

GRANGE PARK PARISH COUNCIL

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

Parish Council: 01604 702938
www.grangeparkpc.org

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 5th DECEMBER 2013 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, GRANGE PARK

Present: Cllrs M Smith (Ch), S Dawson (V/Ch), C Fry, A Walker, M Aluko, N Stansfield, J Davies, S Allen, S Ash, K Clarke, D Harris, W Shakespeare

Attending: Mrs T Sampson (Parish Clerk), Mrs S Smith (Parish Administrator)

Prior to the Full Council meeting Mr Ian Achurch from NCC project director joined us to discuss the proposed superfast broadband arrangements within our Parish. He circulated copies of a PowerPoint presentation and the Parish Clerk was asked to put this information on the Council website.

13/165 Public Questions

165.1 No members of the public were in attendance.

13/166 County/District Councillors Report

166.1 Cllr M Clarke reported that the gritters will follow the same route around Grange Park as last year. Cllr Clarke said that he would find out if the Parish Council was entitled to have some grit bins supplied by the County Council now that most of the roads in parish have been adopted.

Cllr Clarke said that he would make sure that highways remain a high priority in the County Council budgets and in 2014, there will either be a council tax freeze or a 1.95% increase and there will be a draft budget on the County Council website in the next few weeks. Cllr Clarke also reported that in 2014, the fire service and police could be operating from the same premises and that the County Council as a whole was judged by Ofsted as underperforming in childcare services recently.

13/167 Apologies for Absence

No Apologies were received.

13/168 Declaration of Members Interest

168.1 The following declarations were made:
Cllrs Smith, Walker and Stansfield declared an interest in any issues relating to the allotments.
Cllrs Smith and Walker declared an interest in the donation of funds from the Firework Display in regards to the Scouts.

13/169 Minutes of the Council meeting of 7th November 2013

169.1 The Council approved and adopted the minutes of the Meeting of the Council on the 7th November 2013 and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

169.2 No matters arising from the minutes.

13/170 Chairman's Report

All issues covered on the Agenda.

13/171 Parish Clerk's Report

All issues covered on the Agenda.

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13/172 Finance

- 172.1 The Parish agreed and approved the accounts for November 2013 (Appendix 1 of these minutes).
- 172.2 The finance working group gave a report of their meeting held on 14th November 2013 and confirmed that the accounts have been examined and signed as a true record from April until September 2013.
- 172.3 The Parish Council agreed that they would not increase the precept figure for this year (2014/15) and would remain at £126,519. The Parish Clerk was asked to submit this information to SNC.
Action: Parish Clerk
- 172.4 It was agreed that the proposed budget for 2014/15 would be approved once all council members had time to digest the information. This item will be put on the Agenda for January for approval.
Action: All Councillors
- 172.5 The date of the next internal audit was confirmed as 28th January 2014.
- 172.6 The Council were updated on the bar service provided for a hirer on 9th November 2013 (financial spreadsheet was circulated).

13/173 Planning, Highways and Transportation

- 173.1 The following planning applications were considered:
- S/2013/1565/FUL
Location: 10a Bassett Court, Loake Close, Northampton
Proposed: Change of use of office premises from B1 to D1 use for professional tutoring of students aged 6 to 16.
Observations: We express concern about the parking of additional vehicles.
- S/2013/1560/FUL
Location: 18 The Rookery, Grange Park
Proposed: Two storey side extension and repositioned double garage.
Observations: No comments.
- Cllr N Stansfield suggested that future site visits may be required.
- 173.2 No planning approval/refusal decisions were received.
- 173.3 Feedback was received from three residents regarding the Noise Management Plan for Foxfield. Comments will be taken on board and added to the Noise Management Plan where appropriate.
- 173.4 Final quote received from SM Developments with regards to the building works for the shower areas within the Community Centre. The Council approved the quote and it was agreed that work can go ahead.
- 173.5 The invoice for the structural calculations for the above project was approved.
- 173.6 The Council approved the locations for the grit bins as per the plan emailed to them prior to the meeting.

13/174 Community Centre, Foxfields & Bowling Green

- 174.1 There were no last minute arrangements to discuss for the New Year's Eve Family party.
- 174.2 Cllr Dawson reported on his meeting with Woodland View Primary School (WVPS) regarding the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA). WVPS are now an academy therefore this needs to be changed in the wording of the agreement between them and the Council. WVPS would like the MUGA surface replaced. A survey of the surface has been carried out and a quote has been received. The findings were that the surface has been overloaded with sand and if some is taken off then it could be used for longer before replacing. The Council agreed that it would be best to get two more quotes and bring them to the next meeting.
Action: Parish Clerk

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- 174.3 £2,449.40 was raised in bucket donations, £250 has been given to Grange Park Scouts and £699.40 to First Response, due to them helping on the day and it is proposed that the remainder be allocated to Grange Park non-profit organisations. It was agreed that a list with figures would be emailed to all Councillors for approval. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 174.4 Cllr Smith reported that the Movember Charity Event held on 29th November 2013 was a success and that £456.00 net was raised. The amount raised will be match funded by Barclaycard and sent to the charity.
- 174.5 The Parish Clerk reported that 75% of the outstanding ballet class Summer School invoice had now been paid.
- 174.6 The Council agreed that Wootton Grange Bowls Club could be shown the plans for the building works in the Community Centre shower areas. The Parish Clerk will arrange a meeting between them and Cllrs Stansfield and Dawson. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 174.7 The Parish Clerk confirmed that the Football Foundation health check had been completed and that everything was in order.
- 174.8 The Parish Clerk reported that a local resident will be undertaking some community work in the new year following an incident arising from hiring the facilities.
- 174.9 Cllr Shakespeare gave a report on the Community Centre fire doors. A repairer came in, assessed the doors and a quote will be sent. Quotes will be brought to the next meeting. The Council asked the Parish Clerk to check planning and building regs requirements for fire doors. **Action: Parish Clerk**

13/175 Administration & Staffing

- 175.1 The Parish Clerk reported that the Head Caretaker had settled in well and no matters were arising.

13/176 Environment

- 176.1 R&G are to undertake 7 days work clearing and providing access around the structural planting belt. It was agreed that some of the Councillors would walk the structural planting belt in the new year and see what extra work needs done after R&G have cleared.
- The Council are still awaiting a quote for the matta flooring replacement at the play park adjacent to WVPS.
- A quote of £5,000 was received from R&G to replace the flooring of the Wake Way playground. The Council approved the quote.
- The Parish Clerk reported that she is waiting for land registry documents with regards to the hedgerow cutting at 41 The Meadows.
- Cllr Stansfield reported that the litter collection at Saxon Avenue had been done.
- 176.2 The meeting with SNC on 5th December 2013 regarding issues relating to the allotments site was cancelled and is in the process of being rescheduled.
- 176.3 The Chairman asked for a like for like quote to be obtained for the renovation of the football pitches and cricket outfield at Foxfield Sports Field and brought to the next meeting. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 176.4 Cllr Dawson reported on the upgrading of the play equipment at the play park adjacent to WVPS and the consultation he had with Grange Park Youth Club. A report is still awaited from Sutcliffe Play. Grange Park Youth Club gave feedback on designs and Wicksteed have offered to have some children to their factory to try the equipment. Cllr Dawson will go into WVPS in the New Year.
- 176.5 It was agreed that no policy is required for local residents to take trees and/or logs from wooded areas within Grange Park as all trees and logs that are left by the gardening contractors are left for environmental purposes.
- 176.6 Cllr Clarke reported on the provision of a bus shelter on Quintonside and it was agreed that designs and costings would be obtained and the bus shelter policy would be sought from highways. **Action: Parish Clerk**

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176.7 The Parish Clerk reported that the electricity substation doors on Bridge Meadow Way have been repainted.

13/177 Communication

177.1 It was reported that the table top event held on 16th November 2013 went well and the monies raised after deduction of hall hire are being donated to Netmums South Northamptonshire.

177.2 It was agreed that the ages stated on the Grange Park Parish Council website for Grange Park Youth Club needed to be clearer. **Action: Parish Clerk**

177.3 It was reported that the new Air Ambulance Co-ordinator is Heather Burton.

177.4 It was agreed to defer a decision on the IPod casting service until the next meeting.

177.5 It was reported that a leaflet for Village Networks would be distributed with the February edition of the Grange Park News and invoice accordingly.

13/178 Correspondence

178.1 All items of correspondence have been dealt with during the meeting.

13/179 Administration & Service Request

Nothing to report.

The Chairman asked all members present if they were prepared to continue past 10pm in order to complete the business of this meeting and comply with our standing orders (item 1, para Z). All members present agreed to continue.

13/180 Exclusion of Press and Public

Due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted all members of the press and public were not invited to this session.

13/181 Date of the Next Meeting

181.1 The next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 9th January at 7.30pm and will be held at the Community Centre.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.50pm.