

GRANGE PARK PARISH COUNCIL

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

Parish Council: 01604 702938

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 11th APRIL 2013 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, GRANGE PARK

Present: Cllrs M Smith (Ch), C Fry, A Walker, J Walker, S Dawson, N Stansfield, M Aluko.

Attending: Mrs T Sampson (Parish Clerk).

13/49 Public Questions

49.1 No public questions

49.2 A brief presentation was received from village networks. It is a unique, new three year lottery funded outreach project and its objective is to work in villages across South Northamptonshire and increase access to advice and support on issues prioritised by local residents. Leaflets were circulated to the Parish Council which will be put within the Community Centre. Electronic information has been requested and will be published on our website and in the quarterly newsletter.

13/50 County/District Councillors Report

No report received.

13/51 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Councillors J Davies, S Allen and J Proudley.

13/52 Declaration of Members Interest

52.1 The following declarations were made:

- Cllrs M Smith, A Walker and J Walker declared an interest in any items on the agenda relating to Grange Park Community & Sports Association
- Cllr S Dawson declared an interest in item 61.4 – Spring Disco

13/53 Minutes of the Council meeting of 7th March 2013

53.1 The Council approved and adopted the minutes dated the 7th March 2013 and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

53.2 No matters arising.

13/54 Co-option of Parish Councillor

One application had been received from a local resident who wished to be considered for the post of co-opted Parish Councillor. The Council agreed and approved that Stuart Ash be duly co-opted. The Parish Clerk will ensure that all the appropriate forms are signed and sent to the District Council.

13/55 Chairman's Report

55.1 Any relevant matters have been covered within the agenda

13/56 Parish Clerk's Report

56.1 Any relevant matters have covered within the agenda

- 56.2 The Parish Clerk reported that the *'deeds of dedication'* for the QE11 status at Foxfield Country Park had been sent to the estate manager of the Wake Estate for approval. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 56.3 The Parish Clerk reported that the meeting with Northampton Sport had been postponed and another date has yet to be agreed. The meeting had been arranged to discuss the possibility of helping out at the summer event. **Action: Parish Clerk**

13/57

Finance

- 57.1 The Parish Council agreed and approved the accounts for April 2013. (Appendix 1 of these minutes).
- 57.2 It was approved and agreed that the best value quote had been received from Toyota and that we would progress this contract. New lease vehicle will be delivered early May.
- 57.3 It was noted that two quotes (Aviva and Zurich) have been received for this year's insurance cover. The Council agreed and approved that due to the huge difference in the cost that they would proceed with Zurich renewal for the forthcoming year until April 2014. **Action: Parish Clerk**

13/58

Planning, Highways and Transportation

- 58.1 No planning applications received.
- 58.2 No planning approval/refusal decisions were received.
- 58.3 The Parish Clerk informed the meeting that a letter had been received from SNC regarding more information in order for the Allotments application to be determined. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 58.4 Cllr J Walker updated them on the following in relation to the Allotments:
- Planning application will be determined on the 9th May at a development control meeting at SNC. Cllr J Walker and the Parish Clerk will be attending
 - Comments have been received from the Planning Officer in reference to funding, Bellways current position and awareness of time constraints. Cllr J Walker assured the Council that the comments had been addressed and a suitable response submitted.
- Cllr J Walker requested that a proposal be put on the agenda for the next meeting so that Councillors had time to consider the following: *'That the Parish Council decide if it is to provide the requisite amount of funding when required to take the planning application to completion'*. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- It was agreed to ask members of the allotments association to our next meeting in order to discuss how we proceed with the application.
- The Parish Clerk advised Councillors that those members who declared an interest in the above item will not be able to vote (if required) on any proposal in relation to the allotments.
- 58.5 The Parish Clerk was asked to report the condition of the road markings at Junction 15 also along Saxon Avenue outside the Holiday Inn to our Planning/highways liaison officer at Northampton Council. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 58.6 The Parish Clerk was asked to obtain some prices for the purchase and installation of some bus shelters along Saxon Avenue and report back at the next meeting. **Action: Parish Clerk**

13/59

Grange Park Community & Sports Association (GPC&SA)

- 59.1 Cllr J Walker reported on the following:
- Finance – this month showed a negative result in that the expenses exceeded income by £1000. This still left a positive bank balance of £8,000. However it was noted that we still have a gas bill to pay for the year despite repeated requests and it is estimated that this would significantly reduce our net balance.
 - Future staffing issues were discussed and the need to recruit a cleaner for Foxfield was noted.
 - A revised schedule of tariff rates were discussed and postponed until the trustees had time to look into the changes. Proposed date of implication is June 2013.
 - Long discussion took place regarding the future of the trust association. It was agreed that an EGM/SM will be called at the earliest convenient date to discuss the future of the Trust.

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- 59.2 It was noted that the top layer of the wall adjacent to the small hall has been fixed with grey building bricks in order to stop it crumbling and causing problems with the fragments going onto the bowling green. The rest of the boundary wall will be looked into at a later date.

13/60 Environment

- 60.1 Cllr J Walker reported on the following in relation to the Bowls Club:
- Meeting attended to discuss the tenancy agreement and subsequent amendments.
 - To discuss the proposal for a joint venture to alter the community centre changing rooms into more useable space. It was noted that the Council will not be entering into a joint building venture/agreement with the Bowls Club and will be looking at alternative measures to make this space more useable/functional for the benefit of the community.
- 60.2 The following items were discussed in relation to Contract 5:
- A meeting has taken place with the Wake Estate regarding some remedial works being undertaken at the top of Foxfield Country Park to avoid future flooding and the collection of water. These works will be done and financed by the Wake Estate.
 - To flail and clean the area outside Buddies in order to make the approach to Grange Park more pleasing to the eye.
 - Fixing the replacement rails on the fence at Foxfield turning bay
 - Staking the fallen pine tree at the top of Foxfield Country Park
 - Seeding the ruts in the grass at Wake Way
 - Soiling the area damaged by the utility company
 - Seeding the ruts at the top of Alamien (consequence of woodland work)
 - To plant seasonal plants at the entrance to Grange Park (Buddies end) and to purchase some planters for the other end at Budgens

13/61 Communication

- 61.1 Cllr Fry reported that the newsletter will be circulated weekend commencing the 27th April. She also asked councillors to report back if they have not received a copy. **Action: Cllr Fry**
- 61.2 After a brief discussion it was agreed to make some minor amendments to the logo i.e. changing the colouring of the letters for Grange Park Parish Council and making it fit the whole circle, making the body of the logo larger. The Parish Clerk was asked to submit this request to Barrie Randall. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 61.3 Cllr Fry reported that she will be inviting Jenny Evans, Youth Inspired to attend our next parish council meeting in May to give us an update on youth provisions and future events for Grange Park. **Action : Parish Clerk**
- 61.4 It was agreed that due to other social activities taking place on the same day within the community that we would cancel the Spring Fever Disco on the 4th May 2013. The Parish Clerk was asked to advertise this information. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 61.5 It was noted that the Vice Chair Cllr Fry and the Parish Clerk had been invited to attend a meeting at West Hunsbury to try and persuade/convince local electorates the advantages of having an active Parish Council. It was noted that the presentation Cllr Fry gave was effective and well received, achieving an outcome of more than 15 local residents indicating a wish to stand for election. An article was also put into the Northampton Chron & Echo.
- 61.6 It was agreed that if any members of the Council are organising community events within the Parish they could let the Parish Clerk know in order that a schedule of events can be formulated and no clashing of dates incurred. **Action: Parish Councillors**

13/62 Correspondence

All items of correspondence has been dealt with during the meeting

13/63 Administration & Service Request

Nothing to report

13/64 Exclusion of the Press & Public

In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, the public and press will be temporarily excluded

13/65 Date of the Next Meeting

65.1 The next meeting of the Council (AGM) will be held on Thursday 9th May 2013 at 7.30pm and will be held at the Community Centre.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm.