

BILLINGBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Monday 4th July 2016 at Billingborough Primary School

Present: Cllr M King - Chairman
Cllrs R Free, M Cummings, P Jepson, R Stafford and M Peace
PCSO Sandra Brommell (for Public Forum and Items 1 to 4 only)
Clerk to the Council – M Free

The Meeting opened at 6.35pm for the Public Forum. Mr Peter Burrows, from Lindpet Properties Ltd (the developer of the former Grimers Site), and Mr Mark Hubbard, his planning officer were present. In addition, there were 18 members of public to discuss the proposed residential development of the former Grimers North Site (S16/1187). The Council agreed to extend the duration of the Public Forum to allow for everyone's comments and questions.

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and briefed everyone on the planning application process, before disclosing a pecuniary interest for his role on the SKDC Planning Committee. Mr Burrows and Mr Hubbard briefed everyone on the proposed outline planning permission, before taking questions from the floor. The outline application is for a mix of 22 2-storey dwellings, plus conversion of the former Station House to residential use. The current plan does not include any affordable housing. Assuming permission is granted, building work on the Phase 1 development (South Site), was expected to start in October 2017.

The impact on existing amenities, traffic flow and village parking were highlighted by the public. The Developer had received no objections from the Springwells Medical Practice to Phase 1 but they would also be able to comment on this proposed plan. Under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act, the Developer could be required to make a service contribution. This had not yet been discussed or agreed. Cllr King explained the proposed local plan to 2031, and the existing planned building on existing Billingborough brownfield sites. In addition to the Phase 1 (South Site) access, there was a plan for vehicular access through to West Road, with pedestrians able to access through to the High Street amenities. Including a pedestrian link from Sampey Way was also suggested by a resident, with a potential option point near Plot 9 identified. Developer agreed to investigate ownership of the adjacent land.

Changing from commercial to residential use would hopefully reduce traffic flow. Concerns regarding the existing traffic on Station/Folkingham Road and the potential blind spot when exiting the Grimers site. Cllr King briefed the public on the role that Highways would take in reviewing the proposed application. The Developer stated that a proper kerb would be fitted at the entrance/exit.

Parts of the existing Station House dates back to 1872. Although the building is not listed, the Developer gave his word that the original building and one of the adjoining side buildings would stay and be converted into a dwelling. Cllr King reiterated the village concerns that the Station House and both adjoining side buildings should remain, in addition to the canopy. All present felt that the plan drawing was inaccurate and that both of the adjoining side buildings dated back to 1872. The public preferred the platforms to be incorporated in the design but accepted that this may not be viable.

Following the issues created by recent heavy rain, the main issue was the impact on the village drainage system and increase in surface water. Cllr King briefed the Forum on the requirement for a Section 19 Report following the 2010 floods. Cllr King had been chasing this and the draft was thought to be awaiting comment from Anglian Water. The option of SUDS (Sustainable Underground Drainage System) soakaways were being investigated for the development. LCC had requested more information from Lindpet and monitoring was in progress. The Site is currently higher than West Road but the final level had not yet been confirmed.

Cllr King thanked everyone for coming and encouraged the residents to submit their own comments to the proposed planning application before closing the Public Forum at 7.25pm. Mr Burrows, Mr Hubbard and the members of public, bar one, left the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence.** The Council accepted the apologies from Cllr Pocock.
2. **Possible Co-option of a Member.** Cllr P Jepson disclosed a pecuniary interest in the applicant for co-option and left the room. The remaining councillors asked Mrs Jepson about her reasons for joining the Council, before discussing the applicant in closed session. The Council voted unanimously to accept the applicant. Councillor Carol Jepson completed the Acceptance of Office and DPI form and was welcomed onto the Council. Cllr P Jepson returned to the meeting. **Clerk to notify SKDC Monitoring Officer and Cllr Cummings to update the website.**
 - a. Cllr King informed the Council that, due to a change of job and reduced family time, Cllr Peace had tendered his resignation, which he had reluctantly accepted. The Council thanked Cllr Peace for his contribution to the Council, most notably with bringing the new play equipment to fruition and working with the SKDC Dog Warden to address the dog fouling issues.
 - b. The Council had received interest from 2 other residents who were keen to join the Council. As there were still vacancies, Chairman and Clerk to contact the residents to arrange possible co-option.
3. **To approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting & General Meeting on 9th May 2016.** The minutes were unanimously accepted as a true record of the meeting. The Chairman, signed the file copy.
4. **Police Matters.**
 - a. PCSO Brommell referred the Council to a comment in the Public Forum regarding the speed of vehicles in the High Street, which was the responsibility of Highways. Cllr Cummings highlighted a recent accident in which Highways had agreed to extend the yellow zigzag lines, with a 12-month implementation timescale. Cllr King reminded the Council on Highways' belief that the parked vehicles cause passing traffic to slow down. **Cllr King agreed to chase Highways regarding the extension of the yellow lines.**
 - b. PCSO Brommell reported that an iPad had been found in Allen Close that morning and handed to the police. **Cllr King agreed to publish the found iPad in the next News Sheet.**
 - c. PCSO Brommell notified the Council that investigations into the criminal damage at the Recreational Ground on 30/31 May was still ongoing. In addition to the report in the Sleaford newspapers with a comment from the Vice Chairman, the incident had also been published on the Bourne Rural Link and the Police Facebook page. Cllr King notified PCSO Brommell that the spray can, retrieved from the scene on 1st June, had not yet been collected by the Police. PCSO Brommell accepted the spray can from Cllr King and agreed to consider school visits.
 - d. PCSO Brommell issued updated contact details for the Bourne and Billingborough Neighbourhood Policing Team. PCSO Brommell left the meeting.
 - e. The Clerk briefed the Council on the Closed Topic. Matter closed.
5. **Finance Report.**
 - a. **2015/16 Audit.** The Clerk briefed the Council on the completed Internal Report. The report consolidated the Council figures and no issues were highlighted. The External Audit report had been submitted.
 - b. **2016/17 Accounts.** The Clerk presented the Council with the previously circulated accounts for the financial year 2015/16 to date. Concern at the increasing utility costs of the Pavillion were discussed. The payments and receipts since the last meeting, and the payments requiring Council approval were also presented. **The Council approved the payments and receipts. A meeting with the Pavillion users would be arranged. Cllrs King and Cummings signed the payments on the attached list.**
 - i. The Clerk briefed the Council on the recent pay scale review and the recommended increase in salary to £9.647 per hour. Cllr Free disclosed a pecuniary interest and abstained from the discussion. **The Council agreed to accept the revised pay scales.**
 - c. **Additional Account Signatory.** The Council discussed adding Cllr P Jepson as an additional account signatory. Cllr C Jepson declared a pecuniary interest. **The Council**

agreed to add Cllr P Jepson as an account signatory and the paperwork was signed. Clerk to submit the relevant paperwork.

- d. **Employee Pension Scheme.** The Clerk briefed the Council on the new employee pension scheme. The Clerk post is not eligible for automatic enrolment. At present, the Clerk has no plans to join the pension scheme.

6. Parish Matters.

- a. **Dog Fouling.** Cllr Peace briefed the Council on the dog fouling reports that had been submitted to SKDC. The issues on Birthorpe Road had been reported but were still continuing. Cllr Free reported that there had been a marked reduction in dog fouling incidents at the Recreation Ground, which had been echoed by some of the residents using the area. Cllr Peace asked the Council to spread the word and encourage others to report dog fouling incidents. **Cllr Peace to forward SKDC contact details to Clerk.**
- b. **Recreation Ground:**
- i. **Picnic Bench installation.** Cllr Peace informed the Council that a working party had assembled the benches in May. Cllr King thanked everyone involved. Item closed.
 - ii. **Play equipment installation.** Cllr Peace briefed the Council that the new play equipment is due to be installed w/c 11th July. The work is due to take 3-4 days and had been coordinated with the Cricket and Bowls Clubs. The Council agreed to spread the small amount of spoil. **Cllr King to give Cllr Peace the key to the Pavilion.**
 - iii. **Skate Ramp.** Due to a change in contract requirements, the Skate Ramp project was ongoing. **Cllr Peace to handover project details to Cllr King.**
- c. **Cemetery:**
- i. **Damaged Headstones.** Cllr Cummings had finished cataloguing the photographs of the damaged headstones at Birthorpe Cemetery. Of the 112 headstones, 36 were chipped, 5 had scuff marks and 1 was scratched. Clerk handed a USB of all the images. Chairman thanked Cllr Cummings for her efforts. Clerk confirmed no payment or contact had been received from the contractor and briefed the Council on the Small Claims process, and the draft claim. The Council agreed to take the contractor to the Small Claims Court in an attempt to recover the repair costs. **Clerk to submit the claim.**
 - ii. **Garden of Remembrance memorial stones.** The Council discussed setting the style and material for memorial stones in the Garden of Remembrance. The Council agreed that the style should be flat tablet but that the material, colour and lettering should be the choice of the family, subject to agreement by the Council. **Clerk to update the Regulations.**
 1. Council agreed to purchase feed for the roses. **Cllr Cummings to purchase rose feed and submit receipt to Clerk.**
- d. **Speed Feedback Signs.** Cllr Free presented the Council with data from the speed feedback sign on traffic entering the village along Folkingham Road. Over 30,000 vehicles were recorded in a 3-week period. In Nov-Dec 2015 53.6% of vehicles were travelling at 30mph or below, with over 8,650 at 35mph. In Apr-May the figure for leaving the village was 78.7%, with under 3,050 at 35mph. Due to other commitments, Cllr King had not yet spoken to Cllr Davies regarding solar powered sign. It was agreed that the data was sufficient to request a camera van for the area; Cllr King offered his driveway as a parking area. **Cllr Free to share the data with the Road Safety Partnership and request a van. Cllr King to speak to Cllr Davies.**
- e. **Youth Offenders.** Cllr Free briefed the Council on the work that the Young Offenders had been doing in the village. The Cemetery benches and Spring Wells gate were ready for staining. The sluice barrier had been repainted. The no cycle pole, entrance chicane and Spring Wells bins, and the Recreational Ground goal posts were next on the list.
- f. **CRPE Membership.** Cllr King briefed the Council on the role of the CRPE. The Council agreed unanimously to join the scheme and authorised the payment. **Clerk to submit payment.**
- g. **Entrance Planters.** The summer planters had been planted with red petunias, although they were not very bright. Clerk had not yet received the invoice. Regular watering of the

planters remained a concern. The Council discussed winter planters. It was resolved not to have winter planters this year.

7. Aveland School Site Projects:

- a. **Site Ownership.** Cllr King updated the Council on the project. The contract had not yet been signed but the groundworks had commenced. There had been no contact from the LCC solicitors.
 - b. **Allotments.** Cllr P Jepson briefed the Council on the progress of the Allotment project. They had formed a strong committee, opened a bank account and produced a shopping list of priority items, and sought Council funding for these items and the initial water bill. The Constitution and Tenancy Agreement were in final tweaks and should be ready for approval at the next Council meeting. The next Allotment meeting was scheduled for 24th August. The Council agreed that the items under £200 on the list could be purchased out of the budgeted allotment funds. For the items over £200, the committee would need to submit 3 quotes to the Clerk. It was resolved for the Council to cover the cost of the first quarter water bill for the allotments, then review as necessary. **Cllr P Jepson to feed back the Council's decision to the Allotment committee.**
 - c. **Football Club and Pitches.** Cllr Free informed the Council that the Pointon FC Secretary, Steve Bacon, was the point of contact for any discussions over the summer.
- 8. Emergency Plan & Defibrillator.** Deferred to next meeting due to absence of Cllr Pocock.
- 9. Website.** Cllr Cummings briefed the Council that she had received an email acknowledging the issues, which will be addressed by I.T. The website was now up to date.
- 10. Planning.** The Clerk updated the Council on the decisions notices and applications received since the last meeting. Following the Public Forum, the Council discussed the response to the Grimers North Site (S16/1197), based on retention of the Station House, surface water and flooding concerns and access footpaths. **Cllr King to draft the response and circulate to the Council on Wednesday, for agreement and submission on Friday 8th July.**
- 11. Correspondence:**
- a. Clerk had received information on the Devolution consultation. A poster had been placed on the noticeboard and the link had been emailed to the Council. Cllr King encouraged the councillors to comment as residents. A note will be included in the News Sheet. Chairman to coordinate the draft Council response and circulate to the Council for agreement.
 - b. The revised plans for street lighting being switched off or dimmed had been published by SKDC. There was no mention of Billingham lighting.
 - c. The Chairman and Clerk had been copied into a resident's complaint about the Birthorpe Bird Scarers operating at unsociable hours. Matter being monitored.
 - d. LALC AGM to be held at Waddington in November.
 - e. Council's were being asked to fly the flag for Commonwealth Day in March. Item to be included on the Agenda for the next meeting.
 - f. LCC had launched a Central Heating Fund for low income families. Clerk to notify Almhouses Secretary and place a poster on the Noticeboard.
 - g. The Link Well Good Neighbour Scheme had been launched. Poster to be placed on the Noticeboard.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.55pm.