

**Minutes 05/2012 of Metheringham, Sots Hole and Tanvats  
Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2012 at 7.30pm in  
the Village Hall**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Dr M J Allen (Chairman), N Dobbs, Mrs J Finegan (Vice Chairman), P D Ford, Mrs J Gwilym, M Haisman, Mrs M Kristen, M E Reynolds, Mrs S Peek, P Saffin, Mrs S Wilson, Cllr Mrs P Bradwell (County Council), Cllr R Kendrick (District Council), Cllr J Money (District Council) and Ms S N Wetherall (Clerk).

1. **Chairman's Remarks:** The Chairman made a number of announcements relating to fire exits, conduct during the meeting and confidentiality of the closed session. Also the importance of the new code of conduct and members should promote high standards at all times.
2. **To resolve to accept Apologies for absence and reasons given:**  
There were no apologies received.
3. **Members Declarations of Interests:**
  - a) Declarations of interest were made by the following Councillors:  
Cllr Ford declared a Disclosable pecuniary interest for agenda item 7c because his wife is receiving a salary.
  - b) Dispensations: Cllr Ford was granted dispensation at the Parish Council Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2012 Minute Ref: 04/2012 Item 2b.
4. **Reports from representatives on outside bodies:**
  - a) Nothing to report from the County Councillor.
  - b) Nothing to report from the District Councillor.
  - c) Nothing to report from Council Representatives on other outside bodies.
  - d) The Clerk circulated a copy of the dog warden's report to all members.
5. **Notes of the Special Council Meeting:** Held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 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 Mrs Peek, seconded by Cllr Dobbs and all were in favour.
6. **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. LCC are now stating the site does not meet the criteria.

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

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> October 2012

Pot holes on Metheringham Fen Lane have been reported again on 16-07-2012, but not all have been repaired.

Pot hole on Dunston Road reported to LCC Ref: 1139994

Complaint received about overgrown shrubs etc on Metheringham Fen Lane near to railway bridge, reported to LCC again, apparently this area is the responsibility of Network Rail. Clerk has contacted Network Rail.

- b) Concern raised over pond at Shiregate – details passed to NKDC to deal with.
- c) E-mail sent to resident requesting further details in relation to the community allotment initiative.
- d) Replacement swing seat received FOC from Wicksteed for junior swing at Princes Street Play Park.
- e) Request to Nick Worrall at Linden Homes to remove 'Stamford Homes' sign adjacent to Dunston Road.
- f) Public toilets - Fen Road. Transfer deed has now been signed by the Chairman and returned to the solicitor, waiting for completion date.
- g) 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 sent to LCC expressing MPC concerns re: charges.
- h) New sign to be installed on the Multi goal end at Princes Street.
- i) Complaint received about children playing on grass area at Millfield Road, details passed to NKDC as it is their land.
- j) LCC grass cutting, quality of cut is still very poor. Clerk has contacted LCC again.
- k) Three new hi-viz vests and jackets have been ordered in XXL and XXXL.
- l) Fly tipping on Metheringham Fen Lane reported to NKDC.
- m) Complaint received about brambles overhanging footpath outside 42-48 High Street. Clerk has asked the handyman to cut these back.
- n) Complaint received about overgrown public rights of way in the village (Caroline Road and Church Walk towards Blankney). Reported to LCC.

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

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> October 2012

- o) Request for the public toilets to be open at 9.30am on 14<sup>th</sup> October for the Spires and Steeples Walk/Run.

**7. Financial matters:**

- a) To consider and approve purchasing a second hand trailer at an approximate cost of £1,500.00 to transport the market stalls for the Fayre and Feast and other village events: Cllr Reynolds has been offered the use of a trailer for the Fayre and Feast and the possibility to purchase the second hand single axle trailer. Cllr Reynolds to check suitability of trailer. It was resolved a trailer would be purchased at a maximum cost of £1,500.00, this was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Reynolds and all were in favour.

**ACTION: Cllr Reynolds/Cllr Saffin/Clerk**

- b) To consider and approve the Clerk attends the SLCC, Health, Safety and Wellbeing training on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2012 at Belton Woods hotel, at a cost of £95.00: It was resolved to attend the training, this was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Haisman and all were in favour.

**ACTION: Clerk**

- c) To consider accounts for payment:

<b>Payment to</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
Carl Bradley – Pool maintenance and chemicals	160.00
E.on repair Fen Road o/s Church	48.37
Veolia – Grass Cutting August	96.94
E.on – quarterly maintenance charge	655.80
Viking Direct – No Dog signs	13.07
Metheringham Scouts – Tinkers Hall hire	80.00
Play safety – RoSPA Annual Inspection	150.00
MVHMC – Hall Hire	39.00
Darwood – Repair toilet (gents)	16.00
Employee Salaries, Expenses and LCC Pension	2,353.32
HM Revenue & Customs	438.25
Parish Dog Warden	360.00
<b>BACS Payments – September 2012</b>	<b>4,410.75</b>
PWLB – Village Hall	1,112.22
Metheringham Co-op misc provisions	24.59
Metheringham Post Office – postage	8.83
E.on War Memorial Lights	33.55
SLCC – Regional Conference x 3 members	234.00
SLCC/ILCM – Annual subscriptions	206.00
<b>Total – September 2012</b>	<b>6,029.94</b>

It was resolved to make payment of the accounts, this was proposed by Cllr Dobbs, seconded by Cllr Haisman and all were in favour.

- d) To receive a report from the RFO on the PC finances, Income and Expenditure: There were no questions or queries on the financial position.

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

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> October 2012

8. **Correspondence:**  
a) To note general correspondence.
9. **To receive reports on Outside Meetings:**  
a) To receive a report from members on Disclosable Pecuniary Interests/Code of Conduct Training held on 6<sup>th</sup> September: Members thought the session was very poor and there was a lack of clarification on many items, from the presenter and NKDC officer.  
b) To receive a report from members and the Clerk on SLCC Regional Conference held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2012: The Chairman gave a report, the conference was very professional. Presentations by James Kingston Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) on Decentralization and the Localism Act; Neighbourhood Planning and the Localism Act by Dave Chetwyn of the Royal Town Planning Institute; Legal Workshop and Update; HR workshop and a Pension Session. There were only thirty delegates in attendance, it was a shame there weren't more.  
c) To receive a report from the Clerk on the SLCC Branch meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2012: The Clerk provided a written report on the meeting (Appendix 1).
10. **To receive reports from Working Groups:**  
a) Allotments: E-mail sent to resident requesting further details in relation to the community allotment initiative.  
**ACTION: Working Group**  
b) Anti Social Behaviour: The next meeting will be held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October at 2.00pm in the pavilion.  
**ACTION: Working Group**  
c) Children's Playgrounds and Playing Fields: Cllr Saffin reported the new swing seat has been replaced at the junior swing at Princes Street and the new sign installed on the MUGA. The hinge on the gate at Shiregate may need welding, Clerk to ask handyman to investigate.  
**ACTION: Clerk/Handyman/Working Group**  
d) Christmas Celebrations: Cllr Mrs Kristen reported that £61.00 had been raised at the Autumn Fayre. Stalls are being booked. Next meeting date TBC.  
**ACTION: Working Group**  
e) Community Emergency and Flood Plan: Nothing to report.  
**ACTION: Working Group**  
f) Consultation and Questionnaires: Nothing to report.  
g) Fayre and Feast: The next meeting will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm in the pavilion.  
**ACTION: Working Group**

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

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> October 2012

- h) Forward Planning: A further meeting is to be arranged asap. This will be discussed in more detail at Item 12.

**ACTION: Working Group**

- i) Highways, Footpaths and Car Parks: Cllr Reynolds reported there was a pot hole on the footpath at Kings Road, to be reported to relevant authority. Pot holes on High Street and Dunston Road have been repaired.

**ACTION: Working Group/Clerk**

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

- k) Street Lighting: Cllr Reynolds stated at least four lights are not working, these have been reported.

**ACTION: Working Group**

- l) War Memorial and Spring: MPC have taken over responsibility for maintenance of the planted areas at the library frontage. It was agreed this area would be added to this working group.

11. **Recreation Field developments:** It was resolved to appoint the following members to the working group Cllr Dr Allen, Cllr Ford, Cllr Mrs Wilson, Cllr Mrs Gwilym, Cllr Saffin, Cllr Mrs Kristen, Cllr Mrs Peek, co-opted members are Mrs K Hawbrook and Mr N Byatt, this was proposed by Cllr Ford, seconded by Cllr Mrs Wilson and all were in favour. Other village groups are to be approached.

**ACTION: Clerk**

12. **Recreation field and related issues:** Further observations on both leases have been sent to LCC. Comments have been received from the LCC solicitor. A further Forward Planning Meeting will be arranged, before the documents are sent to MPC solicitor. MPC are still concerned that LCC are adamant that the SPF legislation s77 must be included in the lease, MPC fully believe that this is not relevant as the field is not a school playing field, but a community field. All members were in agreement that the fence to the east side of the Star and Garter field should be erected asap, to ensure the safety of the school children.

**ACTION: Working Group/Clerk**

13. **Grass Cutting:** Cllr Money stated that HHW currently cut the grass for NKDC. Clerk to provide maps. Cllrs Money and Kendrick to obtain costing details from NKDC.

**ACTION: Clerk/Cllr Kendrick/Cllr Money**

*It was resolved to suspend the meeting at 8.35pm for a short refreshment break, this was proposed by Cllr Ford, seconded by Cllr Reynolds and all were in favour.*

*Cllr Mrs Bradwell, Cllr Kendrick and Cllr Money left the meeting at 8.40pm  
The meeting resumed at 8.55pm.*

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

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> October 2012

14. **Skate Board Park/BMX Track:** Funding application has been submitted, but they require further evidence of support for the project. Nick Byatt has been obtaining signatures from parishioners.  
**ACTION: Working Group**
15. **Annual Village Meeting 2013:** Cllr Haisman proposed that the AVM should revert to the original format. The event has been successful and it was agreed something similar should be organized. Any suggestions are to be given to the Clerk asap.  
**ACTION: Clerk/Cllr Haisman**
16. **Village Hall:**  
a) Legal advice has been sought from the MPC solicitor, in relation to trustees and the charity commission. Cllr Ford, Cllr Mrs Finegan and the Clerk have met with Jenny Wolvers, to establish how the accounts are being managed. MPC should progress this and move forward legally.  
b) A temporary executive committee is to be formed, it was resolved members are Cllr Dr Allen, Cllr Mrs Finegan, Cllr Ford and Ms Wetherall, this was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Haisman and all were in favour.  
**ACTION: Members/Clerk**
17. **Dispersal Order:** Following a short discussion it was resolved a dispersal order will be requested for the conservation area of the village, this was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Reynolds, one abstention (Cllr Mrs Finegan) and eight were in favour.  
**ACTION: Working Group**
18. **Metheringham Swimming Pool:**  
a) It was resolved the existing fence should be repaired where necessary, treated with anti climb paint and appropriate signage erected, this was proposed by Cllr Ford, seconded by Cllr Mrs Wilson and all were in favour.  
b) It was agreed a new gated entrance from the playing field and suitable DDA footpath should be installed during the closed season, quotations are to be obtained, this will be added to the next agenda for consideration.  
c) Members were in agreement that a storage area would be useful. Letters are to be sent to the neighbors explaining MPC's plans. Quotations are to be obtained, this will also be added to the agenda for consideration.
19. **Date, time and venue of next meeting:** Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2012 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.
20. **Public bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Exclusion of the Press and the Public:** It was resolved that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and the Public be excluded from the Meeting. Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Saffin and all were in favour.

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

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> October 2012

21. **To co-opt a new member to the Parish Council:** It was resolved voting should be by signed ballot, the Chairman proposed, Cllr Ford seconded and all were in favour.

Members considered the applicants Mrs D Hardy and Mr P Lincoln. Following a short discussion voting for the vacancy was by signed ballot, it was resolved by a majority vote that Mr P Lincoln be co-opted to the council, this was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Haisman and all were in favour.

**ACTION: Clerk**

22. **Fayre and Feast:** It was agreed a letter should be sent regarding issues relating to the constitution of the Fayre and Feast working group, as a meeting has not been possible.

**ACTION: Clerk**

***The meeting closed at 10.22pm.***

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

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> October 2012