

Scopwick and Kirkby Green Parish Council

Meeting Minutes

26th September 2017, Scopwick Village Hall

53/2017 Public Forum

The following issues were raised:

Future of the Limes Care Home Scopwick.

The road drain at the end of Acre Lane Kirkby Green continues to back up and flood the road entrance. It has been blocked in the past and the recent building works may have contributed to the current problem. The highways authority should be alerted to the fact that the ground next to the drain has been built up during the construction of the property at the end of the lane and the loose material will continue to cause a problem. The Clerk will photograph the drain and report to Lincolnshire County Council highways department.

54/2017 Opening

The Chair welcomed all those present at the meeting.

55/2017 Present

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

Officer: Jill Moran (Parish Clerk).

District Cllr Steve Clegg; District Cllr Dan Gray and County Cllr Rob Kendrick.

Alistair Brackenbury and Matt Spry.

No Apologies.

56/2017 County and District Councillor Reports

Cllr Dan Gray introduced himself as the new District Councillor for the area. He sits on the Licensing and Internal Finance Committees at NKDC. He reported that he had spoken to the Officer currently monitoring the use of the Limes Care Home who informed him that the owner of the property had employed an architect and would be submitting an application to planning for the site.

Cllr Clegg had compiled a written report and a copy is attached to these Minutes.

Cllr Kendrick reported on the current campaign for fairer central government funding for Lincolnshire (details on the LCC website) and the public consultation on the East Midland train franchise which runs until the 11th October 2017.

57/Co-option of New Councillors

For the first vacancy the application of Alistair Brackenbury was accepted and his appointment was proposed and seconded. He was appointed by a unanimous vote.

For the second vacancy the application of Matt Spry was accepted and his appointment was proposed and seconded. He was appointed by a unanimous vote.

Both new Councillors went on to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

58/2017 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Banks declared an interest in item 9(a) on the agenda as an employee of the landlord company.

Cllr Baumber declared an interest in item 13 on the agenda having a commercial relationship with the applicant. No written requests for dispensations were received relating to items on the agenda.

59/2017 Notes of the last meeting

Notes of the meeting of the Parish Council on the 25th July were approved by the Councillors present at that meeting and signed by the Vice Chair as the Minutes.

60/2017 Reports

Planning Committee

All Councillors received a summary of applications decided and received since the last meeting at the end of July together with details of two new applications received on the day of the meeting, namely:

Application reference 17/1251/HOUS: repair and improvement work at 36 Brookside Scopwick (parish council comments to be submitted by 14th October 2017).

Application reference 17/1319/FUL: Conversion of existing outbuildings into two holiday lets at Pillar Box Farm 9 Main Street Kirkby Green (parish council comments to be submitted by 16th October 2017.)

Playing Field Committee

Cllr Nelson reported on the committee meeting of the 4th September 2017. Minutes had been circulated and published. The next meeting is on the 17th October 2017. Councillors discussed the possibility of outdoor gym equipment either in the playing field or on a green verge or lane site. The Clerk is to look into funding for this facility.

Village Hall Committee

Cllr Flett reported that the new bookings secretary for the Village Hall, Joe Kennard, had set up an email for bookings: scopwickvhbookings@gmail.com.

The Village Hall Committee are continuing to work on the improvements to the hall including new chairs, curtains and internal painting together with the installation of a hearing loop.

The defibrillator team from LIVES will be visiting and providing training on use of the equipment and general first aid on a date yet to be announced.

All future events are listed on the Scopwick Parish website at www.scopwickparish.co.uk

Footpaths and Highways

It was reported that there had been some recent damage to the surface of Trundle Lane by heavy machinery.

Blankney Estate are extending the entrance to the track from the B1188 opposite Scopwick House in line with planning permission obtained to widen the entrance. Cllr Banks reported that this action was a condition of the planning permission granted for the solar farm application. However, at this time the solar farm will not be going ahead, the work done to widen the entrance secures the solar farm application for future use if required. Once the work is complete this track will be upgraded to a bridleway.

The Clerk reported that Highways have yet to respond to requests for information re the verge reinforcement outside the village hall. The Clerk will continue to progress this matter and liaise with County Councillor Rob Kendrick. The Clerk is also waiting for a response from the highways department on the sites suitable for the installation of a permanent speed indication device. Cllr Spry agreed to assist the Clerk in progressing this project.

It was noted that the bridge head on the road bridge crossing the beck opposite the church in Scopwick had recently been damaged. Also previously reported damage to the bridge head on the bridge crossing the B1188 outside the pub had yet to be repaired. The Clerk will report both issues to the highways department.

Grass Hedges and Trees

The Clerk will ask the contractor to cut the hedges in the meadow and playing field in the next couple of months before the ground gets waterlogged.

The grass cutting contractor has asked for an extra rough cut before the end of the season. It was resolved to agree to an extra cut if the contractor thinks it is necessary.

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 will liaise with the Playing Field Committee and the Village Hall Management Committee regarding Health and Safety procedures and policies implemented by these bodies.

61/2017 Correspondence

A list of correspondence received by the Clerk up to the 18th September 2017 was circulated.

62/2017 Issues Considered:

(a) The Village Meadow.

The Clerk presented the Council with approximate costs of materials only for roll out grass protection matting and grid squares. Cllr Woodward had prepared a plan calculating the area to be used for car parking to cover 350 square metres.

A sample of the grid squares was available for inspection at the meeting. The supplier had visited the site and confirmed that the squares were suitable for the site and could be installed by rolling into the existing turf.

Councillors considered that the costs could be reduced by limiting the use of the grass protection materials to the parking areas and the remaining ground could be covered by 2" stone chips from a local quarry. Cllr Banks will approach a contractor currently working for Blankney Estate to quote for this work and the Clerk will use this to obtain two further quotes for consideration by the Council.

(b) Neighbourhood Plan.

Councillors decided that the parish should be consulted before a final decision was made on whether or not to proceed with a neighbourhood plan. In any event the project would not get off the ground without a steering group of volunteers from the community. Janet Clark from Community Lincs offered to draft a leaflet to be printed and distributed by the Parish Council. Councillors considered a leaflet produced by her for another parish. The Clerk was instructed to ask Janet Clark to produce a leaflet for the parish and to circulate before printing. The printing costs of approximately £50 were approved. The Clerk will arrange for distribution and collection of the leaflet.

(c) Playing Field Committee event summer 2018.

The Parish Council resolved to approve the staging of an event organised and run by the Playing Field Committee on the Playing Field in summer 2018. The event which was discussed at the last meeting of the PFC will involve food, beer and music.

(d) Play Park Annual Inspection

The Clerk had circulated the full report and produced a summary of the findings for the Parish Council. No items of equipment were found to be 'high risk' –ie- in need of immediate action. As in previous years the timber supports on all equipment were identified as requiring careful monitoring and eventual replacement. It was decided that the cost of replacement of timber supports be budgeted for. The Clerk will look into the costs and to the possibility of alternatives to the current arrangement of timber in direct contact with the ground.

The Clerk has contacted the manufacturer of the equipment for the costs of replacing worn links on the chain bridge.

The report also identified weed control with a non toxic/ non residual spray. The contractor Graham Hill will be asked by the Clerk to supply a quote for this to be carried out in the Spring.

(d) Village Maintenance.

(i) Cllr Nelson had installed new dog bins on Vicarage Lane and Beckside. The bins are being emptied weekly by NKDC. It was decided that a larger bin needs to be installed on Vicarage Lane and the current bin relocated to the end of the green lane near the Limes Care Home. The Clerk will check re the location of the bin on the green lane with NKDC and order a larger bin for Vicarage Lane to match the one on Beckside.

(ii) The Clerk had contacted LCC regarding the spraying of weeds on pavements and road in the parish. They had confirmed that Scopwick and Kirkby Green would be sprayed in September/October and that this would continue to be done each year at the same time. Councillors agreed that LCC Highways should be asked to spray weeds in the Spring not the Autumn and the Clerk will contact them and copy in Cllr Kendrick.

(iii) The Clerk circulated a letter received from Scopwick Parochial Church Council requesting a contribution from the Parish Council towards the cost of grass cutting in the Vicarage Lane graveyard. The Parish Council had budgeted £600 as a donation to SPCC for this purpose and they resolved to pay this amount.

63/2017 Finance

The council resolved to approve the following payments made since the last meeting:

Date	Payable to	Reason	Total
31/7/17	J Moran (Clerk)	Salary July 2017	406.78
3/8/17	S&KG VHC	Hall hire 11 and 25 July	30.00
11/8/17	Hills Garden Maintenance	Grass cut inv 81707	332.40
11/8/17	Hills Garden Maintenance	Grass cut inv 81708	490.80
21/8/17	Methodist Chapel	Hall hire 27 March	15.00
31/8/17	J Moran	Salary August 2017	406.87
4/9/17	Hills Garden maintenance	Grass cut inv 81709	332.40
11/9/17	Hills Garden Maintenance	Grass cut inv 091709	332.40

And to pay the following outstanding accounts:

- J Moran, clerk's expenses for August/September 2017 of £77.98
- D Nelson, reimburse for cost of post crete for dog bins of £5.15
- Grant Thornton, audit fee of £120
- RoSPA, annual inspection fee of £117.60

64/Date of Next Meeting.

Confirmed as Tuesday 28th November 2017 at 7pm in Scopwick Village Hall.

65/planning application 17/1147/FUL

The Members of the Planning Committee, Cllrs Nelson, Flett and Woodward considered the application to demolish storage shed and erect two dwellings. Cllr Baumber was present but took no part in the vote. The Committee had considered the application and the plans supplied and resolved not to object.

Minutes submitted by:

Jill Moran
Parish Clerk

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