

# 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 6<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2014 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, GRANGE PARK.

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

Attending: Mrs T Sampson (Parish Clerk).

### 14/21 Public Questions

Ruth Walker joined the meeting in reference to her business 'A slice of Pie Cookery' which is a cookery club for 13 years plus. The sessions focus on developing children's understanding of where food comes from and how to prepare/sell it. These sessions already run at Hardingstone and Wootton. It was agreed that initially she would speak to Jenny from Youth Inspired to see if she can include it in the Thursday Youth sessions already taking place at the Community Centre. The Parish Clerk was asked to liaise with Ruth Walker and report back at the next parish council meeting in March.

Jenny Evans and members of the Youth Club also joined the meeting to update the council on the following issues:

- Youth Club is attracting larger numbers of attendees.
- A leader has been appointed to speak to the Youth on alcohol/drug abuse
- Posters are currently being designed with images of youth activities. These posters will be put in shops and on buses.

### 14/22 County/District Councillors Report

County Councillor Michael Clarke gave an update on the following issues:

- New cycle hire scheme is coming to Northampton in the Spring and the search is now on to find an official name for the initiative. Similar to the 'Boris bikes' hire scheme in London the £150k project will initially provide 50 bikes for public hire for leisure rides, commuter journeys, shopping trips and student travel from 10 docking sites inside and outside the borough. More information available on <http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/news/Latestnews/Pages/win-an-ipad-mini-name-our-bike-scheme.aspx>
- An updated map of the adopted roads had been e-mailed to the Parish Clerk
- An update on the current Joint Planning meeting was discussed. Information can be found on the following website: [West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit](#).

### 14/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Councillors Steve Allen and Tony Walker due to work commitments.

### 14/24 Declaration of Members Interest

24.1 The following declarations were made:

- Cllrs M Smith, N Stansfield and A Walker declared an interest in any items on the agenda relating to the allotments.

Continued.....

## 14/25 Minutes of the Council meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2014

- 25.1 The Council approved and adopted the minutes of the Meeting of the Council on the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2014 and the chairman signed them as a true record.
- 25.2 No matters arising.
- 25.3 The Council approved and adopted the minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the Council on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2014 and the chairman signed them as a true record.

## 14/26 Chairman's Report

- 26.1 All items covered in the agenda.

## 14/27 Parish Clerk's Report

- 27.1 The Parish Clerk asked who will be attending a meeting with BT to discuss Broadband issues within Grange Park. It was agreed that we would ask Richmond if we could hire a room for 25<sup>th</sup> February 2014.
- 27.2 The Parish Clerk was asked to arrange a 'Flying Start' Course in March for all Councillors/staff to attend
- 27.3 The Parish Clerk reported that Pottersbury Parish Council had written to the Chief Executive Sue Smith asking for clarification on the 'New Homes Bonus Scheme'. The Parish Clerk was asked to send this to our District Councillors asking them to chase. **Action: District Councillor**
- 27.4 The following social events were agreed:
- |                                    |                  |                              |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May       | Disco            | Grange Park Community Centre |
| Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> August   | Summer Event     | Foxfield Country Park        |
| Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> November  | Firework Display | Foxfield Country Park        |
| Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> December | Christmas Party  | Grange Park Community Centre |
- Sports events including 2014 FIFA World Cup and Formula One British Grand Prix – dates and times to be advised.
- 27.5 It was noted that all the documents have been received and the QE11 Status should be issued within the next 5/6 weeks.

## 14/28 Finance

- 28.1 The Parish Council agreed and approved the accounts for January 2014. (Appendix 1 of these minutes).
- 28.2 The Parish Council noted the internal auditors report on the Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2014. No matters were arising
- 28.3 It was noted that our interest on our S106 Commuted sum had decreased to 0.65%. A spreadsheet was circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.
- 28.4 The Council approved the amendment to our Financial Regulations and Financial Risk Assessment to include the following:  
*'All payments shall where possible be made by BACS transfer or cheque where this is not possible'*
- 28.5 Our Standing Orders were reviewed and no changes to be made.
- 28.6 The Parish Council approved and agreed to purchase (when needed) a Maxi Pro 1 coffee machine at a cost of £799 including VAT and plenty of stock. This will be purchased from <http://www.bellabarista.co.uk/espresso-machines/coffee-capsule-machines.html>

## 14/29 Planning, Highways and Transportation

- 29.1 No planning applications were received.
- 29.2 No approval/refusal planning decision notices were received.

- 29.3 The Chairman reported that John Lawrence(Caretaker) was liaising with Eagle technical section regarding the noise limiter and the sound output. An update will be given at the next parish council meeting.  
**Action: John Lawrence**
- 29.4 Cllr Fry reported that letters had been sent to all commercial buildings along Saxon Avenue asking for any donations to be given to the Parish Council in order that we can purchase some bus shelters for their employees. An update will be given on responses at the next Parish Council Meeting.  
**Action: Cllr Fry**
- 29.5 It was agreed and approved that a dog bin will be placed within the walkway off The Ridings. The Dog bin has already been purchased and the Parish Clerk was asked to speak to A H Contracts for installation.  
**Action: Parish Clerk**
- 29.6 The Parish Clerk was asked to seek a price to install 'dead end' road signs at Barn Close and report back at the next parish council meeting.  
**Action: Parish Clerk**

14/30

### **Community Centre, Foxfields & Bowling Green**

- 30.1 Cllrs Dawson and Stansfield reported that a meeting had been held with Peter Botterill, Chairman of Wootton Bowls Club to show them the alterations to the shower areas within the Community Centre. It was noted that the meeting went well and the following issues were discussed:
- lock to be installed on the changing room door.
  - donation/contribution towards the purchasing of changing shed
  - Laurels to be cut/lowered around the boundary of the bowling Green
  - to write to the Parish Council formally requesting a donation/grant towards the purchasing of a changing room shed.
- The Parish Clerk was asked to look into the location of the proposed shed and report back at the next meeting.  
**Action: Parish Clerk**
- 30.2 Cllr S Dawson reported that he had received three quotes from companies who will be willing to replace the matting at a cost of £19k to £26k. Due to the high costs and the change of use over the last few years from the school from sports to recreational, the Parish Council have written to WVPS seeking a meeting to discuss a possible donation to the cost. An update will be given at the next meeting.  
**Action: Cllr S Dawson**
- 30.3 The Parish Council have written to WVPS regarding the above and will discuss the Contract at that meeting.  
**Action: Cllr S Dawson**
- 30.4 The Parish Clerk reported that the local resident who agreed to do some voluntary work at Foxfields did not arrive due to personal reasons. The works have now been rescheduled for later in the month. It was agreed that if she failed to turn up again then we would e-mail the parents and let them know.  
**Action: Parish Clerk**
- 30.5 It was noted that some Parish Councillors attended a meeting with Wootton Parish Council to see how they organise/run their bar facilities and what lesson would could learn/adopt. All members who attended felt that the exercise was beneficial and a lot of information was gained. The Parish Clerk was asked to convey their thanks to Ted Patterson at Wootton PC for giving up his time.  
**Action: Parish Clerk**
- 30.6 The Parish Clerk reported that we are waiting for the fire officer to attend site to advise us on the doors that are required to comply with current legal legislation. A meeting is scheduled for February 2014.  
**Action: Parish Clerk**
- 30.7 The Parish Clerk was asked to e-mail all Councillors the new version of the terms and conditions for of both sites. The terms and conditions have been amended and placed in the following order:
- First section – Conditions that apply to both sites
  - Second section – Conditions that apply to individual sites. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 30.8 It was agreed that due to time constraints that the Council would delegate powers to the building works working group who will meet on a regular basis to discuss the detail associated with the building project currently being done at the Community Centre. The next scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February at the Community Centre at 7.30pm. All council members are welcome to attend.  
**Action: All Council Members**

14/31

### **Administration & Staffing**

- 31.1 Due to the confidential nature of the business . All items will be discussed under item 14/36 'exclusion of press and public'.

Continued.....

## 14/32 Environment

- 32.1 R & G consultant Ken Francis joined the meeting and discussed the following:
- Foxfield Drainage – It was recommended that the Council need to consider the installation of a secondary drainage system on Pitch 5 (the main and most southerly pitch) and selected areas of the second pitch (pitch 2). The Council agreed and approved that these works needed doing at an approximate cost of £5,775 (excluding vat). It was agreed that before we proceed that we need to liaise with the football clubs to make sure that this will help with some of the issues. The Parish Clerk was asked to speak to Grange Park Rangers Chairman /Secretary. **Action: Parish Clerk**
  - It was noted that R&G expressed concern about the replacement of the flooring at Woodland View play area as it was felt that the area is shaded and usage will be quite high so the grass will soon turn to mud. After a brief discussion it was agreed that Ken would give us a quote for the grass/pad structure which the Council would like to pursue. **Action: Ken Francis**
- 32.2 After a brief discussion the Council decided to vote on whether to incorporate the existing highway land located at Deer Close and include it in the Parish Council's regular cutting regime. The cost of this would be £32.55 per year. The vote was taken 9 members agreed and Cllr S Dawson objected. The Parish Clerk was asked to advise Ken Francis of this decision. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 32.3 The Parish Clerk reported that a meeting had taken place with SNC regarding the allotments and that the Parish Council needed to discharge some of the conditions associated with the planning approval notice. In order to comply with this we have had to use the services of Rob Adaway, planning architect to submit the relevant calculations and materials to be used for the vehicular access. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 32.4 The Chairman reported that himself and the Vice-Chair had attended the quarterly meeting with both Grange Park Rangers and Wooldale regarding the football pitches at Foxfields. It was agreed that the football clubs would do a site visit on Thursday afternoons at 4pm to ascertain if the pitches are playable for that weekend and let all associated parties know the outcome. It was also noted that a key had been misplaced and a new lock would need to be purchased/installed for changing room 3. **Action: Caretakers**
- 32.5 Cllr S Dawson asked the other councillors on suggestions on how to approach the school and the children to seek their views and aspirations for the proposed play park adjacent to their school. Cllr S Dawson asked the meeting to e-mail him their thoughts. **Action: all Councillors**

The Parish Clerk was asked to speak to R&G regarding the recommended fall heights on the above equipment and flooring. **Action: Parish Clerk**

## 14/33 Communication

- 33.1 A report had been received under item 14/21 of these minutes.
- 33.2 The Parish Council agreed to publish the street watch scheme on our website.

## 14/34 Correspondence

- |  |   |                                   |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| • NCC highway January report             | - | Noted and circulated via email    |
| • NCALC Proposed precept capping         | - | Noted and circulated via email    |
| • Andrea Leadsom community surgery dates | - | Posted on website for information |

## 14/35 Administration & Service Request

Nothing to report

## 14/36 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.

**Date of the Next Meeting**

37.1 The next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm and will be held at the Community Centre.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.15pm