

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 7th FEBRUARY 2013 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, GRANGE PARK

Present: Cllrs M Smith (Ch), C Fry, M Aluko, S Dawson, J Proudley and J Davies.

Attending: Mrs T Sampson (Parish Clerk)

13/18 Public Questions

A local resident joined the meeting to express his concern about the removal of brambles behind boundary fences along the Western Structural Planting area of Grange Park and the untidiness that it has created. The Council agreed to ask our landscape consultant to clear the area and remove any logs and debris. **Action: Parish Clerk**

13/19 County/District Councillors Report

District Councillor Tharik Deen sent a verbal report on the following issues:

- still pursuing the installation of faster broadband services within Grange Park
- updated the Parish Clerk on the new CTRS (Community Tax Reduction Scheme)

13/20 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Councillors N Stansfield, S Allen, J Walker, A Walker, N Jackson and District Councillor Tharik Jainu-Deen due to work, sickness and personnel commitments.

13/21 Declaration of Members Interest

21.1 The following declarations were made:

- Cllr M Aluko declared a personal interest in any issues in relation to the delivering of the newsletter.
- Cllr M Smith declared a personal interest as a trustee of Grange Park Community and Sports Association.

13/22 Minutes of the Council meeting of 6th December 2012

22.1 The Council approved and adopted the minutes dated the 10th January and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

22.2 No matters arising.

13/23 Chairman's Report

23.1 The Parish Clerk read out the letter received from Kevin Lane, South Northants Council regarding the outcome of the Standards Committee following a complaint against Cllrs M Smith & A Walker. A press release will be made by South Northamptonshire District Council and put on their website. www.southnorthants.gov.uk (news article dated 11th February 2013) and advertised in the local newspapers. The Council noted the recommendations and accepted that the declarations of interest would be included in the minutes until which time the forms have been renewed following the revision of the Code of Conduct. A bespoke training course organised by NCALC, has been attended by all Councillors and staff on chairmanship, meeting procedures and current code of conduct.

23.2 A resignation letter has been received from Catherine Powell. The Council accepted this and asked the Parish Clerk to send a letter of thanks for her work, help and commitment. **Action: Parish Clerk**

13/24 Parish Clerk's Report

24.1 No report received.

13/25 Finance

25.1 The Parish Council agreed and approved the accounts for February (Appendix 1 of these minutes).

25.2 It was approved and agreed that we would keep our precept as previously agreed (£126,519) and receive the CTRS grant of £3518.60. The Clerk was asked to submit the relevant information. (Parish Clerk)

Action: Parish Clerk

25.3 The Internal Audit report (dated 29^h January 2013) was tabled and the Parish Clerk was asked to investigate and report on any issues raised.

Action: Parish Clerk

13/26 Planning, Highways and Transportation

26.1 The Parish Council considered the following planning application:

S/2013/0066/FUL

Location: 1 Woodlands, Grange Park

Proposal: Single Storey porch to front elevation of existing residential property

Observations: No comment

26.2 No planning approval/refusal decisions were received.

26.3 The Parish Clerk reported that she had a meeting with Mark Thomas, Head teacher of Woodland View Primary School regarding the issue of parking outside the Community Centre. It was agreed that we would work in partnership to try and alleviate any potential issues. It was noted that NCC are currently looking into a feasibility study to try and improve the road layout. 'No Parking' Bollards will remain on the roundabout.

26.4 It was noted that the new NCC directional signs have been installed within the Parish indicating the location of the School, Community Centre, Foxfields Pavilion, Shopping Area and Grange Park Court.

13/27 Staffing

27.1 The Parish Council decided to look at a new staffing structure later in the year. Cllr Fry was delegated to lead on this issue.

Action: Cllr Fry

13/28 Grange Park Community & Sports Association (GPC&SA)

28.1 Cllr Smith updated the council on issues raised at the recent association meeting (11th February 2013):

- Discussion had taken place with Grange Park Rangers regarding the Football Development Plan and the monitoring.
- Annual football tournament was discussed
- Water connection to be installed within the changing rooms.
- The financial situation was discussed.
- To advise football managers of the need to collect litter after football games
- Storage of goal post needs to be re-considered.

It was noted that the minutes of the association meetings are on their website www.grangeparkcsa.org. The next meeting is scheduled for the 4th March 2013.

28.2 It was noted that a third quote for the proposed change to the community centre had been received from Ace-build. Three quotes had now been received: Ace-build at £44k, SM Development £35-£40k and Chris Smith's £100k. The Council proposed that rather than converting the space into a bar area, we should consider providing a soft play area with coffee lounge. The Council agreed to delegate Cllrs Dawson/ Proudley to look into the matter further and report back at the next Parish Council meeting in March. **Action: Cllrs Dawson/Proudley**

It was also agreed we would approach future bookings by offering to provide an evening bar where appropriate to be staffed by volunteers of the association. This would increase the income to help

maintain/facilitate the future of both buildings.

Action: Parish Office

13/29 Environment

- 29.1 It was noted that the planning application for the following has been submitted to South Northants Council for consideration:

'Change of use from public open space to allotments with car parking (retrospective). Changes to access road and creation of a turning head forming vehicular access to allotment site'.

A new key has been sent to National Grid to enable them to access the allotments (when needed).

- 29.2 Prior to the meeting all councillors were e-mailed a copy of R&G landscaping woodland maintenance plan to consider. The Parish Council decided to achieve their duty of care they would concentrate on the woods i.e. Spinney and Alamien and do any essential works and to remove any trees which are dead, dying and dangerous. The cost of this work would be in the region of £15k.
- 29.3 The Parish Clerk reported that no response has been received from our letter sent to Grange Park Bowls Club on the 10th February regarding the draft lease agreement. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 29.4 Cllr S Dawson updated the Council on the following meeting held with the Environmental Protection Officer regarding dog fouling issues within our parish.
- campaign day of action (date to be advised) giving out dog fouling bags etc
 - article in the next edition of the newsletter/website
 - Monitor the situation and obtain any evidence if a prosecution is required. No recorded prosecutions on Grange Park to date.

13/30 Communication

- 30.1 Cllr Fry reported that the newsletters will be distributed on Saturday 9th February 2013. She urged anyone who doesn't receive one to e-mail the Parish Clerk with location details
- 30.2 Cllr S Dawson reported that he had attended Woodland View Primary School and distributed the W H Smith's vouchers for the winners of the logo competition at a presentation assembly. It was agreed that Barrie Randall has kindly offered to reproduce the logo on a graphics package which will then be used on all forms of communication by the Parish Council (i.e letter head, compliment slip and on our website). **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 30.3 Cllr Fry informed the Council that a meeting will be scheduled shortly with Jenny Evans to discuss any issues in relation to the Youth Club. It was noted that the fees for the Youth Leaders has increased although we still have funding available for 2013/14.
- 30.4 Cllr S Dawson proposed to the council the formulation of a committee structure which will discuss community events and emphasised the need to give them delegated powers to make decisions on behalf of the Council. After a brief discussion it was agreed that for the time being it would remain within the full monthly Parish Council meetings but a working group meeting would be scheduled to organise a timetable of advanced events. Cllr S Dawson was delegated to organise a time and date for this meeting. **Action: Cllr S Dawson**
- 30.5 The Parish Clerk circulated an income/expenditure sheet for the Christmas disco indicating that the event was a success and a great deal of positive feedback was received. A profit of £416.75 was made.

13/31 Correspondence

The following correspondence was received

- Letter received from A H Contract for the emptying of dog/litter bins within the Parish. It was agreed that we would be prepared to only commit to an annual contract. The Parish Clerk was asked to prepare the appropriate paperwork. **Action: Parish Clerk**

13/32 Administration & Service Request

Nothing to report

13/33 Date of the Next Meeting

33.1 The next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 7th March 2013 at 7.30pm and will be held at the Community Centre.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35pm.