

**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 4th DECEMBER 2014 AT
THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, GRANGE PARK.**

Present: Cllrs M Smith (Ch.), S Ash, D Harris, A Walker, M Aluko, K Clarke, W Shakespeare, S Allen, C Fry, N Stansfield and J Davis,

Attending: Mrs T Sampson (Parish Clerk).

14/170 Public Questions

170.1 Graham Meller, Buttonwood Marketing Limited attended the meeting to discuss any issues relating to the Howden's development. It was noted that the planning application is going to be submitted prior to Christmas and that all comments had been noted from the public open day held earlier in the month. More information can be viewed on <http://www.northampton-gateway.co.uk/howdens/>

The Parish Council requested the attendance of the Traffic Representative at our next meeting in January 2014. **Action: Parish Clerk**

170.2 No attendance from PCSO Amy Thompson.

170.3 Anne Newton attended the meeting and gave a brief presentation regarding the Car Voluntary Scheme which is based next to the Guild Hall in Northampton. There is a team of 35 volunteers which include drivers. The purpose of the scheme is to take the elderly to medical appointments. The role required is to appoint voluntary drivers from the community. More information can be viewed on : <https://www.google.co.uk/#q=car+volunteer+scheme+,.+northampton>

The Parish Council agreed that in principle this would be a good scheme to support but we would need to find some additional funding to support this for our Parish. The Parish Clerk was asked to speak to Northampton County Council seeking additional funding. **Action: Parish Clerk**

14/171 County/District Councillors Report

Michael Clarke updated the Council on the following :

- Highways gritting has now commenced
- To recruit Special Constables for each Parish
- Budgets – in order not to affect front line services the council tax will go up by 1.99%
- Broadband update: BT have now suggested that it will cost £380k (33% reduction from the last quote) to update all the TPON cabinets within our parish in order for us all to receive Superfast Broadband. It is hoped that this financial gap will be covered by Northampton County Council, South Northants Council and Grange Park Parish Council. No commitments have been given until a full financial breakdown report has been received from BT.
- Removal of directional signs from Saxon Avenue.

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The following report was received from the District Councillors:

- Changes to recycling introduced last year showed the significant reduction of waste going into landfill. 60% of the total waste is being recycled this is an uplift by 30% from previous years. 2500 tonnes of food waste being processed weekly into electricity and soil fertilizer. In total only 15.320 tonnes were sent to landfill over the course of last year.
- With pressure on public finances new and innovative ways will be researched to deliver the same services. There was a pledge of keeping all of the current front-line services but in a more cost-effective and less resource-intensive ways. South Northamptonshire Council has a shared management team with Cherwell District Council. The Joint Management Team consists of the Chief Executive, 3 Directors and 8 Heads of Service which are shared posts across both councils. In addition to this, there are shared services across IT, finance, procurement, democracy, corporate performance teams. These shared working arrangements have contributed to savings across both councils. Despite of cut in the budget delivered from the central office, conservative-led council at District of South Northamptonshire has decided to freeze the council tax for another year.
- "Leader's Message": SNC is set to move to a new community building - The Forum - at the heart of Moat Lane. Swift progress has been made and the building is now at a watertight shell stage, with work on the interior progressing well. It will enable a valuable community facility and will welcome man residents and business representatives who are likely to make use of the services that will be provided from it.

14/172 Apologies for Absence

172.1 Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Councillors :Cllrs A Walker and D Harris

14/173 Declaration of Members Interest

173.1 The following declarations were made:

- Cllrs M Smith, A Walker and W Shakespeare declared an interest in any items on the agenda relating to the allotments/Lark Lane.
- Cllr M Smith declared an interest in item 180.2 – NALC Staff Pay- rises.
- Cllr S Ash declared an interest in item 177.5 – One way traffic at School Lane

14/174 Minutes of the Council Meeting on the 6th November 2014

174.1 The Council agreed and approved the minutes dated 6th November and signed them as a true record.

174.2 No matters were arising

14/175 Chairman's Report

175.1 All items covered in the agenda.

175.2 The Chairman reported that a meeting will be held with the football foundation on the 15th December at the pavilion to discuss service level agreements and the results from a pitch inspection. It was agreed that the following representatives will attend from the Parish Council , Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Parish Clerk.

14/176 Parish Clerk's Report

176.1 All items covered in the agenda

176.2 It was agreed that we will see what work is involved once the Quality Status Scheme has been relaunched. The Parish Clerk will attend the NALC updates on the scheme in February 2015.

Finance

- 177.1 The Parish Council agreed and approved the accounts for November 2014. (Appendix 1 of these minutes).
- 177.2 A draft budget was circulated to all councillors with a proposed Precept figure of £ 130, 314.57 (a 3% increase from last year.) It was agreed that this will be put on the January agenda for approval.
Action : All Councillors
- 177.3 Cllr S Ash circulated a profit and loss account for the café/bar from the 6th May 2014 to 23rd November 2014. This showed the income, cost of sales (purchases) and payroll costs. An associated graph was also produced. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that we would close on Saturdays , unless a pre-function had been booked and remove the 1600-1800 shift during the winter months . The Parish Clerk was asked to implement these changes.
Action: Parish Clerk
- 177.4 It was noted that the Parish Clerk had submitted a grant request to South Northants Council for consideration. The request was for some monies for the upgrade of a play-park, remedial works at the Community Centre, the formation of a new Youth Club and associated equipment and pitch maintenance works at Foxfields. The bid is going to a committee meeting at South Northants Council in December.
- 177.5 The Council agreed to submit a S106 bid to Northampton County Council for the following projects:
- Highway vehicle access to the allotments
 - One Way for School Lane
 - Remedial works on the bridleway around Foxfield Country Park
 - Bus Shelters outside the new development on Saxon Avenue
 - Speed activation signs
- The Parish Clerk was asked to send a letter to Northampton County Council highways section and a copy to our Country Councillor Cllr Michael Clarke.
Action: Parish Clerk

Planning, Highways and Transportation

- 178.1 The following planning applications were received:
- S/2014/2131/FUL
 Location: 62 The Ridings, Grange Park
 Proposal: 2 storey front/side extension to form link with existing garage and first floor extension (including dormer and rooflight) over.
 Case Officer: Ben Farrant
 Observations: No Comment
- 178.2 No approval/refusal planning decision notices were received.
- It was noted that Northamptonshire Highways are doing an annual parking restriction review for 2014/15 and the proposed amendments are : Saxon Avenue, Grange Park – Proposed double yellow lines. The Parish Clerk was asked to seek confirmation as to why it was only a small section of Saxon Avenue.
Action: Parish Clerk
- 178.3 The Parish Clerk reported that she had received confirmation from South Northants regarding accessing the Quinton Road via Lark Lane. This was the S106 agreement that was formulated and agreed with the developer and the land owners prior to the residential areas being formed :
- The bus only link at Lark Lane : A link to be dedicated for highway purposes but for the use of buses, cyclists and pedestrians only being 6.5 metres carriageway wide with cycle ways and footways of a combined width of 2.5 metres provided in accordance by the County Council.*
- There has been several meetings with the planning authority about changing this to allow vehicular access to the allotments . The Highways Authority would not allow access onto the Quinton Road due to road safety and therefore the only compromise to be made is as follows:

A full planning schedule can be viewed at:

<http://snc.planning-register.co.uk/searchresults.aspx?pageprefix=plan> .

14/179 Community Centre, Foxfield & Bowling Green

- 179.1 Cllr S Dawson reported that the Muga matting has been replaced and comments from users has been very positive. There is still the grass area outside the muga which needs to be rectified due to their machinery crossing the area to install the matting. The Parish Clerk was asked to get this issue resolved before paying the final invoice. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 179.2 The Parish Council would like to amend the terms and conditions for the 10 year agreement with Woodland View Primary School to include the wearing of appropriate footwear on the muga. The Parish Clerk was asked to reiterate this to the school and seek the amendment.
- 179.3 It was noted that a quote had been received from Silent Gliss to install/supply mechanical blinds for the main hall. The quote was £90,000 . Due to the cost , the Council agreed not to progress with the scheme.
- 179.4 Cllr Fry reported that Youth Inspired had prepared a proposal to do structured events throughout January – March including Street Dancing, Climbing Wall etc. The Parish Council agreed to proceed with the proposal up until the end of March. There will be a small cost of £2 per child. Jenny Evans will organise the advertising and recruiting of members. **Action: Parish Clerk**

14/180 Administration & Staffing

- 180.1 No staffing issues to report.
- 180.2 The Parish Council agreed the NALC pay rises for Council admin staff for the last 2 years. (Information sent to Councillors prior to the meeting). It was also agreed to allow the other employed caretaking staff the appropriate pay rise. The Parish Clerk was asked to implement this in December payroll.

14/181 Environment

- 181.1 All issues on the contract 5 log sheets are being reviewed and monitored regularly
- 181.2 Cllr S Dawson informed the meeting that the installation of the new play equipment has commenced adjacent to Woodland View Primary School and should be finished by the 19th December (weather permitting). It was also agreed to remove the stainless steel slide and store it at the community for either the scrap metal value or ask Woodland View if they had any use for it. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 181.3 Northampton County Council have agreed this year to provide and restock all the grit bins within the spinal road of Grange Park (Wake Way). The Parish Council bins once emptied will be sited within other areas of the Parish.

14/182 Communication

- 182.1 Cllr Fry asked all councillors to view the website www.grangeparkpc.org regularly and report any needed to the Parish Office. **Action: Cllr Fry**
- It was noted that the next edition of the Newsletter is scheduled for February 2015.
- 182.2 It was noted that next year's firework display will be on Saturday 7th November 2015. The Parish Clerk was asked to book the firework organisers (Jubilee Fireworks). **Action; Parish Clerk**
- 182.3 All the events listed below had been a great success and appreciated by the local community:
- Race Night, Quiz Nights and End of term school disco & BBQ
- It was agreed that it would be nice to take photos at each event and build up a scrapbook.
- The Council agreed to employ additional staff to work on the 19th December if needed to help with the end of term disco/BBQ.
- 182.4 Cllr K Clarke reported that he is looking into arranging some themed nights including oriental cooking, pop up restaurants and beer tasting sessions. More information will be available in the New Year.

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14/183 Correspondence

183.1 No correspondence received.

14/184 Administration & Service Request

14/185 Date of the Next Meeting

185.1 It was noted that due to the Christmas/New Year holidays that the next Parish Council meeting will be on the 8th January 2015.

There being no further business the Chairman wished everyone a happy Christmas closed the meeting at 10.30pm .