

Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council

Meeting Minutes

25th July 2017, Scopwick Village Hall

41/2017 Public Forum

Two members of the public were present and raised the following issues:

Mud on the road at the junction of Acre lane and Main Street in Kirkby Green. This area is subject to localised flooding and the mud would flow out onto Main Street and potentially block the drain. The Clerk agreed to look at the junction and if appropriate report to highways. Acre Lane is not an adopted highway although in the past the local authority have carried out maintenance work. A resident of Kirkby Green voiced support for the plans to convert outbuildings to holiday cottages and set up a small campsite at Pillar Box Farm.

42/2017 Opening

The Vice Chair welcomed all those present at the meeting.

43/2017 Present

Cllr Janet Flett (Vice Chair); Cllr John Woodward; Cllr David Nelson and Cllr Tim Banks.

Officer: Jill Moran (Parish Clerk).

Apologies received from Cllr Philip Baumber (Chair); County Cllr Rob Kendrick and District Cllr Steve Clegg

44/2017 County and District Councillor Reports

Cllr Clegg had submitted a written report which had been circulated. The Vice Chair read out the main points and a copy is attached to these Minutes.

45/2017 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Banks declared an interest in item 9(a) on the agenda as an employee of the Landlord Company. No written requests for dispensations were received relating to items on the agenda.

46/2017 Notes of the last meeting

Notes of the following meetings were approved by the Councillors present at those meetings and signed by the Vice Chair as the Minutes: Parish Council Meeting 30th May 2017; Special Parish Council Meeting (Planning) 6th June 2017;

47/2017 Reports

Clerk

(a) The Playing Field Committee met on the 11th July 2017 and one of its volunteer members agreed to attend a training session on playground inspections run by Community Lincs on and pass information on to the other members of the Committee and the Parish Clerk. The Parish Council resolved to approve the payment of £74.00 plus VAT to Community Lincs for the training session.

(b) Cllr Clegg had updated the Parish Council on actions taken by the Planning and Enforcement Team at NKDC regarding the occupation of The Limes Care Home Scopwick. The Enforcement Officer had met with the owner of the site and had been advised that it was currently occupied by 4 persons under license with a 5th person moving into the bungalow in early July 2017. The Manager advised that there would be no more than 5 occupants living there to keep the site secure until work could

begin either for a new care home or residential accommodation. The next step is to apply for planning permission and the Officer has diarised a follow up in September 2017.

(c) Since the Annual Parish Meeting three people have requested application forms to become Parish Councillors. Two applications had been received and all applications will be considered by the Parish Council in August with a view to the new councillors attending the next meeting in September.

Planning Committee

All Councillors received a summary of current applications. The Scopwick House Development had been approved subject to the widening of the main entrance to the development which addressed some of the concerns raised by the Parish Council Planning Committee.

Notes regarding an intended application for planning by Patrick Barnes were received and passed to members of the Planning Committee.

Playing Field Committee

Cllr Nelson reported on the meeting on the 11th July 2017. Minutes had been circulated and will be published by the Clerk. The next meeting is on the 4th September 2017.

Village Hall Committee

Cllr Flett reported that Joe Kennard is the new bookings secretary for the Village Hall. The Village Show will take place on the 5th August 2017.

Footpaths and Highways

Cllr Woodward reported that the Highways Department have filled potholes outside the village pub and on the Springfield Estate. Some pathways are currently obstructed by overhanging vegetation and Cllr Woodward agreed to call on the property owners asking them to cut back the plants. Weeds growing on pathways around the villages are a problem since the Local Authority stopped spraying. The Clerk will make enquiries with NKDC and identify contractors who could spray the pathways in the Spring.

The Clerk reported that the verge reinforcement outside the village hall is scheduled for 2017/18 and the next step is a visit from Highways to assess the work involved. The Clerk will contact the Highways Officer responsible to ensure that the Parish Council are involved in this process.

Grass Hedges and Trees

The village meadow is due to be cut before the village show on the 5th and it was agreed that if possible the meadow should be rolled to flatten the surface which has become rutted.

A willow tree has fallen into the beck and onto the village green. The tree belongs to an adjoining land owner who will be asked to remove it.

Health and Safety

Cllr Banks had looked at the policies and working documents used by other Parish Councils in carrying out risk assessments and health and safety checks. He had produced drafts for consideration by the parish council which he circulated. The Clerk will check for up to date guidance from the National Association of Local Councils and contact Metheringham Parish Council regarding day to day implementation of policies. Cllr Banks will liaise with the Playing Field Committee and the Village Hall Management Committee regarding Health and Safety procedures and policies implemented by these bodies.

48/2017 Correspondence

A list of correspondence received by the Clerk was circulated.

49/2017 Issues Considered:

(a) Future of the Village Meadow.

A copy of the lease was circulated by the Clerk. The 30 year lease has 9 years to run. The Council considered the use of the area near the village hall for car parking. To be used for this purpose the site would require a hard surface or turf reinforcement. A plan of the intended use suitable to send out to potential contractors is to be drawn up by Cllr Woodward with the assistance of the Clerk. The Clerk will look at contractors and funding and report to the Parish Council at the next meeting.

(b) Neighbourhood Plan.

It was decided that the decision on whether or not to proceed with a neighbourhood plan be postponed until the appointment of new councillors at the September meeting. Cllr Woodward had been to a conference at which the effect of the Neighbourhood Plan on communities that had undertaken the process had been the subject of a presentation. The Clerk will make enquiries to enable the Councillors to decide whether further information was required before a decision could be made.

(c) Grass Cutting.

The grass contractor has requested an additional rough cut in August following the additional cut agreed for July. The Councillors agreed that the grass is growing rapidly and it was resolved to approve a further rough cut in August at a cost of £115 plus VAT. Information regarding the Wildflower area was circulated by the Clerk. Cllr Nelson would ensure that the area was maintained and cut back in the Autumn. He would also arrange for the improvement of the area by the introduction of additional flowering plants.

(d) Maintenance.

Cllr Nelson agreed to install the new dog bins on Vicarage Lane and Beckside.
Cllr Flett agreed to maintain the bench on the Springfield Estate and to supervise the maintenance of the benches on the roadside in both Scopwick and Kirkby Green.
Joe Kennard has agreed to varnish the Scopwick notice board.
Charles Kerrigan has agreed to maintain the tables and benches in the Playing Field with the assistance of Cllr Nelson.

(e) Litter Picking Grant.

It was decided that the Parish Council should continue the current arrangement of periodic litter picking events with volunteer helpers. The Litter Picking Grant offered by the District Council will not be taken up for this financial year as the requirements for reporting and operating within the 30 mph limit would be overly restrictive. The issue should be considered further at the budget meeting in January 2018.

(f) Mobile Speed Indication Device (SID).

The device had developed a fault and was no longer retaining traffic data. It was several years old having been purchased with a local authority grant for use by the 'cluster villages' (Scopwick and Kirkby Green, Nocton, Dunston, Metherringham and Ashby de la Launde). Enquiries had been made and if returned to the manufacturer the device could possibly be repaired with a cost estimate of around £1300. In its current state the device can still be used as a visual deterrent and Nocton Parish Council decided against supporting the return of the device to the manufacturer for analysis or repair. It was resolved not to incur costs by supporting the return of the device to the manufacturer. The Clerk will advise the other Cluster members accordingly.

50/2017 Finance

The council resolved to approve the following payments:

Date	Payable to	Reason	Total
7/6/17	Hills Garden Maintenance	Grass cut	490.80
10/6/17	S&KG VHC	Hall hire 16 and 30 May	30.00
16/6/17	Hills Garden Maintenance	Grass cut	332.40
17/6/17	Glasdon UK Ltd	Dog Bins	451.32
23/6/17	Hills Garden Maintenance	Grass cut	96.00
30/6/17	J Moran (Clerk)	Salary June 2017	406.87
3/7/17	Hills Garden maintenance	Grass cut	332.40
25/7/17	J Moran	Expenses June/July 17	34.52

51/2017 Items for agenda of next meeting.

Suggested items include:

Parish Council Land Ownership.

Village meadow car park plan and next steps.

Neighbourhood Plan.

Risk Assessment.

52/2017 Date of Next Meeting.

Confirmed as Tuesday 26th September 2017 at 7pm in Scopwick Village Hall.

Minutes submitted by:

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