

GREAT LINFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Recreation & Environment Committee, held on Tuesday 11th October 2005, at the Parish Office, Neath Hill.

PRESENT: Cllr Allum, (Chair), Cllr Byfield, Cllr Stabler, Cllr Tripp, Cllr A Williams, Cllr Morsley, Cllr Perrott.

1. APOLOGIES: Cllr S Williams, Cllr Wright.

2. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS: There were no declarations

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: It was proposed by Cllr Stabler and seconded by Cllr Tripp that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th September 2005 be signed as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

Wharf Footpath: There appears to be no further progress. Cllr Stabler will chase MKC.

Loriner Place: We are now awaiting the draft documents.

MK Lions: Parish Manager has e-mailed twice asking for feed back, but as yet has not received a reply.

5. CLEAN NEIGHBOURHOODS & ENVIRONMENT ACT: The Act give more power to local councils, to issue fixed penalty notices for graffiti, abandoned cars, dog fouling, fly tipping and rubbish bags being left out at incorrect times. The cost to Parish Councils in employing and training personnel to carry out this process, could be very expensive. For the time being, the report has been noted and will be discussed again at a later date.

6. WASTE STRATEGY: Cllr Stabler had looked at the material sent by Milton Keynes Council which outlined the options. It is accepted by all, that waste is a major problem, however it was agreed that this Council could offer no constructive comments.

7. CCTV CAMERA: Letter from Newport Pagnell Town Council asking whether this Council may be interested in joining them in a joint purchase of a CCTV camera (price £30,670). It was decided that a lot more information is required and the Parish Manager will contact them, depending on the reply, a joint meeting could be arranged with Councillors from Newport Pagnell.

8. LITTER BINS-NEATH HILL: Letter from Milton Keynes Council advising that there is a problem with four overflowing litter bins in Neath Hill. The emptying cycle is only once every five weeks. They are asking for the Parish Councils views on removing these. It was agreed that we would be loathe to have them taken out (Cllr A Williams not convinced that they are all still there), Parish Manager will have a look and RJS will be asked to empty them fortnightly.

Litter Bins-Conniburrow: Cllr Byfield asked whether there was any possibility of substantial bins for outside the Pavilion. Parish Manager will check whether the concrete ones are still available.

9. DOWNS BARN SPORTS FACILITY:

Security: We are having no success whatsoever on this. Milton Keynes Council will not answer e-mails, also there has been a hole in the roof for over three weeks, which has not been repaired. Parish Manager asked to contact Vanessa Gwynn.

There has been an approach to the Parish Council by someone wishing to purchase the site for a Tennis Academy. Downs Barn Football Club has also expressed an interest in managing the site. Both have been directed to Paul Sanders at Milton Keynes Council.

New Sports Equipment: A quantity has mysteriously appeared in the pavilion, with an advice note dated 1997. Parish Council can only assume that it has come from the home of the previous Clerk.

10. MARSH DRIVE SPORTS FACILITY:

Car Park: Following the start of the work (three weeks late), the car park is still without the top coat. Highways have advised that the contractors are waiting for this. To chase again as this is not acceptable.

Section 106-Rocla Site: Cllr Stabler asked that the Parish Manager chase Cheryl Montgomery (English Partnerships), as she was due to meet with Milton Keynes Council a couple of weeks ago regarding this.

11. HIGH STREET FACILITY:

Trees: The trees have been ordered. Salcey Arbocare advise that they are unable to offer a maintenance service, however there will be watering tubes installed.

Cricket Pitch: This has been re-seeded for next season, however a group of youths (being dropped off in cars), have been taking down the fencing and playing on the square. They have also been on the Marsh Drive square. A substantial amount of damage has been done. Notices now up advising that those committing Criminal Damage will be identified and prosecuted.

12. ALLOTMENTS:

Neath Hill: Cllr Tripp has visited the site and advised that there is no problem whatsoever with access for the disabled. A submission has now been sent to the Disability Rights Commission.

Sandy Close Site: Parish Manager was asked to consult with the Allotment Association and report back. It was agreed that a firm decision be made in January as to whether a plan be established for this site, during this financial year.

13. LOCAL CENTRES:

Giffard Park: There was no damage to the school during the Summer holidays. A kebab van is currently parked at the local centre and the litter from there is being thrown into the school grounds. Parish Manager will speak to owner and advise that any rubbish in the area is their responsibility.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Fly Tipped Citizens: There is a huge quantity by Bridge79 (Lionhearts Cruising Club), also behind Bessemer Court. Will report again.

Redways: Although the very large cracks have been reported, so far no response from the Highway Dept. Cllr Tripp advised that they are 6" deep and 5" wide on the redway behind Huntsmans Grove and Hargreaves Nook.

Conniburrow: Cllr Byfield advised of yet more serious incidents on the estate.

Graffiti: Cllr Stabler asked that Greg Shouler be thanked for getting the graffiti busters back for a second time in a very short period.

Neath Hill Clock: Parish Manager asked to chase the progress of the repairs.

Fire Brigade: Cllr Morsley advised that the new call centres for this area, will be sited in Hampshire.

Open/Fun Day: Cllr Allum and Cllr Figg have some initial thoughts for a date in July. Could include sporting activities, stalls etc, at Downs Barn or even Conniburrow. They will report back in more detail, in due course.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next Meeting will be held on Tuesday 8th November 2005.

The Meeting closed at 9.20pm.