILLAGE HALL – PART 1**

(Cllr Tyler left the meeting prior to the consideration of the item)

The Parish Council considered a report from the Clerk explaining the background to the proposal to undertake various repairs to the Ladies toilets and Social Club Stock Room at the Village Hall. The report also asked the Parish Council to consider whether it wished to consider a quote from Mr Hutson, a local builder, which exceeded the sum previously agreed by the Parish Council for those works.

The Parish Council noted the position, and agreed, in the circumstances, to consider Mr Hutson's quote. The quote would be considered following the exclusion of the press and public from the meeting because it contained exempt information.

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

- (a) The Parish Council noted that its next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 4 February, 2014 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.

In response to a question from a Nocton resident, it was confirmed that issues with the Village Hall fabric were being addressed. Subject to the Parish Council approving a quote (in confidential session) for the work, repairs to the Ladies Toilets and the Social Club Stockroom wall would be undertaken in the near future with the costs being met by the Parish Council. Samples of the material beneath the floor slab would also be

taken at that time in order to assess the extent of the work necessary, etc to stabilise the solid floors.

17 **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.

18 **NOCTON VILLAGE HALL – PART 2**

(Cllr Tyler left the meeting prior to the consideration of the item)

(a) **Repairs to the Village Hall**

The Parish Council approved unanimously a quote of £1,609 plus VAT, from Hutsons Property Developers for the repair work to the Village Hall, as detailed in the estimate that had been circulated to Councillors with the agenda for the meeting.

(b) **Managerial Arrangements under the new Constitution**

The Chair updated the Parish Council about the managerial arrangements under the new Constitution. The Parish Council noted that following a very positive meeting with the Chair of the VHMC, a number of issues had been resolved.

(The meeting ended at 9.00 pm)

CHAIR