

Beckingham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 25th October 2011

Membership Cllr. K Ashworth (K.A.), Cllr. T Fox (T.F.), Cllr. G Else (G.E), Cllr. R Sheppard (R.S.),
Cllr. P Thorpe (P.T.)
Present Cllr. P Woodman (P.W.), Cllr. S Howe (S.H),
Mr. R Pell (R.P.) (Community Lincs Rural Housing Enabler),
D Johnson (D.J.) (Parish Clerk) & 4 members of the Public.

11/59 Police and Public Time

Police

- No police available to attend this meeting.

Report from PCSO 2126 Chris Boyle:

1 x Theft from employer (household items taken) investigation and enquiries ongoing.

Teams priorities for the next three months = ROGUE SCRAP METAL DEALERS.

- Neighbourhood Panel meeting poster. Received via email. D.J. to contact police with suggestions as to how the poster may be improved with dates of meetings and contact information.

Public

- **Street Lighting Issues** Following the letter regarding street lighting provisions within the village, a number of members of the public have gone to other residents to discuss their concerns rather than approaching the Parish Councillors or Clerk as the letter instructed. This seems to have led to confusion and unnecessary upset. Mr & Mrs Young and Mrs Wallace who are attending the meeting to present The Community Lead Plan, believe that the surveying of residents on Hillside and Sutton Road with respect to NKDC Street lighting planning was a "slap in the face" for the Community Lead Planning Committee. Mrs Young commented that the letter was sent with a too-short deadline. D.J. responded that the matter was brought to the last Parish Council meeting on 20/09/11, letters were distributed on 23/09/11 requiring a response by 30/09/11 as that was the deadline given by NKDC. Only one member of the public replied to the Parish Clerk regarding this matter. No other communication regarding this matter was received by any Councillor within the deadline.
Email from Mrs. Wallace and telephone call with Mrs Young.
K.A. to write to residents of Hillside, and make a personal visit to another member of the public who has particular concerns.
K.A. pointed out that the Parish Council were simply trying to ascertain a view point on this matter as requested by NKDC, there was no malice intended.
- **Street Light Bulbs Out** Following the last meeting, street lights with bulbs out on Chapel Lane and Sleaford Road were reported to NKDC. One member of the public commented that he would like the light on Sleaford Road to be left not working. D.J. replied that another member of the public had contacted her concerned about this particular light.

*** Agenda changed to accommodate speaker***

Mr Roy Pell – Rural Housing Enabler - Community Lincs.

Housing Needs Survey and Call for Land

- Community Lincs is a charity set up with the aim of supporting local communities. They assist with a range of issues such as housing, village halls, play parks, village websites etc.
- NKDC have asked Community Lincs to complete a Housing Needs Survey and a Call for Land on a cluster of villages; Beckingham, Brant Broughton, Carlton le Moorland and Stapleford.
- The timescale for this process starts with the letters and surveys being sent out in November, collation of the results through December and January, with the draft report and results by February and the final report by the end of the year.
- In Lincolnshire, the rising house prices, inward migration and low wages mean that the affordability gap is increasing. The Right to Buy legislation also had a massive impact on reducing the amount of affordable housing locally. More single people requiring housing and an aging population are also key factors. In Lincolnshire, one Primary School per annum is closing due to lack of need, along with other facilities and businesses such as Post Offices, pubs, shops, doctors surgeries etc.

- The report from the Bassingham area showed the median average house price to be £235,000. The lowest quartile average house price was £165,000. The average wage in North Kesteven is £19.5k. Therefore a first time buyer in the Bassingham area would need a £56,000 deposit and earnings of £59,000 per annum. In North Kesteven the average age to buy a house with parental help is 29, without parental help 37.
- There is a huge lack of rental accommodation, it is also very expensive.
- This Housing Needs Survey is to find out the real needs of affordable housing in the area.
- The new houses being built under the current schemes are built to very high quality standards.
- The new houses are 100% protected for the local community aiming to meet local needs.
- The Housing Needs Survey and Call for Land are being conducted at the same time across all four parishes.
- The survey can be completed by free-post, online or by secure collection point, which will be in the Pack Horse Pub.
- The survey has scope to ask if the respondent if they have knowledge of people who would like to return to the area.
- K.A. asked that the Parish Council are able to insert a letter with the survey pack to reassure the residents that this is a completely separate survey to the Community Lead Plan.
- Distribution of surveys will be completed by November 7th, the deadline for responses being early December.
- Press releases in Beckingham Bugle, Newark Trader and Sleaford Paper. A4 posters to be emailed to D.J.
- Drop in surgery at Beckingham Village Hall 3-7pm on a date w/c 21st November. R.P. to liaise with D.J.

Mr Pell left the meeting.

11/60 Reports from District and County Councillors

Report from Cllr. Pat Woodman

- Solar Panels are now fitted to 2/3 of housing stock.
- Extensive refurbishment of Sleaford Leisure Centre and Swimming Pool.
- Boundary changes proposed for NKDC but does not affect Beckingham.
- BBC film crew filming "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels" alongside NKDC officers.
- NK eco-friendly saved £80k.
- Sleaford Maltings now on English Heritage top 10.
- Sleaford difficulties with supermarket development.
- "Common First Fund" a Big Society Initiative. £80m nationally to make a difference in communities.

Report from Cllr. Sue Howe:

- Sleaford Hub re-named The National Centre for Craft and Design. Re-launch and promotions ongoing.
- Road Transport Museum open day 6th Nov 10.30am – 5pm.
- Next Cluster meeting 9th Jan 2012 at Norton Disney Village Hall.
- Doddington Hall open gardens every Sunday in October 11am-4pm.
- Vintage brass music charity event 25th November in the Civic Suite at NK offices in Sleaford.
- Work on Bassingham to Carlton le Moorland pathway ready to start.

Apologies

Apologies have been received from PCSO 2126 Christopher Boyle, County Cllr. Ray Phillips

11/61 Minutes of the previous meeting, 20th September 2011

The minutes were accepted as correct and signed as a true record.

11/62 Matters Arising

- Comment from Mikki Young re. Parish Notice Board. Mikki has contacts for quotes.
- Help Insulation Scheme – D.J. to contact again.
- Pack Horse no plans for bonfire.
- Bulb Planting – not a great success in terms of attendance, more notice required – 280 bulbs planted.
- Village Hall issues ongoing.
- A17 Highways issues. Complaints made and chased, no response as yet.
- K.A. has spoken to James Keane re. dog fouling. Parish Council to purchase PPE.
- Dog Bins – Sleaford Road/Sutton Road junction bin needs replacing. Dog bin outside bus stop needs moving to Rectory Street and letter bin outside bus stop needs replacing. D.J. has price lists and NK quote £40 per hour labour. Mikki to use Bugle to find a potential handy-man.

11/63 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest at this point.

11/64 Finance Matters

HSBC Account Balances:
Deposit Account Balance £1769.56
Current Account Balance £3523.77

Payments:
Invoice from Barry Day £72 inc. VAT

Also, signed mandate was returned to the bank. K.A. and R.S. to go into HSBC to provide bank ID.

11/65 Planning Matters

Plans Received:

11/1192/VARCON Variation of Condition 1 of application 09/0612/FUL to allow the retention of temporary 70m high anemometry mast for a further 6 month period (expiring 14th April 2012)

Lodge Farm, Sleaford Road, Beckingham

- Parish Council wish to strongly object to the proposal.
- R.S. has already drafted an objection letter to be amended by D.J., approved by the Parish Council and filed on planning online website by Friday 28th October.
- Cllr. Woodman to bring the matter to committee in November. Members of the Parish Council and a member of the public required to attend to put forward objections.
- Email correspondence received on this matter from a number of concerned members of the public.
- R.S. concerned with the timescale for commenting on the proposal and the effectiveness of the KNOT group. Assurances made by the Parish Council that comments will be made in good time.

11/1011/HOUS Erection of single storey side and rear extension and erection of front boundary wall and gates. Ardene, Hillside, Beckingham

- No objections

11/0874/HOUS Demolition of existing single story extension and erection of 2 storey side extension and single story front extension

The Cottage, School Lane, Beckingham

- No objections

11/1124/FUL Erection of agricultural workers dwelling

Field Farm, Sutton Road, Sutton-cum-Beckingham

- Parish Council would like to clarify the position of public footpath in relation to proposed dwelling. D.J. to email planning.

Cllr. Woodman and Cllr. Howe left the meeting.

Community Lead Planning Report

- Parish Council thanked the group for all their hard work, and for the excellent presentation of the document.
- Andrew Young presented the document and also praised the group for getting the project completed within the timescales agreed.
- The report at this stage is not available to the public but will be on the website shortly.
- Raw data is available upon request.
- Efforts have been made by the group to ask fair questions, carefully worded and unbiased.
- Parish Council are very happy with the content and presentation.
- The report will be available online and only printed by special request. Library copies will also be available.
- Summary of the main recommendations:
 1. The maintenance and improvements to the visual appearance of the village.
 2. The provision of improved play facilities.

Christmas Tree

- Jeremy Thorpe has very kindly offered to sponsor our village Christmas tree this year.
- G.E. to organise purchase of the tree.
- Date for switching on of the lights; Saturday 3rd December at 6pm.
- D.J. to organise poster.
- Parish Council to pay for mulled wine and mince pies. However, poster will ask for donations.
- T.F., G.E., R.S. and Jeremy Thorpe to put up and decorate tree.
- To be added to The Bugle.

11/66 Correspondence

Emails:

- 5 emails from the public relating to planning application 11/1192/VARCON anemometer mast. Concerns noted by the Parish Council and advised the all objections must be uploaded to the planning online website by the individuals. Parish Council to lodge own objection.
- Emails from Came & Company relation to the Parish Councils insurance arrangements. No further action to be taken.
- Invitation to NKDC Winter Weather Workshop – Weds 26th Oct. K.A. to attend.
- Arts NK letter. 2012 celebrations of Olympics and Queens Golden Jubilee. D.J. has spoken to Nick Jones at Arts NK and discussed options open to community regarding art activities. Info passed onto Play Park Project.
- Vacancy for Independent Remuneration Panel Member. Any queries to be directed to Marcella Heath at NKDC.
- Last Cluster Meeting. Notes and updates.
- Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee Newsletter. Info Only.
- Matthew Calladine. Fundraiser taking place in North Hykeham. Quiz Night Fri 28th Oct. Contact 01522 686879. All proceeds to Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance.
- Email from member of the public to K.A. regarding Footway Lighting letter. Matter clarified at beginning of this meeting.

Post:

- Glasdon product catalogue. Keep on file.
- Boundary Commission for England. Discussed and covered in report from Cllr. Woodman.
- The Queens Diamond Jubilee Beacons – Guide to taking part. Will be considered in due course.
- Letter from NKDC informing of change of house name from “Melville” to “The Leemings” School Lane, Beckingham. No further action required.

11/67 Matters Arising

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11/68 Date of the Next Meeting

Dates agreed for 6th December 2011 and 10th January 2012.

Meeting was closed at 9.30pm.