

NEWBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the Youth and Adult Centre at 7.30pm on Monday, 8th June 2009

Present: Cllr. B. Skipper (Chairman), Cllr. A. Nelson. (Vice Chairman) Cllr. R. Oakley.
Cllr. P. Spencer. Cllr. W. Prince. PC Guy Jones.
Ian Colclough (Clerk)

1. Apologies: Cllr. P. Macpherson.

2. Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Chairperson's Opening Remarks:

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting including PC Guy Jones.

4. Public Forum:

No members of the public were present. PC Jones declined to speak at this point.

5. Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th May 2009:

The minutes of the last meeting held on 11th May 2009 were read. Several minor amendments were identified within the minutes.

Item 7 Paragraph 2 – Village Well. Cllr. Spencer had rung the Clerk to update him on progress.

Item 7 Paragraph 3 – Cllr. Briggs was asked if there was any progress on the Parish Plan.

Item 7 Paragraph 5 – Grass Cutting. The lane to Draycott is Hollybush Road.

Item 8 Paragraph 2 - Should read June / July 2009 not 2010.

Item 8 Paragraph 4 – should read there 'may be' a proposal to develop the cricket club.

Item 10 should read Cllr. Oakley not Nelson.

Item 11 – account balances should read £2,577.56 in the grants account.

It was proposed by Cllr. Prince and seconded by Cllr. Oakley that the minutes were a true record of the proceedings. All were in favour.

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

Village Hall.

Cllr Spencer reported that a project committee had been formed and that the running expenses from six similar halls had been obtained. The highest was Barton with costs of £50,000 pa but the average was nearer £10,000 pa. The committee are looking at the make up of the hall and once all information is available an open meeting will be called. Individuals from the committee have been allocated specific tasks and will report back in 2 to 3 weeks.

Village Well

A contractor has indicated that the time involved in unblocking the water feed pipe to the well would be 2 days plus a days survey. This would cost around £2,500 and if trial pits are required this could rise to £3,500. Cllr. Nelson suggested contacting Mick Harris to ask him to take a look.

Action: Cllr. Nelson

General

The Clerk has written to Mr. Boulton to thank him for his work and to Mr Waite regarding the use of the school. A reply has been received and is minuted under correspondence received below.

7. Planning Applications:

One application has been received for the retention of an awning at The Red Lion public house. The Parish has no objections to this application.

8. Parish Plan Update:

As Cllr. Briggs was absent no update was available. The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr. Briggs to request a written update on progress ready for the next parish meeting on 13th July.

9. Highways Reorganisation Update:

Cllr Skipper has spoken to Roy Carr at SCC Highways who assures her that the crossing in the village will be built at some future date. Cllr. Nelson said he would compile a briefing note on the highways reorganisation ready for the next parish meeting on 13th July.

10. Donation Request:

The request from The Campaign for the Protection of Rural England was considered but it was felt that the parish council is unable to support this.

11. Clerks Report:

The Clerk reported on the following:

Finances:

Accounts for payment –

Clerk Salary - £183.30 & expenses: - £41.34

Treemendous Estate Care - £360.00 (grass cutting – 2 cuts)

M. Terry – gazebo roof repair - £585.00

The Clerk was instructed to cancel the previously issued cheque to MVP Roofing.

Action: Clerk

Payments received –

None

Account Balances –

Current account - £1488.00

Reserve account - £13896.45

Grants account – £2577.56

Tinks Croft account – £6581.35

Correspondence:

The clerk read his reply to a letter received from ESBC regarding the playground redevelopment. This prompted a second letter from ESBC requesting that the Parish Council replaces 3 trees in the playground. These were marked on a map. Cllr. Skipper was reluctant to comply with the positioning of one of the trees as it would impinge on the play equipment and could cause safety problems in future. After a discussion the Clerk was asked to contact ESBC with a view to arranging a site meeting with their tree officer to discuss alternatives.

Action: Clerk

The Clerk said he has written to Mr Waite, the chairman of the school governors, to ask about using the school premises once the current rooms had been demolished. The subsequent

Initials:

reply from Mr Waite was read out. Further discussions on this matter took place later under Councillors Reports.

Letters have been received from:

- i) John Taylor High School – Presentation evening.
- ii) ESBC – Brighter Borough Gardening Competition. (Closing date 19th June)
- iii) ESBC – Bedding plant / winter bulb grant.
- iv) ESBC – 2 letters re Hollybush Road recreation ground
- v) Chair of School Governors – letter from Mr Waite.
- vi) Grass cutting contract – addition to schedule – reply from Mr Hickenbottom
- vii) ESBC – Settlement Hierarchy Consultation – by 17th July
- viii) SCC Highways – new lengthsman and grass cutting agreements.
- ix) Well Dressing Committee.
- x) South Staffs NHS – Quality and Excellence Awards.

Training

The Clerk said that one-to-one training was on offer from SPCA at a rate of £20 for 2 hours on any subject. Any interested councillors should contact him whereupon a reservation would be made at a time and date to suit.

Notice of Meeting – protocols

The Clerk requested that in future the notice of meeting, minutes of the last meeting and agenda for the coming meeting all be sent out 3 clear days before the meeting date to save on stationary and postage costs. All agreed this. Any corrections to the minutes will be bought up under 'minutes of the last meeting' and the changes recorded in the minutes of the current meeting. A NALC guidance note on protocols was placed in the correspondence file for all to see.

12. Councillors Report:

Cllr. Spencer said he would contact Mr. Waite with the information on village groups that currently use the youth and adult centre. The Clerk was asked to copy Mr Waite's letter to him.

Action: Clerk

Cllr. Spencer reported that the spring / hinge on the gate to the playing field was broken. Cllr. Prince said he would take a look and fix if possible.

Action: Cllr. Prince.

Cllr. Oakley reported that a stable block had been erected in Bow Meadow Lane and questioned the requirement for planning permission. The Clerk was asked to consult with ESBC to determine the position.

Action: Clerk

Cllr. Skipper said she had received a suggestion that poop bags be strategically placed around the village to encourage dog owners to pick up after their animals. It was thought that this would be expensive and difficult to administer. Better to encourage owners to use their own and be more thoughtful.

She has received a letter from Mike Sutherland regarding the footpaths in the parish. He has identified several locations that require strimming to cut back nettles and brambles. After some discussion it was felt the best way would be to get a plan / map from Mike showing the locations in question. Once available then consideration can be taken as to whether to use

the parish strimmer, ask for volunteers or perhaps ask for probationaries to attend from Sudbury prison. Cllr. Skipper will contact Mr Sutherland to ask for a map.

Action: Cllr. Skipper.

The Clerk was asked to contact the county council footpath department to enquire about the latest position regarding our request for a grant to produce leaflets.

Action: Clerk

Cllr. Skipper said she had been in touch with Mr O'Callaghan, a planning consultant, regarding his requirements to enable the parish to obtain grant funding for the playground project. The Clerk was asked to contact him to find out exactly what information he requires. He also wants to see the past 3 years accounts. All were in favour of this.

Action: Clerk

Cllr. Oakley was asked if any progress had been made regarding selling the parish mower. He will take photos of the equipment and try to determine a second hand value.

Action: Cllr Oakley

This raised questions over the equipment and assets held by the parish council. It would be a useful exercise if an audit could be taken and all items listed and valued. The Clerk was asked to add this as an agenda item for the July Meeting.

Action: Clerk

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.15pm. PC Jones was thanked for his attendance.

The date of the next meeting is on Monday 13th July at 7.30pm.

Items for the agenda please by noon on 3rd July.

Signed Dated: