

# GRANGE PARK PARISH COUNCIL

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

Parish Council: 01604 702938  
www.grangeparkpc.org

## MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 13<sup>th</sup> MAY 2010 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, GRANGE PARK0

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

Attending: Mrs T Sampson (Clerk)

### 10/65 Public Questions

Simon Reid joined the meeting to introduce himself to the Council as he is our new beat Police Officer who has been assigned to cover Grange Park and Roade School. He gave contact details to Council members and informed them of his role and responsibilities. Simon was asked if he could write an article for the next edition of the newsletter informing residents of contact details etc. **Action: Simon Reid**

### 10/66 County/District Councillors Report

66.1 District Councillor Paul Farrow informed the meeting that SNC were looking at the Consultation Paper by the Department of Transport regarding the High Speed Two (HS2) and the current proposed route which is close to Brackely, Northampton

It was also reported that there may be some S106 funding available via WNDC from the proposed development site at Saxon Avenue (Old Ikea Site) which is for community use.

He asked the Council if there had been any planning problems with the allotment site at Lark Lane, Grange Park. The Parish Council responded informing him that they were working with SNC/NCC to resolve any issues. **Action: Clerk**

It was also noted that there had been a good turnout from the residents of Grange Park for the parliamentary elections held on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2010.

66.2 District Councillor Tharik Janiu-Deen reported that discussions were taking place regarding the school catchment areas. It was noted that Cllr Janiu-Deen will be having a meeting with the newly elected Parliamentary member Andrea Leasham and ask what the new governments' view will be on Education.

Cllr Fry informed the meeting that complaints had been received via the website regarding the non attendance of Parish Councillors at the recent school cabinet meeting. The Parish Council re-iterated that they had not been invited to the meeting and were not aware of times and dates. It was agreed that a statement to this affect should be included on the website. **Action:Cllr Fry/Cllr Ramsay**

### 10/67 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Cates/Walker sent their apologies which were accepted and approved.

### 10/68 Declaration of Members Interest

Cllr N Stansfield declared an interest in any issues relating to the allotments.

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## 10/69 Minutes of the meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> March 2010

- 69.1 The Council approved and adopted the minutes dated the 25<sup>th</sup> March 2010 and the Chairman signed them as a correct record.
- 69.2 Matters arising  
See Appendix 1

## 10/70 Chairman's Report

- 70.1 Nothing to report
- 70.2 It was noted that draft documents had been received from our solicitor regarding the new business structure. It was agreed that the working group Cllrs Smith, Ramsay and Walker would organise another meeting with the solicitor to go through the detail and report back at the next Parish Council meeting in June.

## 10/71 Clerk's Report

- 71.1 The Council approved the income and expenditure for the end of the financial year 2010. The Council also approved section 1 – Statement of accounts and Section 2 – Annual governance statement of the Annual Return. It was also noted that the Council will be having their internal audit on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2010.

**Action: Clerk**

## 10/72 Finance

- 72.1 The Council approved the expenditure listed in Appendix 2.
- 72.2 The Council approved the monthly committed expenditure relating to Contract 4 (maintenance and upkeep of all the open spaces within the parish).
- 72.3 Cllr Smith informed the meeting that following the last Parish Council meeting it was our understanding that to complete Foxfields Pavilion it would be in the region of £20k it now expires after going out to tender it is likely to cost £59k. At the present time GPPC pay 53% (which is other project grants received) of any invoices and the football foundation pay 47%. It is therefore estimated to complete the whole project which includes fitting it out /drainage etc the remaining cost is £80k. GPPC have £36k currently in the bank and the football foundation has £49k – the shortfall being £6k. It was agreed and approved that the Parish Council would be, if needed, prepared to make up the shortfall.
- Cllr Smith also informed the Council that Inspire Contracting Ltd had taken us through an adjudication process for the last unpaid valuation. After consideration the Adjudication Officer decided there was no claim to make towards Grange Park Parish Council. However as we (GPPC) were jointly liable for the cost and Inspire were not prepared to pay their half the Parish Council decided to avoid small claims court expenses by paying the invoice and then submitting it to Inspire and to reclaim the total expenditure.
- It was also agreed to ask our project manager to lodge a claim to retrieve some of the monies that had been paid to Inspire for work that has not been completed. The Parish Council expressed their disappointment in the Project Manager/ Quality Surveyor for certifying work that had not been completed. After a brief discussion the Parish Council decided not to pursue any claims towards them.
- 72.4 The Parish Council considered a grant request by Grange Park Scout Group and decided that due to the budget figure being decreased this year we would pro-rotate the amount accordingly. It was therefore decided to give £312.50
- 72.5 The Parish Council considered a grant request from Grange Park Cricket Club. After a brief discussion it was agreed that due to the installation costs and maintenance regime for 2010 they would not be able to allocate any more funds this year.

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- 72.6 The Parish Council agreed to the payment of an invoice (£1600) which had been submitted by Abby Internet for the renewal of our website maintenance contract for 2010/11. The Clerk was asked to sort out the appropriate paperwork.

## 10/73 **Planning, Highways and Transportation**

- 73.1 The Parish Council considered the following:

S/2010/0426/DEM

For information only

Location: Grange Cottage, London Road, Courtenhall,

Proposal: Demolition of cottage

- 73.2 No late planning applications or decisions have been received
- 73.3 The Clerk was asked to speak to the landlord of the District Centre regarding the current 2 hour parking restrictions at the District Centre, Grange Park .

## 10/74 **Administration and Staffing**

- 74.1 Cllr Nobbs reported that unfortunately due to a job promotion our temporary caretaker has had to resign from the post. The Parish Council asked the Clerk to send a letter of thanks and wish him well for the future. It was agreed that the staffing working group would look at recruiting another candidate on a temporary 3 monthly basis. **Action: Staff Working Group**

- 74.2 The Council agreed that a schedule of meetings would be circulated to all councillors every month. The Clerk was asked to organise. **Action: Clerk**

The Parish Council agreed to look into the cost of training a member of the Caretaking staff to be able to do Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) within the Community Centre. The Clerk was asked to look in the matter and report back at the next meeting **Action: Clerk**

## 10/75 **Recreation and Amenities**

- 75.1 The finances and update regarding the build at Foxfields Country Park has already been discussed under 72.3 of this meeting.

- 75.2 The Parish Council agreed to enter into a contract with Dave Salisbury Landscapes to maintain the cricket square at Foxfields Country Park from April 2010 until April 2011 at a cost of £675.00.

It was noted that Cllr Smith and the Chairman of the Cricket Club had installed the irrigation system for the Cricket Square which will be plumbed into the grey water system at the Pavilion.

- 75.3 Cllr N Stansfield suggested that the green bushy area at the brow of the hill at Foxfields Country park needs to be looked at due to some anti social behaviour. It was agreed that this would be deferred and discussed at the next working group meeting

The surface area at Quintonside playpark is currently under construction and the play park will be closed until completion.

- 75.4 The Parish Council agreed to send a thank you letter to Barrie Randall, Chairman of the Allotments Association for all the hard work, dedication and commitment he has given in setting up the allotments for the residents of Grange Park

- 75.5 The Parish Council considered the second draft (after amendments) of the brochure illustrating the cost of maintaining Grange Park open spaces which should be circulated with the next edition of the newsletter. Cllr Fry sought clarification of who would manage the Voluntary Wardens and was advised that this would be forwarded to the working group to discuss. It was also noted that Cllr Nobbs would be happy to be involved.

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## **10/76 Community Centre, MUGA and Bowling Green**

- 76.1 Cllr Ramsay informed the Council that a meeting had been held with the bowling green on the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2010 to discuss some outstanding issues. It was noted that at the moment Wootton Grange Bowls Club had 50 members and 10 of those were residents of Grange Park. It was noted at the meeting that as from January 2011 that the Bowling Green will be a nil cost to the Parish Council. Some discussion took place regarding the transfer of current Parish Council assets of the Lawn Mower and the irrigation system to the Bowling Green and this issue is still outstanding.

The Parish Council also agreed that the noticeboard within the community centre would have priority to the users of our facilities to promote their activities. It was agreed that an exception would be made for any charity events.

The Parish Council agreed that they were happy for Woody's out of school club to erect some play equipment at the Community Centre on the condition that the Parish Council would not be held responsible for damage, injury or long term maintenance. The Clerk was asked to write a letter to Woody's reiterating the above **Action: Clerk**

## **10/77 Community Activities**

- 77.1 It was noted that the following events have been organised: Pet Show on the 6<sup>th</sup> June and Neighbourhood Watch on the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010. Both events have been advertised in the next edition of the newsletter

## **10/78 Website and Newsletter**

- 78.1 The issue regarding the non attendance of a Parish Councillor has already been raised at the beginning of the meeting.

The next edition of the Grange Park newsletter will be circulated on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2010.

## **10/79 Correspondence**

- 79.1 All items of correspondence were discussed within the Meeting

## **10/80 Exclusion of Press and Public**

In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted the notes of this part of the meeting will be only attached to the originals

## **10/81 Date of the Next Meeting**

- 81.1 The Annual Meeting of the Council will be held on the Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2010
- 81.2 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 9.50pm