

**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 5th MARCH 2015 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, GRANGE PARK.

Present: Cllrs M Smith (Ch.), S Dawson (Vc.) S Ash, D Harris, A Walker, M Aluko, W Shakespeare, S Allen.

Attending: Mrs T Sampson (Parish Clerk).

15/33 Public Questions

33.1 Paul Woodbridge joined the meeting to discuss the proposal to set up a new Youth Club from May 2015 for youths aged 9 to 14 years old. He circulated costings including the expenditure of the hiring of facilities, new equipment and staffing requirements. It was also noted that there is a Youth Activators day on Thursday 2nd April 2015 which will include the following activities: Skate park, Climbing Wall, Ipad Art and the use of the MUGA, all free of charge. The Chairman thanked Paul for attending the meeting and advised him that the Council will consider the proposal under item 15/42.2 of the agenda.

33.2 No report received from our PCSO

15/34 County/District Councillors Report

34.1 County Councillor Michael Clarke reported on the following :

- Update on Superfast Broadband – latest newsletters can be viewed via the link: <http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/councilservices/Environ/economic/Pages/superfast-broadband.aspx>
- Northampton County Council are seeking to make schools in Northamptonshire among the best in the country by 2020 through our Race To The Top strategy. The strategy will encourage schools to strive for excellence by inviting top-performing schools to share good practice, offering grants and bursaries to schools seeking to improve, and working with businesses to provide mentoring and work placement opportunities.
- Northampton County Councillors have voted to approve the budget for 2015/16, which outlines £68m of savings while protecting frontline services. The budget shows how we plan to meet the costs of providing services in the face of increasing demand while managing a reduction in the level of government funding.
- Council tax bills will be sent over the next few weeks by your District or Borough council. A portion of the tax collected comes to us at the County Council. This year, Northamptonshire will remain the lowest taxing county council in the country with a council tax rise of just 1.95 per cent.
- A poster was also circulated from Northamptonshire Waste Partnership regarding the recycling of rubbish and the slogan has caused some concerns: ‘Don’t be a Tosser £75 fine for dropping litter’

34.2 District Councillor Adil Sadygov reported on the following:

- The Forum, is at the heart of Moat Lane. It will be a community hub for community groups, residents, visitors and tourists. Our offices and council chambers will be based here: The Forum ,Moat Lane, Towcester, NN12 6AD.
- The Council tax for residents in South Northamptonshire has been frozen and there will be no increase in the council’s element of their council tax for the fifth year running.

Continued.....

- An update on the Goodmans planning application can be viewed on the link listed below: <http://snc.planning-register.co.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=74170>. It was noted that following a site visit that the Parish Council would like to see more photographic evidence of the full height impact of the building adjacent to Budgens. The Parish Clerk was asked to write to District Councillors Clifford and Adil to request that it is deferred from going to the Development Control meeting on the 12th March for determination.
- An update on the Howdens planning application can be viewed on the link listed below: <http://snc.planning-register.co.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=74108>

15/35 **Apologies for Absence**

35.1 Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs N Stansfield, K Clarke, J Davis and District Councillor S Clifford.

15/36 **Declaration of Members Interest**

36.1 No declarations received.

15/37 **Minutes of the Council Meeting on the 5th February 2015**

37.1 The Council agreed and approved the minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated 5th February 2015 and signed them as a true record after a typing error had been amended .

37.2 No matters were arising

15/38 **Chairman's Report**

38.1 All items covered in the agenda.

38.2 The Chairman tabled a letter of resignation received from Cllr Claire Fry. The Council accepted the resignation and a letter will be sent to Cllr Fry thanking her for all her hard work, commitment and time she has given up over the last 8 years.

38.3

15/39 **Parish Clerk's Report**

39.1 The Parish Clerk reported on the following :

- A proposal has been received from Grange Park Cricket Club regarding the cost per match of £70 plus 50% towards the renovation cost at the start and end of the season. It was noted that Horton Cricket club would also like to use the facilities for the season 2015/16. The Parish Clerk was asked to write to them detailing the cost etc. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- The Parish Council agreed to submit a traffic regulation order to insert double yellow lines from the Bridge on Bridge Meadow Way , pass Richmond Homes to the roundabout on both sides of the road. The Parish Clerk was asked to submit the forms to Northampton County Council. **Action: Parish Clerk**

15/40 **Finance**

40.1 The Parish Council agreed and approved the accounts for February 2015. (Appendix 1 of these minutes).

40.2 The Parish Council received the report from the internal auditor and noted the recommendations. The Parish Clerk was asked to resolve any issues.

40.3 The Parish Council received an update S106 statement via e-mail prior to the meeting.

40.4 It was noted that Cllr S Ash would liaise with the Parish Clerk to see if any changes need to be made to the Financial Regulations or Financial Risk Assessment and report back at the next meeting.

40.5 It was agreed that the Parish Council would amend their standing orders to incorporate the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014. The Parish Clerk was asked to organise.

15/41

Planning, Highways and Transportation

41.1 The following planning applications was received:

S/2015/0356/FUL

Location: 19 Lodge Close, Grange Park

Proposal: Garage conversion and single storey rear extension

Case Officer: Mark Shaw

Observations: No comment

41.2 No approval/refusal planning decision notices were received.

15/42

Community Centre, Foxfield & Bowling Green

42.1 It was noted that the contract with Youth Inspired has now been terminated as from the end of February 2015.

42.2 The Parish Council considered the proposal from Paul Woodbridge as discussed in item 33.1 of these minutes. It was agreed that there would be no charge for the rental of the muga or hall facilities for 3 months and this would then be reviewed in September 2015.

42.3 It was noted that a 'Youth Half Term Activators Day' on the 2nd April 2015 has been organised. Posters have been advertised on our website.

42.4 Cllr W Shakespeare updated the Council on the Spring Food & Drink Festival which is scheduled for the 28th March 2015 at the Community Centre . Cllr W Shakespeare asked for volunteers on the day to collect the entrance fee.
Action: All Councillors

42.5 The Parish Council considered a request from the above organiser of the Spring Food and Drink Festival for a reduction in the tariff rates. After a brief discussion it was agreed that no reduction would be given as the Parish Council were already letting them use their licence for alcohol, allowing preparation time and doing some of the marketing.

42.6 It was noted that a Working Group meeting needs to be organised to discuss arrangements for the 'Summer Event' to be held on the Sunday 30th August 2015. The Parish Clerk was asked to e-mail all councillors with a date and time (preferably on a Thursday night).
Action: Parish Clerk

15/43

Administration & Staffing

43.1 The Parish Clerk reported that staff are feeling a bit under pressure with all the extra work that has occurred over the last few months. It was noted that the Parish Clerk would look at ways to resolve some of the issues ie. by employing a weekend supervisor of the bar/café area, interviews to be agreed for the weekend caretaker, asking the bar/staff to do more administration work.

43.2 It was noted that the advertisement for weekend staff will be circulated via the Grange Park Newsletter. The newsletter will be circulated on Saturday 7th March 2015. Interviews for the Weekend Caretaker have been scheduled for Thursday 19th /Friday 20th March 2015.

43.3 It was noted that the Caretaking Staff are happy to help out covering some locking up / maintenance duties for Woodland View Primary School until a Site Manager has been appointed.

15/44

Environment

44.1 All issues on the contract 5 log sheets are being reviewed and monitored regularly.

The Parish Council discussed the issues of tree height and overhanging branches to be removed at No.7 The Witheys. It was agreed that following our consultants advice after a site visit that no action would be taken. The Parish Clerk was asked to write to the residents informing them of the law with regards to cutting down branches that overhang their fence and also to advise them that fallen leaves are uncontrollable and fall seasonally so the Parish Council will not be held responsible for this issue.

44.2 The Parish Clerk reported that a dog bin has now been installed at the entrance of Wootton Brook Country Park.

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- 44.3 The Parish Clerk reported that a quote had been received by R&G landscapes to lay block paving to the front of the Community Centre to make the pedestrian access to the café/bar area more accessible. The quote received was for £2796.85 including VAT. The Parish Council decided due to the expense that they would like to explore different options. The Parish Clerk was asked to relay this message to R&G. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 44.4 An e-mail has been received from Waste Recycling department at SNC to confirm that the litter bins along Saxon Avenue will be emptied every Tuesday.
- 44.5 The Parish Council considered a request from a local resident regarding the purchasing of land adjacent to their property. At present the Parish Council do not own this land (although the Parish Council do maintain the area) as it is still within the ownership of the developer but the developer will only transfer the ownership of the land to the Parish Council.
The Parish Council agreed that they will not sell or transfer any portions of land (green open space) to anyone within the Parish and it would always remain within the public domain.
- 44.6 The Council agreed to submit a form to the Community Enhancement Gangs requesting the following jobs:
 - Painting of the railings at the Community Centre
 - Varnishing of the wooden fence at Foxfields
 - Varnishing the wood at the bridge by the pond
The Parish Clerk was asked to make this request. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 44.7 It was agreed that Cllr S Dawson would arrange to have a photo taken with SNC of the new play equipment and circulate. **Action: Parish Clerk**

15/45 Communication

- 45.1 It was noted that the Grange Park Newsletters will be circulated within the weekend dated 7th/8th.
- 45.2 Cllrs Shakespeare and Ash updated the Council on the meeting they attended with 2commune regarding the updating and new website options. It was noted that they were very impressed with the presentation and thought that the Parish Council would like to consider the system. It was agreed that Cllr W Shakespeare would try and organise a bespoke presentation at Foxfields. **Action: Cllr Shakespeare**
- 45.3 Due to time constraints it was agreed that we would organise a working group meeting to discuss the ‘Summer Event’ and the bands to book. The meeting is scheduled for the 19th March 2015 within the Parish Office at 7.30pm. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 45.4 It was agreed that the Thai Evening would go ahead on Thursday 25th April 2015. Menus, posters and tickets will be organised prior to Easter and sold from the Parish Office. Children will be able to attend at a cost £5.00(Child from the age of 4 – 11 years). Background music will be available.

15/46 Correspondence

- 46.1 No correspondence received.

15/47 Administration & Service Request

- 47.1 No request received.

15/48 Date of the Next Meeting

- 48.1 The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday 2nd April 2015.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.25 pm .