

GRANGE PARK PARISH COUNCIL

Community Centre, School Lane
Grange Park, Northampton NN4 5FZ

Bookings: 01604 701431 (Mon/Wed/Fri 9am-11.45am only)
Parish Council: 01604 702938
www.grangeparkpc.org

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 2nd JULY 2009 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, GRANGE PARK

Present: Cllrs A Walker (Ch), M Smith, A Stansfield, D Ramsay, L Ellington, M Aluko, S Cates, N Stansfield, C Nobbs, N Wilson

Attending: Mrs T Sampson (Clerk).

09/272 Public Questions

Wootton Grange Bowls Club attended the meeting to discuss and seek agreement in principle to develop recreation facilities beneath Grange Park Community Centre. The Bowls Club tabled information regarding the proposal including the cost, design etc. The Council noted their comments thanked them for attending and informed them that it will be discussed later in the meeting.

09/273 District Councillors Report

Cllr Janiu-Deen was unable to make the meeting, so no update was received.

County Councillor B Ingram reported that the adoption process of the roads within Grange Park is going to be discussed and considered at cabinet on the 7th July 2009.

09/274 Co-option of Councillor

An application for the post of co-opted Councillor was received and considered. The Council agreed and approved that Claire Fry who resides within the Community be co-opted as a member of Grange Park Parish Council with immediate effect.

The Parish Clerk was asked to sort out the relevant paperwork including Declaration of interest, Code of Conduct and acceptance of office.

Action: Clerk

09/275 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Jainu-Deen.

09/276 Declaration of Members Interest

Cllr Cates declared an interest in item relating to Grange Park Cricket Club

09/277 Minutes of the meeting of June 2009

277.1 The Council approved and adopted the minutes dated 4th June 2009 and the Chairman signed them as a correct record.

277.2 Matters arising
See Appendix 1

09/278

Chairman's Report

- 278.1 The Chairman reported that he would be attending the meeting on the 7th July regarding the adoption process for Grange Park Parish Council and would report back at the next meeting in September after the summer recess.

It was also agreed and approved that all correspondence received from a local resident regarding issues affecting our Parish would be passed to the Chairman to answer on behalf of the Parish Council. The Chairman reported that he had spoken to both the local resident concerned and invited him to attend a meeting to discuss the various issues and also the editor of the Northampton Echo & Chronicle regarding the inaccuracy and misunderstanding of the recent article regarding Foxfields Pavilion.

09/279

Clerk's Report

- 279.1 It was agreed and approved that the Clerk will attend the course of the 'Power of Well Being' which is to be held in September

The Council also agreed to write to our District Councillor regarding a grant contribution to the purchase and installation of new dog bins within Grange Park. The Clerk was asked to sort out all the relevant paperwork

- 279.2 The Council agreed to purchase and install some signs for Foxfields Country Park and the playparks. Two quotes were received and considered and the Council agreed to use the services of FASTSIGNS. The Clerk was asked to submit the purchase order. **Action: Clerk**

09/280

Finance

- 280.1 The Council approved the expenditure listed in Appendix 2.
- 280.2 The Council approved the expenditure relating to Contract 4 (Maintenance of all openspaces within the Parish). A list of expenditure/Income was tabled at the meeting. An update was also given within these minutes under item 288.3
- 280.3 It was noted that three tenders had been received from contractors for the installation of the Cricket Square at Foxfields Country Park. The Parish Council considered the tenders and agreed to appoint Total Turf Solutions at an approx cost of £35,000 (option 2 of the specification). The work will commence in August/September. The long term maintenance of the cricket square is currently be Explored.
- 280.4 The Environment agency has objected to the design of the Muga due to the fencing and the issues that it will have when the land is flooded and debris collects. It was agreed to arrange another meeting with the environment agency and try to compromise on a design that will suit everyone needs. The Clerk was asked to organise the meeting and liaise with Cllrs Stansfield/Ellington. **Action Clerk**

09/281

Planning, Highways and Transportation

- 281.1 The following applications were considered:

S/2009/0555/P

Location: Foxfields Pavilion, Grange Park

Proposal: Amendment to S/2007/1524/P – Shutters on windows and grass crete area

Case Officer: Andrew Longbotton

Observations: The Parish Council fully supports this application and the proposed amendments.

- 281.2 No further planning applications or decision notices were received.

Continued.....

09/282

Administration and Staffing

- 282.1 Cllr Nobbs gave a brief update of the staff strategy meeting who looked at current staffing structure to ensure succession planning is implemented and the increased workload. The Chairman advised the meeting that he had spoken to NALC and that if we were to change the current staff structure and create a new post then it would need to be advertised accordingly.

It was agreed that all staff would complete timesheets for the next month detailing their duties on a daily basis. The Chairman is the line manager for the Parish Clerk and will discuss regularly the pressure and demands of that post. Another meeting was planned for Wednesday 15th July @ 8.00pm within the Parish Office, All councillors are welcome to attend.

09/283

Recreation and Amenities

- 2831 Cllr Smith updated the meeting on the progress of the construction of the Sports/Recreation building at Foxfields Country Park and showed Councillors a catalogue of pictures. He reported that due to bad weather and vandalism the project is now behind schedule and the expected date of handover is 4th September.

Draft proposal for the kitchen layout were discussed, considered and approved. It was agreed the extractor fan above the cooker was too large and the Clerk was asked to ask this to be amended. The next

site and update meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 4th August and will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting in September.

All Members

- 283.2 Cllr Stansfield reported that an allotment open day has been arranged for Wednesday 22nd July from 1900-2100 at the Community Centre to discuss with residents any issues they may have, the design/layout etc. It was noted that an allotment association has been formed consisting of local Residents. Cllr Stansfield will report back at the next meeting in September **Action: Cllr Stansfield**

- 283.3 The Chairman gave a verbal report on the following issues:

- SNC will do a litter pick within Saxon Avenue every 3 months as part of the maintenance contract.
- The Clerk was asked to liaise with SNC regarding the re-siting of the litter bins to the bus stops within Saxon Avenue.
- Our consultants are currently looking at a long term solution to the flooring of the Parks which is getting vandalised and damaged on a regular basis
- The Council approved the expenditure relating to the drainage and flooding within Alamien Wood at a cost of £6,500.
- The Council approved the expenditure relating to the thinning of the pioneers phase 1 – emergency work at a cost of £10-15k. Tender package to be produced by our consultant Quartet Design
- Trees in Rowan Close will be felled at a cost of £2,300.
- Cutting of Wootton Brook at a cost of £1,800.

09/284

Community Centre, MUGA and Bowling Green

- 284.1 No issues to be discussed.

- 284.2 As discussed under Public Questions the council agreed and approved that in principle they had no objection to proposal. Although it was suggested that they may want to consider the options and designs that the Parish Council may consider regarding the changing rooms at the Community Centre being used to create additional space.

- 284.3 Cllr Ramsay informed the meeting that an e-mail had been sent to all councillors clarifying the situation regarding the terms and conditions, present booking system and payment of invoices. It was agreed that if any issues wanted to be discussed to forward them to the Lead Councillor for consideration.

- 284.4 The Council agreed to delegate Cllrs Ramsay, Nobbs, Cates and Aluko to look at redesigning the changing rooms within the community centre to more useable space. **Action: Councillors**

Due to our standing orders the Chairman asked the Council if there were happy to carry on with the meeting pass 10pm in order to complete the proposed agenda – All members present approved

09/285 Community Activities

- 285.1 Cllr Cates updated the meeting on the current arts projects and where the council would like them located. A few suggestions were proposed (lit up on the roundabout at Budgens) Cllr Cates will speak to SNC and come back at the next meeting
- 285.2 Cllr Cates updated the council on the Towcester Youth Cafe that they had visited and circulated leaflets for information. It was agreed and approved that to delegate Cllr Cates to look into the possibility of appointing a youth worker for Grange Park Parish Council – Cllr Cates agreed to pursue the matter and report back at the next meeting.
- 285.3 The events committee reported that Pet show went well, good community event and enjoyed by those that attended. A small profit was made. It was noted that another litter pick will be arranged for the end of September and advertised accordingly.
- 285.4 Cllr Cates will update the Council at the next meeting in September.

09/286 Website and Newsletter

- 286.1 It was noted that the Grange Park News deadline for articles will be 17th July 2009. It was agreed that Cllr Nobbs would put an advert in regarding the Firework Display.

09/287 Correspondence

All other items of correspondence were discussed within the Meeting

09/288 Date of the Next Meeting

The Next Parish meeting will be on 3rd September 2009 – All agenda items to be submitted to the Clerk

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.45pm