

GREAT LINFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Recreation & Environment Committee, held on Tuesday 14th November 2006, at the Parish Office, Neath Hill.

PRESENT: Cllr Allum, (Chair), Cllr Tripp, Cllr Stabler, Cllr Perrott., Cllr Wright
Cllr Byfield

1. APOLOGIES: Cllr B Morsley, Cllr A Williams; Cllr S Williams.

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

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: It was proposed by Cllr Tripp and seconded by Cllr Stabler that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th October be signed as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

Dog Waste-Neath Hill: Cllr Stabler had met with complainant and could not see a particular problem, however notices have been put up and the Cleansing Department have been contacted to sweep the paths.

Dog Bin-Bolbeck Park: This has now been installed.

5. MKC-SENIOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER:

Maria Priestley attended (apologies from Tony Lamming) and advised that her project was on growth co-location and how both, departments within Milton Keynes Council and voluntary groups could work from a local centre outside the city centre. Although some of the identified areas for this are in the developing east flank, Neath Hill has also been identified as a possible area for this type of co-location. The Parish Council is asked to have a think about what type of services are required in the Neath Hill Area and advise Maria. Meanwhile the details of a recent conference on this matter will be sent to the Parish Council.

6. DOG BINS-TONGWELL LAKE & WILLEN LANE: The bin by the play area is not large enough for the demand and is constantly overflowing. The bins in Willen Lane have been exploded and are totally useless. It was proposed by Cllr Stabler and seconded by Cllr Tripp that the Tongwell Lake bin be replaced with a 50ltr Metal bin. Parish Manager will replace the two bins in Willen Lane with one double size metal bin.

7. NACRO INVOLVEMENT IN PARISH: Following a meeting between Stuart White (NACRO), Pete Cox (MKC), Cllr Tripp and Parish Manager, Stuart White had submitted a strategy of work he is commencing in the Parish. Stuart will be chased for an update on his progress. It was agreed that a young persons activity section should be put on the website. Cllr Byfield will advise Parish Manager of activities in Conniburrow.

8. LORINER PLACE: The clearance of the site will take place on the weekend of 25th November. The fencing will be erected early in the New Year.

9. DOWNS BARN FACILITY:

Nothing further has been heard, but Parish Manager due to meet with Leisure Services again next week.

10. MARSH DRIVE FACILITY:

Tree Surgery: The work will commence on Thursday 16th November..

Future Development: A further meeting of the group will be held on Monday 20th November, followed by a meeting with Jonathan Lee later in the week.

Break In: There had been a break in last week, nothing had been taken but the boiler house door had been forced, also the football clubs shed.

Memorial Seat: Following the death of one of the managers of the football club, the family have asked whether they may install a memorial seat on the Marsh Drive Ground. It was unanimously agreed that there were no objections; however the seat should be of a substantial design to avoid vandalism. Parish Manager will liaise and if necessary come back to the Parish Council if there is a cost shortfall.

Repairs: Broken guttering had been repaired and the broken site screen had been chopped up and disposed of. It was agreed that Parish Manager should look into the cost of a new sign for Marsh Drive as the current one has seen better days.

11. HIGH STREET FACILITY:

The hedge has now been cut; otherwise there was nothing further to report from this facility

12. ALLOTMENTS:

Hills Close Site: Parish Manager, Caretaker and allotment holders had cleared and burnt a large amount of rubbish. Corys have now collected the remainder.

Transfer of Larkspur Avenue Site: Letter from Milton Keynes Council asking whether we wished them to continue maintenance of the site (at a cost). Their figures show that the expenditure on the site last year was £800. Parish Manager had asked for a breakdown of this (water, mowing etc), but this has not been forthcoming, however it is likely that Parish Council will be able to maintain the site at less cost than MKC would charge.

Sandy Close Reserve Site: An official application had been made for the Landscape Depot, despite chasing there has been no response from Parminder Dhap .

13. LOCAL CENTRES:

Broken Pillar-Glazier Drive Junction, Neath Hill: Following damage to the pillar, both MKC and Parks Trust claim they are not responsible for the maintenance of the pillars. Park Trust have suggested that the Parish Council adopt and maintain them, or that they go halves with the Parks Trust in repairs. It was agreed that adoption of pillars was not an option, although the cost of an annual wash down and varnish of wood, would cost very little. Parish Council may consider a one off donation towards the cost of rebuilding. Rai Darke (Parks Trust) will be asked to provide a price for this work before the Full Council Meeting. Cllr Stabler and Cllr Williams had carried out another "walk about", Parish Manager will be given the list of faults for attention.

Crimestoppers Leaflets: We now have copies of the leaflets that are to be delivered within the parish, together with an invoice.

Downs Barn Bus Shelter: Advised that a meeting was to be held last week about this, will chase MKC for the results of this.

Shop Area: MKC had removed the wall which had been pushed over, however the fire hydrant sign that was attached to it has disappeared. Parish Manager will get this returned.

Giffard Park: On 16th October there was £3,000 damage caused under the skylights of the school. Crime Prevention Officer has advised that the only way to stop these incidents is to install a 6ft fence. The cost of this is prohibitive for the school. Two weeks ago, an attempted beer run at the off licence left the female assistant injured. Thames Valley Police took 4 days to attend. There has been no beat officer in the area for 3 weeks. The disabled bays have now been repainted.

Blakelands: The play area surface and equipment has been steam cleaned and now looks in excellent condition.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Ruins of St Peters Church-Stanton Low: Letter asking for comments on how this site should be tidied and developed. It was agreed should remain part of the countryside and not urbanised. The area should be tidied, vegetation cleared, additional planting, interpretation boards and seating. A sign is also required from the main road.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next Meeting will be held on Tuesday the 12^h December 2006.

The Meeting closed at 9.20pm