

Beckingham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 7th April 2009 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

Membership Councillor B Day (Chairman)
Councillor P Hallam
Councillor G Else

Present J Lyon (Parish Clerk)
District Councillor Sue Howe
District Councillor Pat Woodman MBE
PC M Roberts
PCSO C Boyle
1 member of the public

Police Report

P C M Roberts reported that there had been two undetected crimes since the last meeting – a break in on the MOD range and the theft of a van from Sutton Road. There was an incident of hare coursing reported to the police approx 3 weeks ago. There is an ongoing campaign to warn people about door to door sales being carried out by known criminals – they are currently working the Bassingham area. It is intended to hold a group Neighbourhood Watch update meeting in June – details to follow once confirmed.

09/11 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor T Fox and Councillor A Young

09/12 Minutes of the previous meeting,

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

09/13 Matters Arising

Sue Chambers from NK has emailed back asking for clarification on ownership of the gate so a grant application can be made, however in the meantime Robert Cree, who owns the land next to the gate, has no objection to the fence being moved and a concrete base being laid to enable disabled access to the side of the gate.

ART requests – nothing has been done – the clerk to chase Highways Dept

Hill Holt Wood – the ranger has been contacted re the removal of the wood from the spinney at the bottom of Hillside - ongoing

09/14 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations at this point.

09/15 Reports from Councillors

District Councillor Sue Howe and District Councillor Pat Woodman MBE reported that;

There has been a 3.4% increase in council tax from NKDC, which equates to between 5p and 17p extra per week per house. NK's services now cost an average house £11 per month.

There is now free swimming for under 16s and over 60s at NK Sports Centre, North Hykeham.

Refuse collection will change to a Tuesday with effect from 20th April.

NK are once again the best district in Lincolnshire re time scales etc. Household appeals have now been reduced to a 12 week limit with comments from an application being passed to the inspectorate.

NK are hoping to increase the number of people on the 'Viewpoint' panel – leaflet to be circulated to Councillors.

NK have just been awarded the Chartermark for the entire council, and also Investors in People award.

Wheels to Work – this is a scheme to enable young people to get to work with the loan of a motor scooter for a 6 month period.

Job Centre Plus – the District Council have offered their premises for work training and job seeker clubs.

09/16 Finance Matters

It was decided not to renew the LALC membership, with a saving of 116.50 – the clerk to notify LALC

A quote for the mowing of the play equipment has been received from Continental Landscapes at a cost of £326.40 per annum – it was decided not to accept this.

There has been no income from NK re litter picking – the clerk to check with NK

A cheque was written for the 50% share of the SLCC clerks fee - £32.50

Councillor Else provided Councillors with a copy of the 2008/09 accounts, and also the Village Hall Management accounts for the annual parish meeting

09/17 Planning Matters

Planning Permission Granted

Glebe Barn (second plans) – demolition of stables and conversion and extension to existing barn to form detached dwelling and erection of detached double garage

An appeal has been made by Mr S Price against the refusal of planning permission for the erection of a day block at Sleaford Road Beckingham – additional comments by the 13th April.

09/18 Correspondence

Lincolnshire Best Kept Village – it was decided not to enter

Highways – a schedule of General Maintenance Programme has been received showing the C25, Beckingham is scheduled for resurfacing – it is thought that this is Hillside as this was the only road not to have been done last year.

09/19 Matters for Discussion

Playing Field

A member of the public questioned the Parish Council's decision to let the field, rather than keep it as a playing field, however Councillor Day reiterated that the play equipment will still be accessible for use and that the field would be available once the hay has been harvested. It is thought that there is a general misunderstanding of the letting arrangements, and thought that the land was to be cultivated and therefore not available to use. Councillor Day reassured the meeting that this is definitely not the case, and that the let is only on an annual basis. When the matter was discussed two years ago the playing field committee agreed to campaign the village through the use of fliers to ascertain public feeling to gauge the level of need as the field is no longer used for a football team, cricket team or the youth club, but this

has not been done. The chairman of the playing field committee will be invited to the next meeting, this being the annual parish meeting.

Highways Trust Field

The trustees of the Highways Trust have just spent £1400 fencing the field to the east of the gypsy site however the travellers have taken a section of the fence down to enable them to graze their livestock in there. Also the drainage from the day block (which the planning appeal relates to) is being allowed to drain into the field and not into a septic tank or soakaway. Margaret Biggin from Environmental Health is to carry out a site visit on Thursday to assess the situation together with Jonathon Henson. The clerk will ask CC Ray Philips why the signage has not been done, and to investigate the drainage to the splayed access as it is thought that standing water accumulates after rainfall. The clerk to ask NK planning for an updated plan of the site showing all permissions granted on the site.

Bus Shelter

The new litter bin has been put up outside the shelter.

The gutters need to be taken down and the fascias painting – Cllr Hallam to obtain quotes for the works.

09/20 Date of the Next Meeting

The date for the next meeting, which will also be the Annual Parish Meeting was set for the 5th May at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.