

GRANGE PARK PARISH COUNCIL

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

Bookings: 01604 701431 (Mon/Wed/Fri 9am-11.45am only)
Parish Council: 01604 702938
www.grangeparkpc.org

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 10th SEPTEMBER 2009 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, GRANGE PARK

Present: Cllrs A Walker (Ch), M Smith, A Stansfield, D Ramsay, M Aluko, S Cates, N Stansfield, N Wilson, C Fry

Attending: Mrs T Sampson (Clerk).

09/289 Public Questions

Grange Park Parish Council unfortunately had to cancel the scheduled meeting on the 3rd September as notice of the meeting had not been publically displayed. We apologise for any inconvenience it may have caused those affected.

Paul Mason, Football Development Officer gave a verbal report on the following:

- Girls Soccer 7-12 year olds to commence on the MUGA at Grange Park On Friday 25th September.
- visiting Collingtree / East Hunsbury Primary schools to promote football within the area
- The Council agreed in principle that the Football Development Officer is able to use the Muga within the school holidays to promote Football.
- The Football Development Officer is also looking into the Revenue Budget given by the Football Foundation.

09/290 District Councillors Report

District Councillor Paul Farrow, updated the Council on the latest Newsletter produced by SNC and Recession Impact Booklet/Notices which will be advertised in the Community Centre. He also informed the meeting that a continuity plan had been put in place to deal with Swine Flu and assured the Council that if needed services would be prioritise and delivered.

County Councillor B Ingram informed the meeting that the adoption process has been agreed and that all developers will be looking into making sure that their areas of responsibility (highways, street lights etc) are at an acceptable standard before the process begins. County Councillor B Ingram was unsure of the timescales involved but would look into the matter and report back at the next meeting. **Action: B Ingram**

County Councillor B Ingram also informed the meeting that he had received complaints regarding the storage of caravans and large vechilces within Grange Park. It was agreed that this is not a county issue and that the Parish Council need to look into the matter further.

09/291 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Nobbs, Ellington, Jainu-Deen

09/292 Declaration of Members Interest

None

Continued.....

09/293 Minutes of the meeting of 2nd July 2009

293.1 The Council approved and adopted the minutes dated 2nd July 2009 and the Chairman signed them as a correct record.

293.2 Matters arising
See Appendix 1

09/294 Chairman's Report

294.1 The Chairman informed the council that he had attended a meeting with CPM Management Committee who are responsible for Regency Gate Phase 1 (Finney Drive area) regarding maintenance and landscaping issues. It was agreed that we need to organise a meeting with the developer (Barrats) in order to sort out the issues affecting Regency Gate 2 development (Georges Drive area). The Clerk was asked to organise and to invite the following:

Representative from Barrates, Management Companies, Enforcement officer at SNC and County Councillor B Ingram. **Action: Clerk**

09/295 Clerk's Report

295.1 The Clerk reported that Engage Planning have offered to come and speak to Grange Park Parish Councillors about the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy and the long-term strategic plan for development of the adjoining areas. The Clerk was asked to sort out convenient dates.

Action: Clerk

09/296 Finance

296.1 The Council approved the expenditure listed in Appendix 2.
The Clerk was asked to look into the following:

- Invoice for the bank holiday emptying of the dog bins
- Proof reading of the Grange Park Newsletter
- Sunday Cleaning arrangements

296.2 The Council approved the expenditure relating to Contract 4 (Maintenance of all openspaces within the Parish). A list of expenditure/Income was tabled at the meeting

296.3 Cllr Smith updated the Council on Foxfield Pavilion . He informed the meeting that the cricket square had been installed and that it had gone slightly over budget by £1480 + vat due to an irrigation system being installed and associated works – He asked the Council for retrospective approval for the additional cost. All members present agreed. The Clerk was asked to pay the relevant invoice. **Action : Clerk**

The Clerk was asked to look at our insurance ref: above installation. **Action: Clerk**

296.4 The Clerk reported that the BDO Stoy Hayward external audit had been completed for the year ended 31st March 2009. It was noted that the following issues had been raised: Fidelity insurance and review of effectiveness of internal audit. It was agreed that the Finance working group would look at these issues on Monday 21st September and report back to Council at the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

296.5 The Council agreed to purchase the fireworks from Kimblton at a cost of £2,372.00 for the Community Event which will be held on Saturday 7th November 2009. Donations received on the day will be given back to the Council to cover the cost of any expenditure incurred. The Clerk was also asked to book St John's Ambulance for the event. **Action: Clerk**

The Parish Council decided to spend the sum of £3,000 under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 which allows us to spend a limited amount on activities which will bring direct benefit to the Community.

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09/297

Planning, Highways and Transportation

297.1 The following applications were considered:

Location: 12 The Glades
Proposal: Part garage conversion to form a study
Case Officer: Amanda Haisman
Observations: No comment

Location: 133 Wake Way, Grange Park
Proposal: Single Storey extension to front
Case Officer: Suzanne Groves
Observation: No comment

297.2 No further planning applications or decision notices were received.

297.3 It was agreed to delegate Cllr C Fry to look at the West Northamptonshire Emergent Joint Core Strategy Consultation report and Questionnaire.

09/298

Administration and Staffing

298.1 As the Lead Councillor was absent from the meeting – no staffing issues were discussed.

298.2 The Clerk was asked to liaise with the Lead Councillor for Admin and Staffing regarding the advertising of the key holder vacancy for the community centre. **Action: Clerk**

09/299

Recreation and Amenities

299.1 The Council thanked Cllr Ramsay for submitting the relevant paperwork to obtain the premises licence for Foxfields Pavilion. The application was submitted and has now been approved with effect from 7th September 2009. The Council asked Cllr Ramsay to do a 'statement' to put on the website advising residents of the premises licence use and conditions that are in place. **Action: Cllr Ramsay**

299.2 Cllr Stansfield reported that a 'Open Evening' had been arranged given the residents the opportunity to look at proposed plans for the allotments located at Lark Lane. The evening was well attended. It was agreed that Cllr Stansfield needs to liaise with the Chairman of the Allotments association in order to put a proposal to Council for consideration.

299.3 Cllr Stansfield updated the Council on the following in relation to Contract 4 (Maintenance of Public Openspace).

- The Meadowland within Foxfield Country Park was cut over the summer and will be monitor next year
- The tree/bushed area in the middle of the Country Park will be cut and thinned out due to some anti-social behaviour taking place.
- Drainage to the Southern end of Foxfields has been done over the summer and will be monitored over the winter period.
- The area at the end of Badger Lane has been levelled and reseeded.
- The roundabout adjacent to the Grange Inn where the contractors mower caught fire has also been levelled and reseeded. (no cost to the parish)
- The Hedgerow between Badger Lane/Squirrel Close has been cut back over the summer holidays by the developer
- Our consultant Quartet Design has been asked to produce a schedule of works planned for the remaining part of this year and also for next year in order that the Parish Council can look into their budget requirements.
- Over the summer holidays vandalism occurred to the surfacing of the playparks within the parish. The council agreed that we need to look into the current surfacing with a view to change. Our landscaping Contractors (Frosts) had suggested that we replace them with grass and matting within the high impact areas. The Council agreed to get a costing from Frosts.

Action: Cllr Walker/Stansfield

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The Council agreed that the wooden edges around the park have weathered leaving a gap which is straining the matting. The Council asked Paul Farrow, District Councillor to look into the above design and pursue with the developers that it was never fit for purpose and that we as a Parish are now picking up the cost.
Action: Paul Farrow

- It was noted that the Thinning of the pioneers within the Parish has gone out to tender via our consultant and we will update the Council once a response is received.
- Concern was expressed about the amount of properties backing onto Foxfield Country Park who have created entrances/pathways. It was agreed that we would do land registry searches to seek clarification and report back our findings at the next Parish Council meeting.

Action: Cllr Stansfield

299.4 Cllr Stansfield updated the council on the proposed installation of the multi Use Games area located at Grange Valley Greenway. The Environment Agency had attended a site visit and suggested measures in redesigning of the fencing. The next stage is to get the Planning Officer out from SNC to seek his advice which has been scheduled for 6th October at 2.00pm.

It was noted that Cllr Wilson strongly objected to the scheme as he was concerned about the local impact to nearby properties and the potential youth problems it may create.

09/300 Community Centre, MUGA and Bowling Green

300.1 No issues to be discussed in relation to the Bowling Green and MUGA.

300.2 Cllr Ramsay informed the meeting that a letter had been received from a local resident regarding the hiring out of the Community Centre. After consideration the Council agreed to the following:

To put signs up 'keep door closed while amplified music is being played'

Put smoking bins in designated areas outside the community centre.

The car parking will be monitored and the hirer will be asked to remind their invited guest to use the car parks adjacent to the community Centre.

Action: Clerk

300.3 Draft designs were tabled at the meeting for converting the shower area at the Community Centre into more useable space. It was agreed to pass these on to the HSSP architect in order for us to obtain an estimate of cost.
Action: Clerk

09/301 Community Activities

301.1 Cllr Cates gave the Council the following update:

Arts – nothing to report

Neighbourhood Watch meeting – date to be advised.

Youth meeting to be held on the 24th September at the Community Centre

Community Speed Watch Scheme – will discuss at the meeting on the 17th September and Cllr Cates will report back at the next Parish Council meeting

09/302 Website and Newsletter

302.1 It was agreed that Cllrs Fry/Aluko would take over the Lead Councillors role of Website/Newsletter. The Clerk was asked to update the Lead Councillor list accordingly and advertise it on the website and Within the next addition of the newsletter.
Action: Clerk

It was also agreed that Cllrs Fry/Aluko would speak to Grange Park Church regarding the delivery of the Newsletter and timescales and would discuss at the next meeting
Action: Cllr Fry/Cllr Aluko

Continued.....

09/303 Correspondence

- NCC – proposal to enlarge Primary Section of Caroline Chisholm – Noted
- SNC – Parish Council Newsletter and Recession Impact advice Pack – Noted

All other items of correspondence were discussed within the Meeting

09/304 Date of the Next Meeting

304.1 The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 1st October 2009.

- Community Centre/Foxfields directional signs
- Firework Display – start times etc
- Surfacing at the Playground

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.00pm

