

NOCTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Nocton Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Main Street, Nocton on Tuesday, 4 March, 2014 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT

Cllr Kate Tyler (in the Chair)

Cllr Neil Faulkner
Cllr Ian Goldsworthy
Cllr Graham Jones

Cllr Neil Summers
Cllr MaryAnn Williams

In Attendance: Steve Altridge, Clerk, and Cllr Rob Kendrick, North Kesteven District Council (NKDC).

Eight members of the public were also present.

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Jilly Burr 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 interests were made.

3 MINUTES – 4 February 2014

The Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 4 February, 2014 were taken as read and signed as correct.

4 WINCHESTER GROWERS LTD

Dr Gordon Flint, Winchester Growers Ltd, made a brief presentation to the Parish Council about the planning application to install poly tunnels at Nocton Nurseries, Nocton Fen. Subject to the planning application being approved, the operation at Pinchbeck would be moved to the Nocton site, which was purpose built for the handling of bulbs.

The Parish Council accepted an invitation from Dr Flint to visit the Winchester Growers Ltd site operation on or around 25 March, 2014. All villagers would be invited to attend as well.

The Clerk was asked to contact the Highways Authority to request that signs to the Winchester Growers site were installed as soon as possible. The Parish Council noted that approval had been given to the installation of the 'Old Sleaford Road' signs at the junction with the B1202.

Parish Councillors joined the Chair in thanking Dr Flint for his update on the Winchester Growers Ltd site developments.

5 **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 a catalytic convertor had been stolen from a vehicle parked [on the drive of a house](#) on The Green, Nocton.

(b) **Nocton Community School**

No Nocton School representatives were present at the meeting. Instead, the School would update the Parish Council at its meeting on 1 April, 2014.

(c) **Village Hall Management Committee**

The Parish Council noted the Minutes of the meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee held on 29 January, 2014.

~~The Parish Council also noted that NKDC had queried the Village Hall Management Committee's proposal to increase its hire charges for the use of the Village Hall as a Polling Station from £50.00 to £150.00 per day. Cllr Summers undertook to provide Cllr Goldsworthy with the details of it in due course (Steve – I think it's best we don't mention this – it was more of an issue of mine and don't want it to escalate! I wasn't questioning that there should be an increase, rather that it should be a bigger one! However, happy to leave it to the VHMC and Neil Summers..)~~

(d)

Dog Warden

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

(e) The Clerk undertook to obtain quotes for a replacement [dog waste bin at the](#) ~~bridle path crossroads~~ [dog waste bin](#).

Village Keeper

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

(f)

Clerk

1

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

2

order a new supply of bags for the dog waste bag dispenser on the bridle path.

3

ask Jacqui Thornley, Lincolnshire County Council, to invite the two applicants for the Youth Worker post to attend some trial sessions at North Hykeham Youth Centre.

4

ask the Highways Authority to provide 'Duck' road signs on Potterhanworth Road and Wellhead Lane, Nocton.

5

inform NKDC about [an apparent](#) proliferation of rats along Wellhead Lane, Nocton.

(g)

apply for a grant from the Sustainable Travel Grant Scheme for the purchase of three red Planter Bicycle Racks which would be located at the Village Hall. The Village Hall Management Committee would be asked to consider filling and planting them.

District Councillor R Kendrick

(h)

Cllr Kendrick informed the Parish Council that ~~the NKDC's~~ Metheringham ~~DLO-d~~ Depot was due to be relocated. He agreed to attend the meeting with NKDC officers to discuss the position regarding Nocton Hall on 7 March, 2014, other commitments permitting.

County Councillor M Overton

Cllr Overton was not present at the meeting.

6

FUTURE OF THE VILLAGE HALL WORKING GROUP

The Parish Council considered a report from the Clerk regarding the future of the Village Hall Working Group.

The Parish Council agreed unanimously to disband the Village Hall

Working Group because its work now fell within the remit of the newly-constituted Village Hall Management Committee and the provisions of its new Constitution. ~~However, The Parish Council emphasised that it very much continued to support the aims of the Working Group, and should the VHMC wish to establish its own Working Group to deal with the remaining issues relating to Terms and Conditions of Hire, etc then would welcome the opportunity the Parish Council would be willing to~~ appoint up to two Parish Councillors to ~~serve on the Group~~ if ~~so requested the Village Hall Management Committee decided to establish a Working Group to continue its work.~~ Subject to that happening, the Parish Council agreed to appoint Cllrs Summers and Williams to the Working Group. If only one place was available to the Parish Council, Cllr Summers would represent it, and Cllr Williams would substitute for him as appropriate.

The Clerk undertook to inform the Village Hall Management Committee accordingly.

7 **NOCTON VILLAGE HALL REDEVELOPMENT – DRAFT PROJECT PLAN REPORT**

The Parish Council considered a report from Cllr Goldsworthy about a proposed redevelopment and project plan for the redevelopment of the Village Hall.

The Parish Council agreed to:

- (a) adopt the Project Plan as detailed in the report.
- (b) establish a Project Team and to approve its Constitution and Terms of reference at the meeting of the Parish Council on 1 April, 2014.
- (c) include the Village Hall Redevelopment Project as a standing item on the agenda for each meeting of the Parish Council.
- (d) ask the Clerk to explore the funding options available to it meet the costs of the Village Hall redevelopment.

8 **VILLAGE KEEPER – VOLUNTARY HELPER**

The Parish Council received a report from the Clerk about a request that he had received from Mr John Fisher for his partner to assist him in his litter-picking duties in a voluntary capacity.

The Parish Council agreed to Mr Fisher's request, subject to the provisos' outlined in the Clerk's report.

The Clerk undertook to inform Mr Fisher accordingly.

9 **NOCTON WELCOME PACK**

The Parish Council received a report from Cllr Burr outlining her suggestions about the contents of the Nocton Welcome Pack.

The Parish Council agreed to ask Cllr Burr to proceed with the welcome pack along the lines suggested in her report, and to submit a draft [of it](#) to the next meeting of the Parish Council on 1 April, 2014. Councillors were also invited to feed back any further suggestions about the contents to Cllr Burr in the meantime.

10 **VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – REPORT TIMETABLE**

The Parish Council considered a report from the Clerk [which set out key dates in respect of those reports which, under the provisions of the new Constitution, the regarding the Village Hall Management Committee was now required to submit to the Parish Council report timetable](#).

The Parish Council noted the report timetable, which was intended to serve as an “aide memoire” for both the Parish Council and the Village Hall Management Committee. The Parish Council also noted that details of the maximum numbers permitted to be in the Village Hall at any one time had [now](#) been provided.

The Clerk undertook to submit the report timetable to the Village Hall Management Committee accordingly.

11 **NOCTON VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK**

The Parish Council considered a letter dated 13 February, 2014 that had been received from Lincolnshire County Council regarding the use of the Village Hall Car Park by walkers following the Nocton Stepping Out Walk. The letter concluded that [NKDC and “Stepping Out Wwalkers”](#) were not subject to any restrictions placed on the use of the Village Hall Car Park in the Village Hall covenant.

The Parish Council reiterated that [it](#) at no time had it sought to prevent the Village Hall Car Park from being used for purposes other than those connected with events being held in the Hall itself. Instead, the issue had arisen because as part of legal advice given to the Parish Council on an unrelated matter, the Council’s attention had been drawn to a potential breach of the covenant in question to the parking of unauthorised vehicles. On that basis, the Parish Council had drawn NKDC’s attention to the potential breach. However, the Parish Council was pleased that it had been confirmed that the covenant was likely to be un-enforceable, and that there was little or no impediment to the continued use of the car park by Stepping Out walkers.

Whilst welcoming the legal advice received, the Parish Council indicated that it took great exception to both the tone and content of the letter, and to the fact that it contained a number of incorrect assumptions. Cllr Goldsworthy undertook to draft a response to the letter expressing those concerns. It was agreed, therefore, that the Clerk inform the author of the letter of the Council's views on the matter.-

12 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND ISSUES

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

The Parish Council noted the contents of a letter dated 14 February, 2014 that had been received from NKDC in relation to the caravan site.

(b) *Heath Farm, Metherringham Heath*

The Parish Council agreed that it did not wish to comment on the proposal.

(c) *Land to the rear of 7 The Avenue, Nocton*

The Parish Council agreed that it did not wish to comment on the proposal.

13 NOCTON PARISH COUNCIL – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Parish Council noted that the Annual General Meeting would be held on 6 May, 2014 at 7.00 pm. An ordinary meeting of the Parish Council would be held on its rising.

14 NOCTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2014

The Parish Council agreed that the Nocton Annual Parish Meeting would be held on Tuesday, 15 April, 2014 at 7.00 pm. Light refreshments would be served at it.

14 PROGRESS REPORTS OF PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cllr Summers queried whether the bollards that were recently installed on Potterhanworth Road could be better positioned.

The Clerk undertook to invite Alan Brown, Area Highways Manager, to visit the village again to discuss on-going highways issues.

Cllr Williams explained that villagers were invited to join her on 22 March, 2014 between 10.00 am to 12.00 noon to plant any unwanted plants that they may have on the Potterhanworth Road verge. The Highways Authority had agreed to the planting, which Cllr Williams was undertaking

in a personal capacity.

The Clerk was asked to contact Anglian Water to request it to tidy its facility on Potterhanworth Road.

Cllr Jones reported that the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme now had forty members. Nocton Park was not well represented, however. The Speed Indicator Device software issues had been partially rectified. Nick Byatt, Dunston Neighbourhood Watch Co-Coordinator, was producing an instruction sheet for its use, and he had offered to provide training to other Parish Councils as well.

Cllr Jones also explained that twenty villagers had attended the Big Energy meeting held in the Village Hall on 12 February, 2014. He had passed on the Parish Council's thanks to Janet Clarke for [her attending](#). Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd had confirmed the arrangements for the visit to the Lutterworth Wind Farm site on 17 May, 2014. Villagers would be picked up from the Village Hall by coach at 10.00 am and returned at 5.00 pm.

Cllr Tyler updated the Parish Council on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan and explained the position in relation to the Village Hall Premises Licence.

Cllr Tyler also explained ~~the position~~ [the reasoning in relation](#) to ~~the~~ invitation ~~that had been extended to to invite~~ the Village Hall Management Committee [Chair and Vice-Chair](#) members and [its](#) officers to attend an informal meeting to discuss matters of mutual interest, [consequent upon the adoption of the new Constitution](#). [It was noted, however, that](#) the Village Hall Management Committee [Chair and Vice-Chair had had](#) declined to accept the invitation because ~~it had decided they considered~~ [that it was more appropriate to conduct its for such matters to be dealt with in a relationship with the Parish Council in a more](#) formal manner.

15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- (a) The Parish Council noted that its next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 1 April, 2014 at 7.00 pm. Cllrs Goldsworthy, Jones and Williams presented their apologies for absence from the meeting.
- (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 about a lifted kerb stone on Potterhanworth Road, the Clerk undertook to draw it to the Highways Authority's attention.

(The meeting ended at 9.00 pm)

CHAIR