

GRANGE PARK PARISH COUNCIL

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

Parish Council: 01604 702938
www.grangeparkpc.org

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 2012 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, GRANGE PARK

Present: Cllrs M Smith (Ch), C Fry (Vch) A Walker, J Walker, J Davies, S Allen, M Aluko, S Dawson, N Stansfield, J Proudley, L Guedes.

Attending: Mrs T Sampson (Clerk)

12/16 Public Questions

A local resident (Paul Jose) attended the meeting to ask for some grant funding towards the setting up of a cycling club within the Parish. The grant would go towards the British cycling and time trial registration. Mr Jose was thanked for attending the meeting and told his request would be considered later in the meeting.

12/17 County/District Councillors Report

Nothing to report

12/18 Apologies for Absence

None to report

12/19 Declaration of Members Interest

The following declarations were received from :
Cllrs N Stansfield, J Walker, J Davies and A Walker on issues relating to the allotments.

12/20 Minutes of the Council meeting of 12th January 2012

20.1 The Council approved and adopted the minutes dated the 12th January 2012 and the Chairman signed them as a true record after the following amendments was made:

- 20.1 Date of Minutes to be changed from the 5th January 2012 to 12th January 2012
- 06.2 Cllr A Stansfield had given her support commitment and help over *the last 4 years*

20.2 Matters arising
None

12/21 Chairman's Report

21.1 All relevant items will be covered in the meeting.

12/22 Parish Clerk's Report

- 22.01 Nothing to report
- 22.02 The Clerk reported that she had attended an NCALC Executive County Committee Meeting on Sat 21st January 2012. It was agreed to circulate the minutes to all councillors for information.

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12/23 Finance

- 23.1 The Parish Council approved the expenditure listed in Appendix 2.
- 23.2 The Council considered a grant request from the Grange Park Brownies to help pay towards the running of the unit. After a brief discussion the parish council agreed by vote to donate £250. Cllr L Guedes abstained from the voting.
- 23.3 Following the brief presentation at the beginning of the meeting from Mr Jose regarding a grant request to start up a cycling club. The parish council agreed by vote to donate £118. Cllr L Guedes abstained from the voting.

12/24 Planning, Highways and Transportation

- 24.1 No planning application received.
- 24.2 No planning refusals or approval decision notices were received.
- 24.3 It was agreed to ask Charlotte Johnson our PCSO to look into issues relating to the parking at the community centre. It was noted that it may help to solve some of the issues if police cones were used around the roundabout.
Action: Parish Clerk

12/25 Staffing

- 25.1 Nothing to report.

12/26 Grange Park Sports & Community Association (GPC&SA)

- 26.1 Cllr Smith informed the meeting on the following issues:
- The football pitches are starting to wear and needs some remedial work – price to be obtained
 - The pavilion rear entrance and shower areas have increased the current cleaning regime due to the sporting activities and weather conditions.
 - Plastic bottles/litter is being left after football games – It was noted that the Chairman of the association is having a meeting with both Grange Park Rangers/Wooldale to discuss the issue.
 - It was noted that a letter had been received from the Police regarding a number of incidents of anti-social behaviour at Foxfields Country Park. It was agreed that the Parish Council would work in partnership with the police to try and combat this issue. The Parish Council agreed that they had no objection to the Police putting up signs. Also the Parish Clerk was asked to look at the possibility of moving the existing entrance gates to the Pavilion carpark to the end of the turning circle.
Action : Clerk
 - The Clerk was asked to contact all the local stables asking their users to keep to the bridleway within Foxfields Country Park.
Action:Clerk
 - Association finance and future budget proposals – need to look into marketing both sites, look at long term bookings,
 - A list of key fobs needs to be formulated.
 - Architect appointed to draw up the proposed plans for the shower area space at the Community Centre.
 - CCTV camera quote to be provided for an internal camera within the store shed.
- 26.2 After a lengthy discussion about using Foxfield Country Park as a regulated /organised venue for camping events. The Council voted on if they wished to pursue this and consider a criteria/ set of terms and conditions to use for future events. Eight councillors approved and three objected. It was therefore agreed that the Council would delegate Cllrs Sean Dawson and John Proudley to come back to Council next month with information to be considered.
Action: Cllrs S Dawson/J Proudley

12/27 Environment

- 27.1 Cllr Smith updated the Council on the meeting held with R&G Maintenance to discuss issues that had been raised from the previous parish council meeting. The Contract is to commence on the 1st April 2012 and reviewed after 12 months. It was noted that there may be a slight incremental increase in the contract at this point.

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The Council considered a quote and associated plans received from R&G regarding the thinning of the hedgerow at middle hedge to 3 metres in height. It was agreed to accept the quote and proceed with the works before the bird nesting season. The Clerk was asked to liaise with the contractor.
Action: Parish Clerk

- 27.2 It was noted that the Parish Council had instructed RGS tree services to formulate a report on the TPO tree at the Witheys, Grange Park. Following the report the Council agreed that they had the following choices:

- a) To allow the owner of the adjoining property to cut down any overhangs and remove any branches at their cost
- b) To pay for a tree surgeon to do extensive crowning.

The Council felt that as the report had indicated that there was no sufficient risk to the property that they would write to the resident approving choice (a).
Action: Clerk

- 27.3 Cllr Fry reported that she attended a meeting with Jenny Evans (Youth Inspired) to discuss running arrangements for 2012/13. The following issues were discussed:
- due to decreasing numbers the youth club would only operate in term time only.
 - a new pool table needs to be purchased due to a broken leg.
 - Vandalism issues that are happening with Woodland View Primary School on a Thursday night
 - Youth will be doing a litter pick and will seek some volunteers from Richmond Homes
 - Association agreed 12.5% reduction in hiring fees for 2012/13.
- 27.4 Cllr J Walker informed the Council that notes from the recent meeting held with the allotments association had been circulated to all members. It was agreed that following advice from our solicitor and all the constitutional implications involved that we would not pursue an illegal agreement and that the running and ownership issues will remain as they are. The LLAA (Lark Lane Allotments Association) asked the council if they were able to provide an additional pedestrian access – it was agreed to seek further clarification from them as to the purpose and location.
Action: Clerk
- 27.5 Cllr J Walker updated the Council on the brook at Grange Valley Greenway. It was noted that the Environment Agency met with Prologis (landowner) to remove a considerable amount of rubbish and clear water obstructions from the site which took several days. Subsequent to this a site visit also took place with the Wildlife Trust seeking their opinion on what would be needed to make the brook and woodland area environmentally appealing. This information will be forward to all councillors once received.

12/28 Communication

- 28.1 It was noted that the deadline for the newsletter is Thursday 16th February 2012 and the Assistant Clerk will be monitoring all correspondence and responding accordingly.
- 28.2 It was agreed that Cllr Davies would call an informal meeting on Thursday 23rd February 2012 at 8pm at the Grange Inn to discuss the detail associated with the Community Event for the Queens Diamond Jubilee scheduled for Sunday 3rd June 2012. The Clerk asked Cllr Guedes if the Council would be considered for funding from Barclaycard under the CSR (Community Social Responsibility). It was noted that we would be rejected as we would not met the criteria.

12/29 Correspondence

- 29.1 All relevant issues were discussed within the meeting

12/30 Date of the Next Meeting

- 30.1 The next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 1st March 2012 at 7.30pm and will be held at the Community Centre.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.22pm