

NORTHILL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF NORTHILL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN ICKWELL VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 26TH JANUARY 2009 COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Councillor C Hawkes (Chairman), Councillors J Coutts, G Gilbert, M Hall, S Mandley, P Maudlin, D Milton, W Momen (late) J Yatchisin and the Clerk Mrs L Trevena

Also present were 16 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors A Bird and J Franklin. Apologies for lateness were received in advance from Councillor W Momen.

2. DECLARATION FROM MEMBERS IN RELATION TO PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST IN ANY AGENDA ITEM

None.

3. NOTIFICATION OF RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR PAPWORTH

The Clerk reported that the Chairman had received a written resignation from Councillor Papworth. She also confirmed that she had contacted MBDC and carried out the procedure of advertising the vacancy. MBDC had now confirmed that there will not be an election but the Council may go ahead and co-opt. Members were advised to bring nominations for co-option to the next meeting on Monday 2nd March 2009.

4. OPEN FORUM

Standing orders were suspended at 7.32 pm. Mr Thurston, the Co-Chairman of Hatch Residents Association Group expressed concern over the Gypsy and Traveller recommendations within Mid Beds and asked for confirmation of the Council's stance on Gypsy and Traveller sites in Hatch. Mrs Papworth, who had before the meeting personally delivered a THINC report to all members, spoke on matters contained in the report. Mr Westwood reported that a water pipe had been installed in Duvall's field and MBDC enforcement officers had visited the site and confirmed that planning permission is not required.

Standing orders were resumed at 7.46 pm.

RESOLVED that an item concerning the views of this Council on the Gypsy and Traveller site in Hatch is included on the next Council agenda.

5. POLICE REPORT FROM PC PATERSON

None.

6. COUNCIL MINUTES

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NORTHILL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8TH DECEMBER 2008

The minutes of the meeting of Northill Parish Council held on 8th December 2008 were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

7. CLERK'S REPORT & MATTERS ARISING

7.1 EASEMENTS

Nothing further to report on easements. Solicitors have been asked to follow up on this matter yet again.

7.2 BOAT 24, HATCH (see H&OS Minute 4.3(b))

Confirmation from Rights of Way Officer that Boat 24 already has a permanent TRO (traffic restriction order) placed on the narrow section after each "last house" on either

side. Added to this there are signs to this effect, warning that vehicular use is prohibited. This crossing has no history of misuse and consequently he is inclined not to proceed with a change of status.

- 7.3 MOLE INVASION IN CALDECOTE CEMETERY (see Cemetery Minute 4.2)**
Pest Control has attended this week and David Granger the Cemetery contractor will level and re-seed the area this coming week.

- 8. COMMITTEE MINUTES**
8.1 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16TH DECEMBER 2008

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 16th December 2008 were adopted.

- 8.2 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 6TH JANUARY 2009**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 6th January 2009 were adopted.

- 8.3 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20TH JANUARY 2009**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 20th January 2009 were adopted.

- 8.4 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12TH JANUARY 2009**

The minutes of the Highways and Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 12th January 2009 were adopted.

- 8.5 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12TH JANUARY 2009**

The minutes of the Cemetery Committee meeting held on 12th January 2009 were adopted.

- 8.6 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF ICKWELL GREEN WORKING PARTY MEETING HELD ON 12TH JANUARY 2009**

The report of Ickwell Green Working Party meeting held on 12th January 2009 was adopted.

Councillor Momen arrived at 8.00 pm.

- 9. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES**

County Councillor Scott reported on the proposed major housing development sites, three of the six are in Bedfordshire. A recent press release from the East of England Regional Assembly confirmed that after its process of evidence gathering it would put forward its suggestions for major housing development. Still awaiting a Government response regarding proposals for the recommended additional 20 gypsy and traveller sites in Bedfordshire. Children's Services is performing particularly well and Educational performance has increased slightly.

District Councillor Davison handed out leaflets regarding extra items that can now be included for recycling collection. MBDC strongly objects to the Eco Town proposals for Bedfordshire. The 1st Credit Union opened this week in Shefford. This organisation is available to people with financial difficulties on a Thursday from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm.

District Councillor Turner reported that the new Central Bedfordshire Council will commence on 1 April 2009 with the current shadow council until the election takes place on 4th June 2009. The new council will consist of 66 members. Planning Committees will meet twice a month in Chicksands, Mid Beds and Dunstable, South

Beds alternately with 18 members proportionally appointed. All senior management staff have been appointed and a new Chief Executive Officer will be appointed by the new Council. She advised anyone with current grant applications with any of the current authorities to make sure they follow up any queries.

10. FINANCE

10.1 TO APPROVE PAYMENTS MADE

Dillamore Bequest	Hire of Hall	£12.00
Mrs L Trevena	Salary + expenses Dec 2008	£1082.15
HM Revenue & Customs	Tax & NI Oct – Dec 2008	£804.58
Anglian Water	Caldecote Cemetery water	£25.12
Olive Press	Newsletter printing	£174.00
D2D Distribution Ltd	Newsletter distribution	£264.38
D J Granger Landscapes Ltd	Northill Cemetery hedge setting	£55.20
Waste Recycling Group Ltd	S.19 Grant for Ickwell Village Hall (matched funding) agreed 27.10.08	£2278.31
Mrs L Trevena	Salary + expenses Jan. 2009	£1043.87
Northill PCC	Hire of Hall (planning meetings (Oct- Dec 08)	£22.50
Anglian Water	Water Northill Cemetery	£24.98

10.2 TO APPROVE PAYMENTS TO BE MADE

None.

10.3 INCOME

JG Memorials	Memorial Janczuk C.P129	28.00
Seamers	Interment N.P.241 Ormarod	£22.00
Co-operative Funerals	Interment C.P.309A Warren	£44.00

11. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

11.1 Election of one Committee Representative for Planning Committee

No members wished to put themselves forward as committee representative.

11.2 Election of one Committee Representative for Highways & Open Spaces Committee

One member, Councillor Momen put herself forward for election.

RESOLVED that Councillor Momen is elected as committee representative on the Highways and Open Spaces Committee.

11.2 Election of one Representative as Editor for Parish Council Newsletter

One member, Councillor Hall put herself forward for election. Councillor Hall also offered to stay on as the representative for the June 2009 newsletter.

RESOLVED that Councillor Hall is elected as Editor for Parish Council Newsletter for the March and June 2009 issues.

11.3 Request from Northill Village Hall for Grant Aid of £300+ for replacement of Fire Exit Doors

The Clerk reported that she had received a retrospective application for replacement fire doors for Northill Village Hall. After discussion it was:

RESOLVED that the Council in accordance with its powers under Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 should incur the following expenditure namely £100 towards replacement fire exit doors.

- 11.4 Request to support proposal for a permissive path in Home Wood Medieval Fishery**
Correspondence from the Forestry Commission was copied to members at the meeting. It put forward proposals with regard to obtaining permission for the local landowner of Home Wood for agreement for a permissive route across his land to join back with the Greensand Ridge Walk.

RESOLVED that:

- a) this Council fully support the proposals regarding a permissive path in Home Wood; and
- b) a copy of the Forestry Commission letter be forwarded to P3 Group with a request that they also support the proposals.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

12.1 HIGHWAYS AGENCY – DECEMBER 2008

First edition of Highways Agency's stakeholder newsletter for Area 8 will be circulated to members.

12.2 BATPC – AFFILIATION FEE 2009/10

Notification of increased of 4.2 % making our affiliation fee £435.00 for the coming year.

12.3 BATPC – BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY

Nomination form if Council wishes to put forward the Chairman to attend a Buckingham Palace Garden Party in July 2009. Nominees should have completed at least one full year in the role. Names will be drawn from a hat at the February meeting of BAPTC.

RESOLVED that Councillor Hawkes' name be put forward into the draw.

12.4 MBDC – COUNCIL TAX BASE 2009/2010

Notification that the Council Tax base for 2009/2010 for this parish is expressed as Band "D" equivalent £993.

12.5 ICKWELL VILLAGE HALL TRUST

Letter of thanks for grant aid towards re-roofing village hall. Work is expected to take place during the Easter holiday period 2009.

12.6 BCC – SALTING THE ROADS

Correspondence informs that all A and B roads are salted along with important local roads. A risk assessment has been carried out on Biggleswade Road and it does not meet the criteria for inclusion on to a salted route. However, salting routes are reviewed annually in the summer and this request will be considered as part of that review.

Due to the number of complaints received from residents the road was salted.

RESOLVED that an item be included on the 18th May agenda for further discussion regarding salting routes.

12.7 BCC – TOWN & PARISH COUNCIL ROADSHOW

Copy of correspondence from BCC outlining the main issues discussed at the roadshow meetings was circulated to members prior to the meeting. This was noted.

12.8 LOCAL COUNCIL REVIEW – JANUARY 2009

This item of correspondence will be circulated to members.

12.9 BRCC – NETWORK – JANUARY 2009

This item of correspondence will be circulated to members.

12.10 BCC – LAUNCH OF IMPROVED RECYCLING PROGRAMME

Notification via press release that from 12th January residents can now recycle additional items in their current recycling bin or orange bags. New recycling main categories are paper, cardboard and cartons, all plastic food packaging, metal packaging and worn out textiles.

RESOLVED that an article be placed in the next Council newsletter regarding improved recycling collection.

12.11 DOG FOULING – CALDECOTE GREEN

Correspondence from resident of Brook Close complaining about the increasing amount of dog fouling on Caldecote Green and on pavements in general.

RESOLVED that an article be placed in the next Council newsletter and also in the Biggleswade Chronicle local columns.

12.12 BCC – FAREWELL RECEPTION

Invitation to Clerks or a representative of their Council to attend Farewell Reception for Bedfordshire Town and Parish Councils on Tuesday 10th March 2009 from 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm at County Hall.

RESOLVED that the Clerk attend on behalf of this Council.

12.13 LCSA - CONFERENCE FOR TOWNS & PARISHES

Invitation from Local Council Support Association in conjunction with the SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks) for Clerk, Chairman and one further representative of the Council to attend a special one day conference at the Rufus Centre, Flitwick on Monday 9th March 2009 from 9.00 am. The conference will cover key issues of current interest to local councils at an important time of transition to unitary local government across Bedfordshire. Key speakers are Frank Branson and Councillor Tricia Turner. The cost is £30 for Clerk and £40 for Councillors (this is a reduced rate as Clerk is a member of SLCC).

RESOLVED that the Clerk attend this one day conference.

12.14 UPPER CALDECOTE METHODIST CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION EXHIBITION

Correspondence informs of exhibition entitled 'Village Life, Past, Present and Future' asking if the Parish Council wish to put on a display about the Parish Council. All local organisations have been asked if they would be willing to do a display. The display will be 25th/26th April 2009.

RESOLVED that Councillors Hawkes, Mandley and Momen organise a display.

**12.15 EXTRA CORRESPONDENCE
BATPC – BEDFORDSHIRE BUGLE – JANUARY 2009**

This item was circulated to members at the meeting.

12.16 RURAL HOUSING TRUST

Notification that sadly the Rural Housing Trust is winding down its business of developing affordable village housing. This was noted.

12.17 MBDC PROPOSED TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF PART OF ROAD RUNNING ACROSS ICKWELL GREEN ON 4TH MAY 2009

Notification from MBDC of request for closure from 1100 hours to 1700 hours of part of the road running across Ickwell Green on 4th May 2009 in conjunction with Ickwell May Day celebrations.

RESOLVED that no objection be raised to the proposed temporary closure.

13. GENERAL WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT/COMPLAINTS

- a) Highways a vehicle parking on the footway in Dene Way/Ashby Drive.
- b) Letter to owner of vehicle continually driving across the grass triangle at the west end of Caldecote Green.
- c) Letter to owner of horse which is continually being cantered fast over Caldecote Green

14. SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE PROPOSALS FROM COUNCILLORS

None.

15. REPORTS FROM OTHER ORGANISATIONS

15.1 COMMUNITY PLAN (THINC ACTION)

A report had been circulated personally to members via Mrs Papworth of THINC organisation. The Clerk reported that in order to avoid any further delay in the printing of the Parish Plan executive action had been taken, last week, to confirm extra funding of £320 as requested. She further confirmed that she had also written to Mrs Papworth informing her that the grant application in connection with the Northill parish website could not be paid to an individual. This was noted.

RESOLVED that confirmation be given to the executive action taken to agree grant aid of £320 towards printing costs of the Parish Plan.

15.2 COUNCILLOR LIAISON MEETING

The group had not met.

15.3 P3 STEERING GROUP

The Group had not met.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 2nd March 2009 at Caldecote Church Rooms.