

GRANGE PARK PARISH COUNCIL

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

Bookings: 01604 701431 (Mon/Wed/Fri 9am-11.45am only)
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www.grangeparkpc.org

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 4th MARCH 2010 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, GRANGE PARK

Present: Cllrs A Walker (Ch), M Smith, D Ramsay, M Aluko, N Stansfield, M Stansfield, C Nobbs, L Ellington, C. Fry
T Janiu-Deen , N Wilson, S Cates

Attending: Mrs T Sampson (Clerk)

10/33 Public Questions

None

10/34 County/District Councillors Report

34.1 District Councillor Tharik-Deen reported that South Northants Council are considering capping the precept request for next year.

It was also noted that Northamptonshire County Councils original proposal has changed, and they are deferring any changes until 2013 and honouring the sibling link. There are grey areas and the resident's association are campaigning to keep Grange Park permanently in Caroline Chisholm Catchment. This proposal is going to the admission Forum meeting on Wednesday 10th March at the Guildhall from 1.00-5.00pm

10/35 Apologies for Absence

No Apologies were received. Cllrs Smith, Ramsay and Nobbs informed the meeting that they would be late in arriving.

10/36 Declaration of Members Interest

None received

10/37 Minutes of the meeting of 4th February 2010

37.1 The Council approved and adopted the minutes dated 4th February 2010 and the Chairman signed them as a correct record after the following amendment.

Item 30.1 should read '*It was noted that 7 youths are on the list to distribute the above and we are currently using 4 of them*'.

37.2 Matters arising
See Appendix 1

Continued.....

10/38

Chairman's Report

- 38.1 The Chairman informed the meeting that all business matters has been itemised within the agenda.
- 38.2 The Chairman reported that a meeting had been attended by most of the Council on the 18th February to discuss the S106 contributions from Land at Saxon Avenue. It was agreed that we would submit more information on specific topics to Matthew Berry at WNDC by the end of March. The Clerk was asked to circulate a list of topics and ask those councillors who submitted the information to send the Clerk details on cost and location .
Action: Parish Councillors
- Cllr Cates requested the e-mail information relating to the above subject due to a failure of his computer server and has been unable to pick up previous messages.
Action: Clerk
- 38.3 The Chairman advised the Council that we will be appointing a solicitor from Hewitson's to provide us with the legal information required to create a new business structure. It was noted that the appointed Solicitor has personal experience of being an elected member of the Cold Ashby Parish Council and also a member of the Playing Fields association. The Clerk was asked to organise a meeting at the earliest convenience.
Action: Clerk

10/39

Clerk's Report

- 39.1 Nothing to report

10/40

Finance

- 40.1 The Council approved the expenditure listed in Appendix 2.
- 40.2 The Council approved the monthly committed expenditure relating to Contract 4 (maintenance and upkeep of all the open spaces within the parish) and also the additional cost of £605 (net) to repair and replace equipment on the playparks which had been caused by vandalism.
- 40.3 Cllr Smith reported that a letter had been sent to Inspire Contracting informing them of our intention to terminate the contract unless some progress is made on completing the construction of Foxfields Pavilion within the next 14 days. It was noted that in the interim no progress will be made. There is also a continuing disagreement with the final account. The Parish Council agreed that they would delegate Cllrs Walker and Smith to seek guidance from our Project Manager and follow through any relevant instructions and report back at the next Council meeting.
Action: Clerk
- 40.4 The Council reviewed the matters arising by our recent internal auditors report and in line with the audit regulations 2006 the Council reviewed, approved and agreed their internal audit procedures and approved the Internal Audit Services terms of reference by NCALC and also a Parish Audit Plan. It was also agreed that we would not renew our fidelity insurance as this has already been reviewed by the Council and have decided it is sufficient.
- 40.5 The Council agreed to delegate the Finance working group to look through the two quotes received from the insurance companies and renew as appropriate. The Clerk was asked to organise a meeting in March in order to met the deadline for renewal of the 1st April 2010.
Action: Clerk
- 40.6 The Council considered a grant request from *Grange Park Rainbows* and agreed to contribute £250 to help towards the cost of running the Group (Local Government – Miscellaneous Provisions act 1976 s19.) .
Action: Clerk
- 40.7 The Council considered a grant request from *Grange Park Brownies* and agreed to contribute £250 to help towards the cost of running the Group (Local Government – Miscellaneous Provisions act 1976 s19.) .
Action: Clerk

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10/41 Planning, Highways and Transportation

- 41.1 No Planning applications were received.
- 41.2 Approved Planning Decision received : Garage conversion at 18 Old Close, Grange Park

10/42 Administration and Staffing

- 42.1 Nothing to report
- 42.2 The Council agreed and approved to adopt the discretions for the Local Government Pension as recommended by Northampton County Council Pension. (See attached)

10/43 Recreation and Amenities

- 43.1 An update on the progress of the Pavilion has already been discussed under item 40.3 of these minutes.
- 43.2 Cllr Walker informed the meeting on the following issues affecting Contract 4 (Maintenance of Green open spaces)
- Some dry grassed areas will be cut over the next few weeks – the contractors will make a professional judgement on which areas are dry enough.
 - A two day litter pick will be done on all the areas that are maintained under our contract
 - It was also noted that the Parish Council will need to review the Contract of maintaining all the open spaces within the Parish in September 2011 and seek EU tenders. The Clerk was asked to make a diary note. **Action: Clerk**
 - The work will commence on the playpark at Quintonside in the next few weeks to renew all the edges and surfaces. The park will be closed during this time – The Clerk was asked to put the information on the website. **Action: Clerk**
 - It was agreed following a discussion with our landscape consultant (ref: Foxfields) that due to severe weather condition this year, the Parish Council agreed to postpone any clubs from using the facilities until the outfield construction and maintenance is fit for purpose. The Drainage Company are due back week commencing the 15th March (weather permitting) to topfill the drainage ditches and also to reseed. It was agreed for the Clerk to write a letter to the Chairman of Grange Park Cricket Club explaining the situation. **Action: Clerk**
 - It was noted that some play equipment is getting damaged/vandalised on a regular basis – some of the bolts have already been lock tight and if the issues persist then it was agreed to spot weld the bolts. The Clerk was asked to speak to our PCSO regarding the installation of CCTV cameras. **Action: Clerk**
 - It was noted that the land at the back of the Rookery is unable to be transferred to the Parish Council until vacant possession has been obtained.
 - It was agreed to obtain a quote from Frosts to hard surface the side of the Community Centre which vehicles pass to load/unload equipment to be used in the main hall.
- 43.3 Cllr N Stansfield gave a verbal report on the progress of the construction of some Allotments at Lark Lane, Grange Park. He informed the Council that we had received a visit from National Grid and Cmix regarding the high pressure pipes located 4-6metres in depth across the site. All work was delayed until they had completed their assessment. The work is now ongoing and the Parish Council have budgeted £50,000 to set up these allotments which will hopefully be ready in April. An allotments association has been constituted and they will run the day to day management of this site once handed over by the Parish Council.

Continued.....

- 43.4 It was agreed, once the information has been received, to ask Paul Denton to send a draft brochure illustrating the cost of maintaining Grange Park to the Clerk. This will then be circulated to all councillors seeking their approval. **Action: Clerk**
- 43.5 It was agreed to delegate Cllrs Ellington/M Stansfield to submit a proposal for consideration to the Council that will help with the litter situation within the Parish. The Council agreed to purchase another 3 bins and put them within our contract (A H Contracts) to empty on a weekly basis. The Clerk was asked to seek clarification from our landscape consultant on the individual cost associated with picking up litter within Contract 4. **Action: Clerk**
- 43.6 The Council agreed to include the following on the directional signs and submit to South Northants planning department for consideration:
Community Centre, Foxfield, District Centre. **Action: Clerk**

10/44

Community Centre, MUGA and Bowling Green

- 44.1 The Council agreed and reiterated last month's meeting details that they would not be taking up the offer of a financial loan or to employ the services of the Bowling Green to convert the shower areas within the community centre to more useable space. It was agreed to delegate Cllr Ramsay to write to the Bowling Green detailing this information. The Council also agreed to delegate Cllr Ramsay to speak to an architect to obtain a cost of producing some detailed plans that may be used if some funding was made available from the S106 contributions from the new development site at Saxon Avenue (Old Ikea Site) and report back at the next Parish Council meeting. **Action: Cllr Ramsay**
- 44.2 The Council agreed due to the increase of utility bills to raise the hire charges of the community centre by 2%. The MUGA tariff rates will remain unchanged. This raise will be effective from April 1st 2010. **Action: Clerk**
- 44.3 The Council considered a request from Grange Park Pre-School to the possibility of painting a mural on the boundary fence at the Community Centre. The Council agreed to a mural subject to the following conditions:
 - That the pre-school consult and seek approval on design before installation
 - that it is maintained regularly by the pre-school , if not the Parish Council will paint over.
 - That the pre-school will cover all relevant costs
The Clerk was asked to write a letter to the pre-school. **Action: Clerk**
- 44.4 Cllr Ramsay reported that the light bulbs have been installed on the floodlights within the Muga. We obtained 3 quotes and decided to go with a local company who are also used by Caroline Chisholm School called Audio Visual Installation, based in Northampton. The cost is high due to the Mobile access equipment that is needed and also the cost of the bulbs at £250 each. Approx cost £2,000
- 44.5 It was noted that the Canopies will be erected on the northern side of the Community Centre on the 9th/10th March 2010 to enable all weather recreation space for the users of the hall. This equipment has been funded by Grange Park Pre-School.
- 44.6 Cllr Ramsay tabled a quote that had been received (via the Bowls Club) from PJ Scot Fabrications regarding the installation of aluminium wall capping. Cllr Ramsay volunteered to look into the situation and report back to Council his findings. **Action: Cllr Ramsay**
- 44.7 The Council agreed to let Ken Butterfield, Chairman of the Bowls Committee maintain the irrigation system for 2010/11. The Clerk was asked to let them know **Action: Clerk**

10/45

Community Activities

- 45.1 Cllr Cates tabled for information the crime statistics for Grange Park from April 2009- February 2010 which were discussed briefly.

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10/46 Website and Newsletter

46.1 Nothing to report

46.2 It was noted that the Parish Council had circulated 280 leaflets to the residents of the Barrats Homes within our Parish regarding landscaping and maintenance issues which should be done by their management committee – to date only 4 responses had been received. It was agreed to delegate Cllrs Walker/Wilson to organise a meeting with those residents. **Action: Cllrs Walker/Wilson**

10/47 Correspondence

47.1 All items of correspondence were discussed within the Meeting

10/48 Date of the Next Meeting

48.1 Due to the Easter Holidays the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 25th March 2010 at 7pm at the Community Centre.

48.2 Agenda items to be submitted to the Parish Clerk 7 days prior to the meeting.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20pm