

**Minutes 02/2012 of Metheringham, Sots Hole and Tanvats  
Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at 7.30pm in the  
Village Hall**

**PRESENT:** Councillors N Dobbs, Mrs J Finegan (Vice Chairman),  
P D Ford, Mrs J Gwilym, M Haisman, Mrs M Kristen, Mrs L Lacey,  
Mrs J Peck, Mrs S Peek, M E Reynolds, P Saffin, Mrs S Wilson,  
Mrs P Bradwell (County Council), and Ms S N Wetherall (Clerk).

1. **To resolve to accept Apologies for absence and reasons given:**  
Apologies were received from Councillors Dr M J Allen (Chairman),  
R Kendrick (District Council) and J Money (District Council). It was  
resolved to accept the apologies and reasons, this was proposed by Cllr  
Mrs Peek, seconded by Cllr Ford and all were in favour.
  
2. **Members Declarations of Interests:** Declarations of interest were made  
by the following Councillors:  
Cllr Saffin declared a personal interest for agenda item 3c because he is  
the swimming pool representative.  
Cllr Ford declared a personal interest for agenda item 6g because his wife  
is receiving a salary.
  
3. **Reports from representatives on outside bodies:**
  - a) Cllr Mrs Bradwell spoke to members about the car parking charges at  
the station car park and the best way to consult with the users, to  
gauge their opinions relating to the possible implementation of  
charges. Following a discussion it was decided to have a leaflet drop  
on vehicles and possibly display posters. Cllr Mrs Bradwell is to speak  
with Legal Services regarding their request for money to complete a  
licence agreement for the siting of the beacon outside the library. LCC  
grass cutting will be taking place within the next few days.
  
  - b) The District Councillors were not present at the meeting. Cllr Kendrick  
e-mailed the Clerk a short report: Armed Forces Parade is taking  
place in Sleaford on Sunday at 10.45am. Community Awards 2012 –  
nominations must be submitted by 13<sup>th</sup> August.
  
  - c) Cllr Saffin gave a report from the Swimming Pool. He had attended a  
meeting on Monday evening, the pool are doing well. The disabled  
hoist has been repaired but new seals are still required, they are  
having problems sourcing these. A balance sheet has been produced  
by the treasurer, but slightly more detail is required. Cllr Ford is to e-  
mail the treasurer the MPC account template. Unfortunately the pump  
has broken and a new impeller is required, Carl Bradley is trying to  
obtain one. The swimming pool Chairman is concerned about the  
amount of water being used to backwash the pool. Enquiries to be  
made with Anglian Water re: possible reduced water costs. The  
committee is considering extending the height of the perimeter fence  
and installing metal gates on the changing rooms. Further details are  
to be obtained by Cllr Saffin.
  
  - d) The Clerk circulated a copy of the dog warden's report to all members.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012

A Councillor had witnessed a dog fouling and the owner not clearing up after them. This is to be reported to the dog warden and a witness statement given.

4. **Notes of the Annual Meeting of the Council:** Held on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2012 having been previously circulated, be approved as the minutes – It was resolved to sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting, this was proposed by Cllr Dobbs, seconded by Cllr Mrs Wilson, one abstention (Cllr Mrs Peck) and seven were in favour.

5. **Clerks report on matters outstanding:**

- a) Request for speed limit to be imposed on Metheringham Fen Lane near to residential properties. This has been declined by LCC. Further letter sent to LCC asking they reconsider the request due to it being a residential area, a number of children, street lights and no footpaths. LCC are to carry out an automatic survey of the area. Waiting for results.

Pot holes on Drury Street have been reported to LCC again, but not yet repaired.

Request to LCC for 'wildfowl' warning signs to be erected on Lincoln Road near Shiregate: This has been completed.

Several complaints received regarding the state of the grass in the village. LCC have appointed a new contractor.

- b) Letter sent to LCC in support of speed limit reductions on B1188.
- c) Replacement SID has been purchased by Nocton PC on behalf of the Metheringham Area Cluster Group, they have requested £17.86 to cover the outstanding cost (insurance excess) to be split between the seven parishes.
- d) The old street orderly barrow has been taken by Cllr Haisman, to hopefully have it repaired. Unfortunately a new bearing cannot be sourced, therefore the barrow will be scrapped.
- e) E-mail sent to Cllr Money requesting details from NKDC re: grass cutting costs.
- f) The Localism Act, a further training session has been arranged for 24<sup>th</sup> September at Coningsby, Cllr Dr Allen, Cllr Dobbs, Cllr Mrs Finegan and the Clerk to attend.
- g) Fly tipping on grass area adjacent to Kings Road has been reported to NKDC for removal.
- h) Request to Nick Worrall at Linden Homes to remove 'Stamford Homes' sign adjacent to Dunston Road.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012

- i) Letter sent to occupants of 10 Shiregate requesting area to the side of their property is maintained. Occupant has contacted the Clerk to state the area does not belong to them. The Clerk is waiting for a plan from Linden Homes (Stamford Homes).
- j) Annual Reports have been distributed to all properties in the parish.
- k) Public toilets - Fen Road, still waiting for completion date from NKDC. MPC solicitor has been chasing NKDC re: completion date. Transfer deed has been received Solicitor is in negotiations with NKDC.
- l) Ongoing problems with the ten way fitness station have been reported to Fresh Air Fitness for rectification. FAF have agreed to replace the parts but want MPC to install. MPC has requested the work is done by FAF.
- m) East Midlands Trains have stated there will not be any charges at the railway station car park, but this will be reviewed in six months time. Letter to be sent by MPC.
- n) Nocton and Dunston Parish Councils have made enquiries regarding the villages having mains gas. E-mail sent to Doreen Green requesting further details. The cost will depend on the number of properties requiring gas, another consideration is any properties that change to gas would have to purchase a new boiler.
- o) Quotation requested for a solar light to be installed in the youth shelter.

**6. Financial matters:**

- a) To consider and approve the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk attend the East Midlands SLCC Regional Conference on 12<sup>th</sup> September at Nottingham Belfry at a cost of £65.00 per delegate: It was resolved to attend the Conference, this was proposed by Cllr Ford, seconded by Cllr Mrs Peck and all were in favour.

**ACTION: Clerk**

- b) To consider and approve the supply and installation of a 1 metre steel pole bracket complete with a 36 watt PL white light (low energy) lantern controlled by an all night photocell and a plastic supply box and overhead electricity service, outside 40 Princes Street at a cost of £551.00: Members agreed this area is very dark, once installed the light will be the responsibility of MPC and covered under the maintenance contract with E.on. It was resolved to purchase and install the light, this was proposed by Cllr Reynolds, seconded by Cllr Saffin, one abstention (Cllr Mrs Peck) and seven were in favour.

**ACTION: Clerk**

- c) To consider a request from Tinkers Mother and Toddler Group for a continuation of the grant donation towards the scout hall hire for a further six months at a cost of £415.68 (documents circulated with

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012

agenda): Cllr Mrs Peck fully supports the group and believes it is a valuable asset to the village.

*Cllr Mrs Gwilym arrived at the meeting at 7.55pm.*

Some members were concerned the group do not appear to have done any fundraising, this is essential for the group to remain viable. It was resolved to make the hall payments for a further six months, this was proposed by Cllr Ford, seconded by Cllr Mrs Lacey, one abstention (Cllr Reynolds) and eight were in favour.

**ACTION: Clerk**

- d) To consider and approve quotations received for repairs to electric circuit at the village hall at an approximate cost of £2,000.00: Unfortunately only two quotations had been obtained and due to the differential it was decided a third quotation was required. It was resolved this item should be deferred and considered at a special meeting, this was proposed by Cllr Ford, seconded by Cllr Mrs Wilson and all were in favour.

**ACTION: Clerk/VHMC**

- e) To consider and approve a loan of £1,600.00 to the Village Hall Management Committee to cover repair costs to the outside shed: Following a discussion it was confirmed the Village Hall Management Committee have responsibility for the shed. The village hall should produce a business plan. It was resolved a loan would be made to the VHMC to be repaid over 18 months, this was proposed by Cllr Ford, seconded by Cllr Dobbs and all were in favour.

**ACTION: Cllr Ford**

*Cllr Haisman arrived at the meeting at 8.08pm.*

- f) To consider and approve payment of £749.10, to South Lincs Electrical Ltd for portable testing, full log and certification of equipment at the village: It was resolved to make the payment this was proposed by Cllr Ford, seconded by Cllr Mrs Wilson and all were in favour.

**ACTION: Cllr Ford**

- g) To consider accounts for payment:

<b>Payment to</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
Carl Bradley – Swimming Pool start up costs etc.	425.00
NKDC Planning Application re: Beacon	167.50
Eclipse Fencing – materials for handyman	62.49
E.on – quarterly maintenance contract	655.80
Bluefin – PC Insurance	5,251.59
Lonsdale Direct Solutions – Printing Annual Report	577.00
Scouts – Hire of Hall for Tinkers Playgroup	80.00
Viking Direct – Stationery	75.41
Carl Bradley – weekly pool maintenance	160.00
MVHMC – Hall Hire	78.00

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012

Veolia – grass cutting	96.94
E.on – Repair Sleaford Road	23.47
South Lincs Electrical – VH electrical testing	749.10
Hampshire Flag – Roller Banner MPC	112.45
Employee Salaries, Expenses and LCC Pension	2,156.54
HM Revenue & Customs	366.01
Parish Dog Warden	360.00
<b>BACS Payments – June 2012</b>	<b>11,397.30</b>

It was resolved to make payment of the accounts, this was proposed by Cllr Dobbs, seconded by Cllr Saffin, one abstention (Cllr Ford) and nine were in favour.

- f) To receive a report from the RFO on the PC finances, Income and Expenditure: Cllr Ford expressed his concern about the increase in expenditure for the financial year.

7. **Planning Committee:** Notes of meeting: Held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2012, having been previously circulated, to be approved as the minutes: It was resolved to sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting, this was proposed by Cllr Mrs Gwilym, seconded by Cllr Dobbs, two abstentions (Cllr Ford and Cllr Mrs Peek) and two were in favour.

8. **Correspondence:**

- a) To note general correspondence.

*It was resolved to suspend the meeting at 8.30pm for a refreshment break, this was proposed by Cllr Mrs Finegan, seconded by Cllr Ford and all were in favour.*

*Cllr Mrs Bradwell left the meeting at 8.35pm.*

*The meeting resumed at 8.47pm.*

9. **To receive reports on Outside Meetings:**

- a) To receive a report from Cllrs Mrs Gwilym and Mrs Peck on Councillors Training day held 7<sup>th</sup> June 2012: The course was very informative, but there was 'information overload'. If course material had been available prior to the session this may have helped. The session was too in-depth for a new Councillor with no previous local government experience, as a lot of the material was relating to legislation. The Clerk will relay this information back to LALC and ensure that in future any new Councillors attend the evening Councillor training session. Cllrs Mrs Peck and Mrs Gwilym completed the feedback questionnaire at the session giving their views.
- b) To receive a report from Cllrs Peek and Saffin on The Planning System held on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2012: Cllr Saffin circulated a written report, this session did not meet their expectations and they did not feel it was focused towards parish councils.

10. **To receive reports from Working Groups:**

- a) Allotments: Cllr Mrs Peek stated the hedge needs cutting.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012

b) Anti Social Behaviour: A meeting was held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012, unfortunately members felt progress was not being made. Information from principal authorities is not forthcoming. The next meeting will be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> August at 2.00pm in the pavilion.

c) Children's Playgrounds and Playing Fields: Cllr Mrs Kristen reported there had been a problem with the gate at Princes Street Play Park. Cllr Saffin to liaise with the handyman.

**ACTION: Clerk/Working Group**

d) Christmas Celebrations: A meeting has been arranged for 4<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00pm at Cllr Mrs Kristen's.

**ACTION: Working Group**

e) Community Emergency and Flood Plan: Cllr Mrs Finegan, Cllr Reynolds and the Clerk have met for a first review of the new model document. Cllr Mrs Finegan has requested a meeting with the Flood incident management officer and copies of maps are inserted in the document. Saxilby PC have completed their plan, the cascade includes mainly Councillors. Members are to consider if they want to be involved in the plan.

**ACTION: Working Group**

f) Consultation and Questionnaires: Nothing to report.

g) Fayre and Feast: The next meeting will take place on 24<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00pm in the pavilion. Requests have been made to Scouts, Army Cadets and Mission X to help erecting the stalls.

**ACTION: Working Group**

h) Forward Planning: A meeting has been arranged for 3<sup>rd</sup> July at 9.00am in the pavilion, to review the LCC legal documents prior to the meeting with LCC on 16<sup>th</sup> July.

**ACTION: Working Group**

i) Highways, Footpaths and Car Parks: A Problem of vehicles parking on the footpaths on Fen Road. A letter is to be sent to the squash club and the Methodist Church asking them to remind their users to use the village car park. There have been several problems of delivery vehicles blocking and partially blocking High Street/Middle Street when delivering to the Premier Store. There have also been problems on Caroline Road, with delivery vehicles obstructing the road and footpaths. Clerk to contact LCC and the police to request time restrictions are imposed on delivery vehicles.

**ACTION: Working Group/Clerk**

j) Risk Assessment: A further meeting is to be arranged.

k) Street Lighting: Nothing to report.

l) War Memorial and Spring: Nothing to report.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012

11. **NALC Code of Conduct:** To approve and adopt the NALC Code of Conduct for Parish Councils pursuant to section 27 of the Localism Act 2011 (circulated with agenda): The Clerk informed members there were several different versions of the code of conduct in circulation, NALC, LGA, DCLG, City of Lincoln and Lincolnshire principal authorities. The NALC model document has been produced for Parish and Town Councils, SLCC and LALC have helped develop the document. The document can be modified, but the seven Nolan principals must remain. Following a debate, it was resolved to adopt the NALC Code of Conduct, this was proposed by Cllr Dobbs, seconded by Cllr Mrs Finegan, one against (Cllr Haisman), one abstention (Cllr Mrs Wilson) and eight were in favour.

**ACTION: Clerk**

12. **Skate Board Park/BMX Track:** The skate park group raised £170.00 at the Diamond Jubilee event. They are in the process of obtaining quotations. The next meeting will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

13. **Annual Village Meeting 2013:** To consider format for next year's event and possible key note speakers: Cllr Mrs Peck thought the evening should be focused on Community Support and there should be a change of format. Some members thought the guest speakers were not required. Cllr Mrs Lacey said some of the elderly found it difficult to get to the meeting and thought if transport were arranged this would help this group of residents. A working group is to be formed to progress this. A project plan is to be presented at the next meeting.

**ACTION: Cllrs Haisman, Mrs Peck and Mrs Wilson**

14. **Date, time and venue of next meeting:** Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

***The meeting closed at 9.37pm.***

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012