

GRANGE PARK PARISH COUNCIL

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

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MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 5th APRIL 2012 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, GRANGE PARK

Present: Cllrs M Smith (Ch), C Fry (Vch), J Davies, M Aluko, S Dawson, J Walker

Attending: Mrs T Sampson (Clerk), District Councillor Mark Davidson

Prior to the Full Council meeting a short presentation was given by our landscape consultant (Ken Francis, R&G Maintenance) who has just been appointed on a yearly contract to maintain all the green open spaces within the Parish. He discussed the cutting regime and the machinery that would be used, maintenance of the play parks, contact and communications protocol and also a schedule of works for the thinning of the pioneer species around the parish.

12/45 Public Questions

The Chairman advised members of the public that this session is limited to 15 minutes and that the time has to be shared equally.

Several members of the public joined the meeting to seek updated information on the items listed below:

- The draft policy for organised camping at Foxfield Country Park – Cllr S Dawson explained that the council were looking at drafting a policy to allow the camping of organised groups (e.g. scouts, brownies etc). The policy has not yet been completed and it was agreed that we would be happy for anyone to comment on the draft and if they would like to leave their name and e-mail contact details we would forward a copy to them.
- Weekend parking at the Pavilion due to sporting activities taking place. Our new Police beat officer Mark Osram was present at the meeting and advised residents that he would monitor the situation and for all residents to report any incidents to the police on 101. A local resident also mentioned that we were in breach of our S106 agreement by allowing too many pitches. The Parish Clerk was asked to seek confirmation from the S106 Officer at SNC. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- Anti-social behaviour issues within the turning circle at the end of Foxfield Way. Cllr J Walker reported that a meeting has taken place with NCC highways and their advice is that we would not be allowed to make any changes to the turning point.
- Allotments at Lark Lane. An application has been made for the retrospective change of use and is presently pending. SNC planners apply an HSE methodology called PADHI+ which in our case would result in the objection of our application. This is not acceptable and we are waiting further information from National Grid and HSE and how best to progress this issue. The application for vehicle access is also currently pending waiting on a resolution of the above submission.
- Our newly appointed Police beat Officer gave a verbal report on some of the activities /events taken place:

1. The local SCT will be working with Grange Park youth club and have arranged a litter pick on Thursday 19th April, around areas identified by the Parish Council.
2. PCSO Charlotte Johnson attended Woodland View Primary School to teach the importance of staying safe when children will be playing more outside in the coming lighter evenings. The children learned about 'stranger danger' and the importance of informing adults of their whereabouts.
3. A Criminal who resides in the Grange Park area was recently sentenced to 2 years in prison at Northampton Crown Court, for possession Burglary. This was a result of extensive work carried out by your Safer Community Team and local response officers.

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4. Northamptonshire Police are holding a Force Open day at their Force Headquarters on Saturday 12 May 2012

The other public questions raised were the proposed programme for the thinning of the pioneers within the Parish around the landscape structure belt behind Bridge Meadow Way and the infill of the ditch at Millers Lane. The Parish Council confirmed that they are actively looking at an ongoing programme for some tree maintenance works within the Parish and that the infill of the ditch at Millers Way will be discussed later in the meeting,

The majority of the residents left the meeting

12/46 County/District Councillors Report

District Councillor Mark Davidson reported that plans had been introduced for a new wheeled bin for recycling which will see an increase in capacity for residents to recycle even more plastics, glass, paper and cans, as well as being able to recycle new materials such as Tetrapak cartons and household batteries.

SNC has recently made changes to the way in which cardboard is recycled. This was only a temporary measure and the first stage towards the improvements, which will not only overcome some of the short term problems for residents but will also be more cost effective in the long run.

The Council Cabinet also considered the introduction of separate weekly food waste collections and will shortly be launching a consultation about the future of recycling services; more information about this will be available soon. Any further information can be obtained by contacting South Northants website.

It was also noted that Dist. Councillor Mark Davidson will also be attending a meeting regarding the planning proposals for the site at Saxon Avenue (Old Ikea Site) at the end of April and report back at the next parish council meeting in May.

12/47 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from District Councillor Paul Farrow and Parish Councillors A Walker, J Proudley, N Stansfield and S Allen due to work/holiday commitments.

12/48 Declaration of Members Interest

The following declarations were received from :
J Davies on issues relating to the allotments.

12/49 Minutes of the Council meeting of 1st March 2012

49.1 The Council approved and adopted the minutes dated the 1st March 2012 and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

49.2 Matters arising
None to report

12/50 Chairman's Report

50.1 The Chairman reported that the 80's disco which had taken place on Saturday 31st March had proved to be very successful and enjoyed by all who attended. He expressed his sincere thanks to all councillors, staff for their commitment, help and time. A financial report will be given at the next meeting and all the profit made at the event will be given to charity (Northampton Hope Centre) this will also be match funded by Barclaycard. All other items will be covered in the meeting.

12/51 Parish Clerk's Report

51.1 The Parish Clerk asked the Council if she could attend a training course run by NCALC (General Power of Competence) in order to keep her qualification up to date. The Council fully supported this request.

Action: Parish Clerk

12/52 Finance

52.1 The Parish Council approved the expenditure listed in Appendix 2. It was also noted that the Parish Clerk will be doing the financial end of year report and that a finance working group meeting needs to be arranged.

Action: Parish Clerk

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- 12/53 Planning, Highways and Transportation**
- 53.1 No planning applications received. It was noted for information that the application submitted by Grange Park Parish Council for the erection of directional signs has now been forwarded to NCC Highways. The Council delegated the Parish Clerk and Cllr J Walker to pursue the issue.
Action: Parish Clerk/Cllr J Walker
- 53.2 No planning refusals or approval decision notices were received.
- 12/54 Staffing**
- 54.1 All staffing issues to be discussed under item 60.1 of this meeting.
- 12/55 Grange Park Sports & Community Association (GPC&SA)**
- 55.1 Cllr J Walker updated the Council on the recent GPC&SA meeting which was held on the 19th March 2012. The following issues were raised:
- It was noted that the association would produce their financial papers in line with those of the Parish Council.
 - Reduced hire prices have been introduced for the summer holidays- notices have been displayed at the community centre.
 - P Mason has agreed to formulate the booking timetable for next year (2012/13) football season.
 - Additional leak through the velux windows at Foxfields .
- 12/56 Environment**
- 56.1 All issues regarding the allotments has been discussed under public questions of this meeting.
- 56.2 The Council members felt that the issue with regards to lighting at the bus stops within Saxon Avenue needs to be pursued due to the potential safety of residents using this facility. The Parish Clerk was asked to speak to our County Councillor Bernard Ingram regarding the matter. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 56.3 It was agreed that we would purchase a baby swing for Primrose Park from Wickstead at a cost of £108 plus VAT. The Parish Clerk was asked to organise. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 56.4 The Parish Council agreed to enter into another one year contract with A H Contracts for the collection of dog/litter waste. It was also agreed to purchase one dog bin to be located at the gated entrance of Wootton Country Park and a litter bin at the newly installed bench located at Grange Valley Greenway.
- 56.5 After a brief discussion regarding ownership and future maintenance, the Parish Council agreed that due to health and safety concerns they would pay for the infill of the ditch at Millers Way. The Parish Clerk was asked to organise this and ask R&G maintenance to do the work following the quotes that had been received previously.
- 56.6 Cllr S Dawson reported that they were still working on a draft policy for camping and that the draft document would be brought to the next council meeting for consideration.
- 12/57 Communication**
- 57.1 Cllr fry reported that the newsletter will be distributed o the 14th April 2012. Community Surveys from SNC will also be delivered on the 2nd April 2012. No issues to raise following the Grange Park residents facebook page.
- 12/58 Correspondence**
- 58.1 All matters of correspondence have been discussed.
- 12/59 Administration & Service Request**
- No request were made.

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12/60 Exclusion of Press & 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 be attached to the originals

12/61 Date of the Next Meeting

61.1 The next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 3rd May 2012 at 7.30pm and will be held at the Community Centre.

61.2 Agenda items received for the next meeting:
No items received at the meeting.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35pm