

BILLINGBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Monday 7th November 2016 at Billingborough Primary School

Present: Cllr M King – Chairman, Cllr R Free – Vice chairman, Cllrs R. Stafford, P. Pocock, P. Jepson, C. Jepson, A. Hesselwood (from item 2 onwards) & C. Woodhead
Clerk to the Council – M Free

The Meeting opened at 6.35pm for the Public Forum. There was 1 member of public present.

A resident from Hereward Way repeated the concern of the height of the conifer hedge that borders the former Grimers Site, raised at the last meeting. The Chairman had previously chased the developer, who had agreed to address the issue. A copy had been given to the resident. The Chairman agreed to contact the Developer again.

No other members of public were present so it was agreed to start the Meeting.

Chairman's Opening Remarks.

Before commencing the Agenda, the Chairman briefed the Council that Mr Reg Lovelock, former District, and Parish Councillor, and Clerk to the Council had sadly passed away. The Funeral and Thanksgiving will be at St Andrew's Church, Billingborough at 2pm on Tuesday 8th November.

The result of the SKDC public consultation on Devolution was 61% against. On 24th October SKDC (full Council) also voted 28 to 17 against. On 7 November the Executive voted unanimously against allaying any possibility of the decision being overturned.

Prior to the meeting, the Chairman had notified the Council that he had received a letter of resignation from Cllr Cummings, which he had accepted. On behalf of the Council, he had thanked Cllr Cummings for her contribution.

1. **Apologies for absence.** There were no apologies received.
2. **To approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting & General Meeting on 5th September 2016.**
Two anomalies were identified (see below). Once addressed, the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting. The Chairman signed the file copy and initialled the amendment:
 - a. Newly elected Cllrs Hesselwood and Woodhead had not been included in the list of members present.
 - b. The amount of litter collected by Cllr Cummings was omitted from minutes at paragraph 3a.
3. **Vandalism Update.** Due to leave and sickness, PC Wilson had been unable to spare anyone to attend the meeting but sent an email update, which the Chairman read to the Council.
 - a. The Council was pleased to note the return of the increased patrols in the area. The local incidents on Lincs Alerts were also discussed.
 - b. The Clerk updated the Council on the recent spate of vandalism, and a recent meeting that with Sgt Crisp and PC Wilson.
 - c. The Chairman had received an email from a resident on Billingborough Road who had one of the recently installed CCTV cameras stolen; investigations were ongoing.
4. **Finance Report.**
 - a. **2016/17 Accounts.** The Clerk presented the Council with the previously circulated accounts for the financial year 2016/17 to date. The payments and receipts since the last meeting, the areas of potential underspend and the payments requiring Council approval were also presented. The Council had not received a compensation payment since September. This had been chased through the Court and was expected shortly. Following the Pavilion Electrical Inspection, a CB had had to be replaced. The PWLB Loan had been paid off. **The Council approved all the payments and receipts. Cllrs King and P Jepson signed the payments on the attached list. The potential underspend would be reviewed as part of next month's Budget Meeting.**
 - b. **Independent Checks.** Cllr Woodhead briefed the Council on the 2 independent and random checks that she had carried out on the Accounts. She had made a recommendation to the Clerk to number the invoices. **The Clerk would number the invoices per month, starting in November.**

5. **2017 Meeting Dates.** The previously circulated proposed meeting dates for 2017 were discussed. **The meeting dates were unanimously agreed. Clerk to publish the dates and book the meeting room.**
6. **Vacant Councillor Position.** There had been one application received. An interview panel was required to meet with the applicant ahead of a decision at the December meeting. **It was unanimously agreed that the interview panel would be Cllrs King, Jepson and Hessewood. Cllr King to arrange an interview date.**
7. **Vacant Roles.** The vacant councillor roles of Website and Entrance Planters Coordinator were discussed. The Clerk had gained access to the website and had updated it to meet the requirements of the Transparency Code. **It was resolved that the final decision on the roles would be deferred until after the possible co-option at the next meeting. It was agreed the Clerk would be paid for the extra 2.5 hours spent updating the website; Cllr Free stated a DPI and abstained from the vote. Cllr Jepson would work with the Clerk to understand what the role involved.**
8. **Parish Matters.**
 - a. **Recreation Ground:**
 - i. **CCTV Installation.** Cllr C Jepson briefed the Council on the quotes received. The third quote had not been received but had been chased numerous times. The lighting levels in some areas may be an issue but could be reviewed once in situ. Using the skate park light pole for a camera and other lighting options were also considered. Solar lighting would require planning permission. The Rec Team proposed their recommendation to the Council. **It was unanimously agreed to accept the recommendation, MP Cabling, including the additional camera. Cllr C Jepson to liaise with the Clerk to accept the quote and research storage options for the equipment.**
 - ii. **Tennis Court Refurbishment.** Cllr Free briefed the Council on the quotes and options received. The Rec Team felt that although the surface needed some repair and the lines remarked, it did not need replacing at this time. There was an option to divide the 2 courts in future. The Rec Team proposed their recommended quote to the Council. **It was unanimously agreed to accept the recommendation, Morbey Fencing. Cllr Free to liaise with the Clerk to accept the quote. Cllr Pocock to speak to his contact with regards to the white lining.**
 - iii. **Additional Play Equipment.** Cllr Free briefed the Council on the quotes for fitting the small roundabout considered previously as part of the new play equipment grant. The roundabout was small and only for younger children. Installation costs almost trebled the price of the item. **It was unanimously agreed it was not cost effective to fit the roundabout and the funds would be used to refurbish existing equipment and repair the wetpour. Cllr King to submit the report for the remaining 25% of the Grant.**
 - iv. **New Skate Park Equipment.** The Chairman updated Cllr Hessewood on the background of the skate park. The Clerk had received the previous project research. To install a skate park to cater for the preferences of the older children was very expensive. The Chairman informed the Council that funds could be available from Phase 2 of the Grimers development, under Section 106. Refer to item 9a for decision.
 - v. **Damaged Rec Entrance Gates.** The Clerk informed the Council that the entrance gate and height bar had been damaged by a hire vehicle that had become wedged under it. The Clerk had spoken to both parties and the insurance company legal advisors. The hire company were paying the company direct for the repairs. The option of fitting a height warning sign was discussed. **It was resolved to fit a warning 'Check Height' sign and the Clerk was authorised to purchase a reflective sign up to £200. The Council thanked the Clerk for her efforts to get the gates repaired so quickly.**
 - vi. **Play Equipment Inspection.** The inspection was booked for later this month. Although the new equipment was not due, it was necessary to bring the inspections in line. There was an option to have an additional RA report compiled. **The Council unanimously agreed that the detailed inspection report was sufficient at this time and rejected the optional RA Report. Clerk to inform the company.**

- b. **Speed Feedback Signs.** Cllr Free briefed the Council that LRSP had refused the fitting of a post at the Horbling entrance to the village. The Pointon Road post had been approved and should have been fitted in October. Cllr King had now spoken to the Highways Executive Member regarding a solar sign. He agreed that the batteries should be lasting much longer than the existing 3 weeks. There was also no reason why the Council should not be allowed to purchase a solar sign, at their own expense; he would help facilitate this if required. **It was resolved that Cllr Free would forward the post email to the Chairman and identify the exact solar sign and contact the LRSP.**
 - c. **Youth Offenders Project's Update.** Cllr Free updated the Council on the good work done by the Young Offenders, with a long 'to do' list. They had not been for a few weeks but the weather had been a factor. **Cllr Free to provide an update on the tasks done to date for the News Sheet.**
 - d. **Allotments Update.** Cllr P Jepson informed the Council that the outer plots had been marked out ready for ploughing. The tractor was unable to fit through the entrance gate but another access option had been identified. Anglian Water had still not fitted the water meter. Quotes for the fencing, additional water points and hedging had been received. **It was resolved to accept the quotes in principal but to the delegate powers to a Council Allotment Group of Cllrs King, Pocock, P & C Jepson, to finalise the decision. The total allocated funds for the projects were increased to £6000.**
 - e. **Campaign Against Closure of Grantham A&E.** The Clerk briefed the Council on the campaigns against the closure and the previously circulated invitations to join the protests. The Council unanimously supported the campaign, but acknowledged it may be difficult to overturn the closure decision. **Clerk to send a letter of the Council's support to the local campaign leader.**
 - f. **Village Services & Facilities Survey 2015.** The previously submitted response had been returned with a request for further information on the local bus timetables. The local businesses information was also out of date. **It was resolved that Cllr Woodhead would assist the Clerk in submitting the requested updated information.**
 - g. **Chapel Street & Grosvenor Road Vehicle Weight Limit.** Cllr Stafford briefed the concern of some residents regarding large vehicles using narrow roads. The Council discussed the options. **It was resolved that The Clerk would contact Highways regarding the viability of a weight limit or unsuitable for HGV sign at both ends of Chapel Street, and also chase the missing High Street Industrial Sign, which directed traffic down Brewery Lane.**
9. **Planning.** The Council's response to S16/2223 (change from residential to commercial (C3) for upstairs of 4A Chapel Street) and S16/1197 (development of Former Grimers Site) were discussed. On 1197, the Council welcomed the footpath to Sampey Way and preservation of some of the Station House but had concerns on losing the rest of it, and also the access roads to West Road, lack of parking, surface drainage, possible contamination of the land and option of a 'small supermarket'. **It was agreed that the Clerk would submit the Council response to S16/2223, and to draft and circulate the response to S16/1197 to the Council for agreement prior to submission.**
10. **Clerk Report.** The Clerk presented the previously circulated report. There were no further comments.
11. **Correspondence:**
- a. Cllr Pocock informed the Council that there would be a Care Fair at the Village Hall on 2nd Dec 9am – 3pm for the Linkwell Good Neighbour Scheme. Through his role as an Emergency Plan Coordinator, he would be attending on behalf of the Council.
 - b. *Clerk's Note. Outside of the meeting, BT had invited Councils and community Groups to purchase old style telephone boxes for £1. Cllr Pocock was investigating the requirements on behalf of the Council.*
12. There was no other business deemed urgent by the Chairman.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35pm.