

NEWBOLD PACEY AND ASHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7 MARCH 2007

PRESENT: Councillors: P Cook (Chair), S Bolton, C Thornton,
J Cooper, C Butterworth
District Cllrs: R Wright

and 1 member of the public.

1. Public participation

There were no matters raised under this item.

2. Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest of items on the agenda.

3. Apologies for absences

Apologies were received from Cllrs Griffith, Close and Main.

4. Approval of minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd January 2007 were unanimously accepted as a true record of proceedings.

5. Matter arising from previous minutes

a. The Square

There was nothing further to report on this item. It was suggested that the Parish Council meet with two or three members from Moreton Morrell Parish Council in order to form an action plan regarding this item. This was agreed.

Clerk to contact MMPC to arrange meeting.

b. Village Plan adoption and actions.

Cllr Wright informed the Parish Council that the District Council had adopted the plan at the Stour Area meeting in January and will be carrying out follow-up consultations within a year in order to assess whether they can offer any help on any of the action plans.

Cllr Bolton suggested setting up a sub-committee with Cllr Griffith in order to prioritise what needed to happen and report back at the next Parish Council meeting. This was agreed and Cllr Butterworth volunteered to stand on the sub-committee as well.

Cllr's Bolton, Griffith and Butterworth to hold meeting and report back.

c. The Holloway

Cllr Cook informed the Parish Council that she had met with Anne-Marie Grace from County Council and that Ms Grace has been less than helpful in relation to the appalling state of the path. The County Council were not prepared to spend any money on ensuring that the path was walkable and safe despite the fact that it is their 'repairs' that have made the path unsafe.

Cllr Cook suggested diverting the path onto the allotments in order to make it safer. Cllr Wright suggested that the first course of action should be to write to the Chief Executive of the County

Council, with a copy to the MP, requesting that action be taken to rectify the current problems. This was agreed and Cllr Thornton volunteered to take further photos to support the letter.

Clerk to write to Chief Exec..

Cllr Thornton also raised the concern that another tree had fallen on the Holloway. Cllr Cook offered to ask Mr Cook to clear this.

d. Parking on verges

Cllr Butterworth informed the Parish Council that, under the 1980 Highways Act section 130, it is illegal to park on verges and those doing so could be prosecuted. Northamptonshire County Council has previously levied a £500 fine on those parking on verges. It was suggested that the Parish Council write to the County Council to request they invoke their powers under the act and prosecute those where unlawful obstruction is occurring. This was agreed.

Clerk to write to CC.

Cllr Butterworth also volunteered to obtain quotes for signage to place on The Green to prevent vehicles turning over it. The main offenders seemed to be the BIFFA rubbish trucks. Cllr Wright volunteered to speak to BIFFA.

Cllr Butterworth to obtain quotes, Cllr Wright to speak to BIFFA.

Cllr Butterworth also questioned the legality of residents erecting CCTV on their properties facing out onto the public highway. Cllr Wright believed that this was illegal without a licence and volunteered to look into the matter further.

Cllr Wright to investigate legality of CCTV and report back to Clerk.

6. Planning

a. New Applications

- i. 06/03410/LBC and 06/3428/FUL- Single storey extension to existing barn. Ashorne Fields Barn, Ashorne. Comments sent re the age of the existing permission.

b. Decisions out of committee

None

c. District Decisions

- i. 06/03503/FUL- Field View, Ashorne. Granted. Decision noted.

7. Finance

a. Approval of payments

The Parish Council agreed to following payments:

1.	7/3/07	E Spencer - Expenses	£38.43
2.	7/3/07	The Village Hall annual grant	£231.00
3.	7/3/07	WCC- The Hut printing	£19.00
4.	7/3/07	C Thornton- BKVC Certificate frame	£7.00
5.	7/3/07	Severn Trent	£34.92
6.	7/3/07	WRCC- 07 BKVC entry	£7.50

It was also agreed to pay the Clerk's salary for Jan and Feb in accordance with the amount budgeted in the 2005/06 precept.

The Clerk also informed the Parish Council of the following receipts:

1. Allotment rent £93.20

8. District Councillor's report

Cllr Wright reported that the Council Tax had been set for the forthcoming year with an increase of 4.98%, making a band D property £1285.06 per year.

The waste collection contract had gone out to tender and it was widely considered that collections would move to bi-weekly.

Housing numbers were also being considered and a figure of just 220 new units allowed per year up until 2020 was on the table. There is expected to be huge opposition to this. In addition, the waiting lists for affordable housing in the area is going up.

The Audit Commission is due to make a visit to SDC in July and the hopes are for a better rating than was achieved two years ago.

Cllr Bolton questioned whether SDC were considering plastic recycling. Cllr Wright replied that this costs a lot to set up and the value of the recycled product is fairly low so it will not happen in the near future.

9. County Councillor's report

There was no County Cllr present therefore there was no report under this item.

10. Police report

There were no police officers present therefore there is no report under this item.

11. Correspondence

A list of correspondence was produced and dealt with.

Cllr Cook requested a vote as to whether to enter this year's Best Kept Village Competition. This was unanimously agreed.

12. Matters of interest

a. Village Website

Cllr Butterworth informed the meeting that the new village website is now up and running. The address is: npandashorne.moonfruit.com. Anything can now be placed on the site- for example: the Parish Plan, the Hut News. Cllr Butterworth requested that all Cllrs look at the site and give suggestions. Cllr Thornton stated that the address would go into the next Hut News.

b. NYK Logistics

Cllr Wright informed the Parish Council of the growing concern of Wellesbourne Parish Council as to the size and number of lorries travelling along the B4087 from NYK Logistics. The company is based at the Wellesbourne airfield and, according to their website, is trebling its size from the 1st March 2007. Their website also states that the preferred route is along the B4087 rather than the new bypass at Barford. Concerns are being raised as to the safety of motorists encountering these lorries along the narrow but fast moving B4087 and Wellesbourne PC are therefore writing to the company to express these. Cllr Wright requested that NP and A PC do the same. This was agreed and Cllr Wright stated that he would arrange for contact details to be passed to the Clerk.

Clerk to write letter to NYK Logistics on receipt of contact details.

c. BT Phone boxes

Cllr Bolton queried whether BT had been contacted about the painting of the phone boxes. The Clerk assured the Parish Council that they had.

d. Department of Environment letter

Cllr Bolton queried what had happened to the letter to the DoE re planning law. The Clerk informed the Parish Council that Cllr Close had not had the opportunity to gather the relevant information as yet but had apologised for the delay.

e. Enhanced PC powers

Cllr Bolton questioned Cllr Wright as to what was happening with the expected enhanced powers for Parish Councils. Cllr Wright replied that NALC are awaiting the outcome of discussions before they issue any guidelines.

f. Allotments

Cllr Bolton queried what was happening with Mrs Dyson's allotment. Cllr Cook replied that Mrs Dyson had been asked to give up her allotment as she had not cultivated a crop for approximately four years. Mrs Dyson had refused. A suggestion was made to send a letter to Mrs Dyson informing her that she must have cleared the site of weeds and started cultivation by 31/3/07 or forfeit the allotment under the terms of the contract she signed. This was agreed.

Clerk to write to Mrs Dyson.

g. Tree planting

Cllr Cook thanked the Parish Council for their hard work at planting trees in the village garden in January. Cllr Cook also raised the issue of the donated wild service tree which had been dug up and removed- should it be replaced? All were in agreement to replace the tree and Cllr Bolton volunteered to contact Cllr Griffith regarding sourcing a new one.

Cllr Bolton to speak to Cllr Griffith.

h. E-on emergency pack

An emergency pack containing items to be kept in homes in the event of a power failure had been received. Cllr Thornton stated that the list of items would be published in the Hut News.

13. Date of next meeting

The next meeting and AGM is to be held in the Newbold Pacey and Ashorne Village Hall on Wednesday 2nd May 2007 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9 pm.