

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 6th JUNE 2013 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, GRANGE PARK

Present: Cllrs M Smith (Ch), C Fry, A Walker, J Walker, S Dawson, M Aluko, S Ash, J Davies , S Allen .

Attending: Mrs T Sampson (Parish Clerk).

13/81 Public Questions

Steve Barber, Northampton County Council joined the meeting to discuss the County Council policy regarding 'vehicle activated signs (VAS)' as part of a traffic calming scheme which the Parish Council are currently considering. The Parish Council are considering the temporary VAS devices which have low maintenance cost as they only need additional batteries etc and we can also download data on laptop with the appropriate software. In order for the parish council to consider this scheme we need to obtain from highways the latest update on which roads within our parish are adopted. **Action: Parish Clerk**

Andy Simpson, Scheme Co-ordination for South Northants Community Responders joined the meeting to discuss the role of the Community First Responders (CFR's) who provide vital lifesaving care in the local neighbourhood or workplace until the arrival of an emergency ambulance. Andy asked if the Parish Council would promote this scheme by advertising for volunteers on their website and within the next edition of the Grange Park News. Further information can be obtained by visiting the website on www.emas.nhs.uk. It was also noted that he would be happy to have a stall at our summer event on the 25th August 2013.

13/82 County/District Councillors Report

Our newly elected County Councillor Michael Clarke joined the meeting to discuss the following issues:

- Informed the Parish Council that he had been appointed as cabinet member for transport, highways and environment. He updated GPPC on the current situation regarding criteria and timescales when reporting damage to highways via the street doctor.
- His awareness of the problems with potholes all around the County
- Frustration with the speed of broadband within the Parish. He did propose that he would organise a meeting with BT and relevant parties late summer to try and ascertain the exact problems.
- To obtain information regarding the completion of the road adoptions.

It was noted that he would be happy to receive any County Council issues via e-mail on mclarke@northamptonshire.gov.uk.

District Councillor Tharik-Jainu-Deen informed the meeting that he had obtained copies of maps indicating the boundaries of our Parish. The Parish Clerk advised that this information had been circulated.

13/83 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Councillors J Proudley and N Stansfield .

It was agreed that as Cllr Proudley had missed four consecutive Parish Council meetings a letter would be sent to see if he still was able to commit the time to be a Councillor for Grange Park. **Action: Parish Clerk**

13/84 Declaration of Members Interest

84.1 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.
- Cllrs A Walker, J Walker declared an interest in any items on the agenda relating to the allotments.
- Cllrs M Smith and A Walker declared an interest in the grant request for the Scouts group.

13/85 Minutes of the Council meeting of 9th May 2013

85.1 The Council approved and adopted the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Council on the 9th May 2013 and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

85.2 The Council approved and adopted the minutes of the Meeting of the Council on the 9th May 2013 and the Chairman signed them as a true record after the following typos had been amended:
Item 72.1 the names Collingtree and Hunsbury.

13/86 Chairman's Report

86.1 No report from the Chairman as all items are listed on the agenda for discussion

86.2 The Council accepted the resignation of Cllr N Jackson. The Parish Clerk was asked to send a letter to her thanking her for her commitment and dedication. The Parish Council was asked to inform SNC of the co-opted vacancy.
Action: Parish Clerk

13/87 Parish Clerk's Report

87.1 The Parish Clerk informed the meeting that in partnership with SNC, it has been suggested that we hold a 'Dog mess awareness day' handing out leaflets, dog poo bags and explaining the importance of picking it up and putting it in the bins provided by the Parish Council. It was agreed to delegate Cllrs Fry/N Stansfield to organise a day/time with SNC. This will be put in the on the website/newsletter.

It was also noted that the Planning Officer and the Head of Development Planning have a meeting on the 19th June to discuss issues relating to our outstanding planning application. They have promised to update us on the outcome of this meeting and we will endeavour to report back to the Council in July.

Action: Cllr J Walker

87.2 It was agreed that the Parish Council have no comment to make on the consultation document 'new homes bonus scheme' but would like to take up the offer of SNC attending one of our Parish Council meetings later in the year to update us on all the detail and the procedure of how to bid for the monies.

Action: Parish Clerk

13/88 Finance

88.1 The Parish Council agreed and approved the accounts for June 2013. (Appendix 1 of these minutes).

88.2 The Parish Council noted the comments from the internal auditor which was circulated to all councillors for information.

88.3 The Parish Council considered the request from Grange Park Scouts Group for help with hiring the facilities of Foxfields for their weekly sessions. The Parish Council agreed that as the request was for three groups, scouts, beavers and cubs they would approve £400. (*Local Government act 1972 s144*)

88.4 The Parish Council considered the request from Grange Park Rangers for help with the purchasing of additional sports equipment. The Parish Council agreed to approve £250. (*Local Government act 1976 s19*).

13/89 Planning, Highways and Transportation

89.1 S/2013/0643/FUL

Location: 65 Wake Way, Grange Park
Proposal: Conversion of garage to living accommodation
Case Officer: Pritesh Shah
Observations: No comment

S/2013/0620/FUL

Location: Foxfields Pavilion off Foxfield Way, Grange Park

Proposal: Variation of condition 2 of planning permission S/2012/0142/FUL to allow the Premises to be open from 08.00 to midnight permanently

Case Officer: Alex Keen

Observations: The Parish Council fully supported this application

89.2 No planning approval/refusal decisions were received.

89.3 The Parish Council discussed the possibility of purchasing some bus shelters for Saxon Avenue. The following was agreed:

- To have a meeting with NCC to seek approval for the location
- To ask Prologis if there is any funding available
- To seek a list of authorised contractors from NCC

Action: Parish Clerk

89.4 Due to time constraints it was agreed that the Parish Council would arrange a working group meeting to revisit the plans to convert the shower areas in to more useable space at the Community Centre. The Parish Clerk was asked to schedule a meeting.

Action: Parish Clerk

89.5 The Parish Clerk reported that she had e-mailed the consultant who is leading the development on the old Ikea site for an update. As yet no response has been received.

13/90

Grange Park Community & Sports Association (GPC&SA)

Cllr Walker reported that as from 31st May 2013 the association has been declared dissolved. The bank balance was £6,591 with an estimated outstanding gas bill of £6,900. There are also outstanding payments for invoices in April/May which is estimated at £2,152. It is therefore envisaged that any monies in the account will be spent on the following projects: Repair of sliding door in the small hall and resurfacing the main hall during the summer recess.

An update was also given on the following points:

- It was agreed to appoint Cllr Stuart Ash to be an independent Financial Assessor for the accounts of GPC&SA.
- It was agreed that the summer event would now take place at Foxfields on Sunday 25th August 2013. The Parish Council will have a working group meeting to discuss the detail but were happy to delegate Cllr Dawson to negotiate the price of a band. Hands on Hawking to be provisionally booked at a cost of £50.00
- Cllr Smith updated the council on the meeting held with Grange Park Cricket Club and Grange Park Rangers to discuss maintenance of the pitches/square and any other matters. The following was approved:
 - Due to the increased usage and the growth of Grange Park Rangers it was felt that we are not able to accommodate any other teams from September 2013. The Parish Clerk was asked to write to the Chairman of Wooldale Football Club explaining our situation.
 - R&G are looking into a maintenance schedule for the outfield and pitches at Foxfields
 - Cllr J Walker and the Parish Clerk were delegated to draft a job description for the post of Head Caretaker prior to the retirement of John Lawrence which will be considered at the next Parish Council meeting in July. **Action: Cllrs Walker/Parish Clerk**
 - It was noted that the Parish Council have advertised our facilities within the next edition of the Link which is circulated to the adjoining Parish Councils of Wootton, Hardingstone, Collingtree etc.
 - The website item will be discussed later under 92.5 of this agenda.
 - The Parish Council considered a request from a local resident regarding the installation of rugby posts at Foxfield Country Park. It was agreed that the sports playing areas are in a poor state at this time due to the adverse weather over the past several months such that we will have to restrict play on at least some pitches in order to allow grass recovery. In addition the local Football Club is increasing the number of teams for the forthcoming season to some twenty three. Such is the increase in demand that it is likely that football teams outside the Parish, who have been welcome in the past, will not be able to play here in the coming season. The Council will be taking several steps in the near future to rectify the problems and after that we may be in a position to review the feasibility of installing rugby posts. The Parish Clerk was asked to convey this to the resident. **Action: Parish Clerk**

13/91 Environment

- 91.1 The Parish Council agreed that following numerous requests to the Wootton/Grange Bowls Club the agreement has still to be signed. The Parish Council agreed that they would write a letter to them requesting a signed agreement within 14 days (until the 24th June) or they will have no alternative but to padlock the entrance gates and will permit anyone from using the green. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 91.2 The following issues were raised in regards to Contract 5:
- Fence Panels at Foxfield – to be fixed
 - Residents complaints in relation to trees – Ken (R&G maintenance) has been advised that the Council's policy is to do any works on trees which are dead, dying or dangerous.
 - Play equipment needs some minor works following loose bolts etc.
- 91.3 New Boundary maps were circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.

13/92 Communication

- 92.1 Cllr Fry reported that the deadline for news articles is the 10th June and hopefully delivery by the end of the month.
- 92.2 Barrie Randall informed the Council that he had been busy over the last couple of weeks but would look into making the small amendments requested. He would e-mail the logos back to the Council for approval in the next week.
- 92.3 Cllr Fry informed the Council that there were no issues to report relating to the Youth Club.
- 92.4 It was agreed that the Grand Prix and the Summer Event would be discussed at a working group meeting proposed for Monday 17th June 2013.
- 92.5 The Council agreed to proposal 1 omitting the update of the association website at a cost of £750. The Parish Clerk was asked if she could obtain an amended invoice from the webmaster.

13/93 Correspondence

- 93.1 All items of correspondence has been dealt with during the meeting

13/94 Administration & Service Request

Nothing to report

13/95 Date of the Next Meeting

- 95.1 The next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 4th July 2013 at 7.30pm and will be held at the Community Centre.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50pm.