

GREAT LINFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Recreation & Environment Committee, held on Tuesday 9th May 2006, at the Parish Office, Neath Hill.

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

1. APOLOGIES: Cllr M Williamson, Cllr B Morsley, Cllr A Wright.

2. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS: There were no interests declared.

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: It was proposed by Cllr Stabler and seconded by Cllr Byfield that the minutes of the meeting held on 9th May be signed as a true record.

YOUTH SERVICE: In attendance, Gavin Watts (Full Time Youth Worker), Charmaine West (Part Time Youth Worker) and Rob Ward (Youth Service Officer-MKC). Councillors were provided with details of the youth activities in Newport Pagnell and advised that similar projects were planned for our parish. Gavin will now be working on one evening per week in the area and will target Conniburrow. Downs Barn Pavilion was offered as venue if required. The report from Street Dreams is due next week and will be made available to the Youth Team.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

Downs Barn-Steps at Shop: Cllr Allum advised that these had now been repaired to a very good standard, a hand rail had also been installed alongside the steps in the Boulevard.

Seats in Blakelands; Work on these has now commenced

Loriner Place-Downs Barn: Martin Small has taken up the matter of the marking of the boundaries. Parish Manager has today asked for an updated quote to clear the debris from the site, also to level and make safe the ground. The Development Control Committee has been advised that an application will be made to them for Section 106 funding to carry out this work.

5. MK LIONS-SUMMER COACHING SCHEME: MK Lions have asked whether the Parish Council would like to be part of the Summer Coaching Scheme this year (cost £500 as last year). It was agreed by all that last years results were extremely disappointing and that the Council would prefer to give the money to the Youth Service to organise an event.

6. DOWNS BARN FACILITY: Several Councillors had met with MKC officers. Should the Barclays grant be successful then new floodlights would be put on two courts. It was suggested by the Parish Council that funding be obtained from the Section 106 money to complete the third court at the same time. The balcony had been repaired but will be removed shortly (this is not a fire exit), as it does provide an access point for vandalism. Two football and one tennis club have expressed an interest in management of the premises. The Parish Council advised MKC at the meeting that they did not dismiss this totally, but would like further details as the community use of the pavilion must be retained. Leisure Services will provide Council with a list of costs for car park lighting and CCTV. The windows and doors now all have metal security grilles on the outside.

7. MARSH DRIVE FACILITY: Recent meeting between Councillors and MKC officers regarding expansion of facilities. MKC will support the idea to use Section 106 funds from the Stantonbury Park Farm development to carry out this work. Great Linford Parish Council will need to provide a development plan for the site (MKC will assist with this). It was agreed that a meeting be arranged in August between two or three nominated Councillors, the Parish Manager and representatives of the user groups, in order that the process may be commenced. Trevor Dove (MKC) had advised that Section 55 funds could be used to extend the car park, although this financial years parking revenue had already been allocated.

Dog Bin: Bags of dog dirt are being put in the litter bin by the tennis courts and this smells in hot weather. It was proposed by Cllr Stabler and seconded by Cllr Perrott that a dog bin be installed at the end of the redway close to the bollards. All agreed.

8. HIGH STREET FACILITY:

Trees & Hawthorn Bush: Complaint from Cottisford Crescent resident who has had four new trees planted (in place of two that fell), very close to her property, there is also a massive hawthorn on the cricket outside which blocks her vision. RJS had inspected the site and suggested that the size of the hawthorn tree be reduced by 30% and that two of the four trees be moved in the autumn, to a space close to the car park where there are no trees – the cost will be £200. It was proposed by Cllr Tripp and seconded by Cllr S Williams that this price be accepted, all agreed.

9. ALLOTMENTS:

Sandy Close Reserve Site: Allotment Association will inspect and draw a plan (after allotment show).

Rubbish-Hills Close: The allotment holders have done an amazing job clearing years of neglected bramble hedges. It was proposed by Cllr Stabler and seconded by Cllr S Williams that Corys be asked to clear the residue (cost will be £50 per hour). All agreed.

10. LOCAL CENTRES:

Station Terrace-Great Linford: Cllr Perrott reported a complaint from a resident about the lorries using this road (thought to be connected with the Rocla site). Highways will be contacted and asked whether a “unsuitable for heavy vehicles” sign could be installed.

Blakelands: Cllr Tripp reported several break-in at the new healthcare facility, resulting in 24hr security. The chain fencing at the rear of Bessemer Court only has gate at one end (one each end promised). John Lewis will be contacted. MKC will be asked to block the entry onto the green path from the TA Centre, also to collect the two lawn mowers dumped there with petrol in. Cllr Tripp requested a further dog bin in the parking area at the bottom of Tongwell Lane. It was agreed that this was impractical as the collector would need to drive into Newport Pagnell to access this.

Neath Hill: Cllr A Williams reported that the steps at the rear of St Monicas School had been removed and bank put in place. This now required turfing or seeding. Landscape Department will be contacted.

Graffiti: Cllr Stabler had compiled a comprehensive list of graffiti in the Parish. It is not due for another clean for some while, however Andy Hudson (MKC), has agreed to try and obtain a one off special clean up.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS: There were no other items for discussion.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next Meeting will be held on Tuesday the 11th July 2006

The Meeting closed at 9.00pm