

SCOTTER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on 23rd July 2007

PRESENT: Councillor A Sheardown (Chairman), Councillors M. Armstrong, M. Brown, J. Bullivent, D. Capes, C. Day, J. Fillingham and S. Rayner, District Councillor W. Parry, M. Brown (Clerk), 2 members of the public.

The meeting was preceded by a 10 minute public open forum, attended by two members of the public whose home was flooded during the events of 25th/26th June 2007. Whilst thanking the Flood Warden for his hard work and assistance during the crisis, they raised a large number of issues associated with the flooding, including the lack of communication from the responsible agencies (none of whom seemed to take any responsibility or control), problems with a jammed sluice gate, inadequate control of sightseers' car parking and behaviour and also questioned the arrangements for dredging the Eau, the state of the riverbanks beyond the Messingham Road bridge and whether suitable enhancements had been made to the drainage systems to cope with the significant increase in housing seen in the village over recent years. The Flood Warden, Councillor Bullivent, supported the views of the parishioners and gave further evidence as to the lack of communication and control (particularly from the Environment Agency) and lack of maintenance of key flood defence mechanisms.

The Chairman thanked the parishioners for their comments and explained that the Council's approach to the responsible agencies was included as an agenda item at the meeting and that they were welcome to remain to hear this debate. The Clerk further explained that West Lindsey District Council is planning a Local Enquiry into the flooding, with its letter stating that it is acutely aware that there are things that WLDC, working with its partners, could have done better. It is keen to understand the experiences of its communities and to learn important lessons for the future. To this end, it will be sending out a survey form in the next few weeks to every household in the district to provide an opportunity for them to share individual and collective experiences. This evidence will then be analysed to identify those questions that will need to be answered by the Local Enquiry. The Chairman confirmed that the Council would be represented at the local Enquiry and asked the parishioners to encourage their affected neighbours to complete the form. At this point, the open forum was terminated and the meeting commenced at 7.43pm, with the parishioners remaining until the completion of the agenda item related to the flood.

74 2007/08 : To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Allen and Billam. Proposed by Councillor Fillingham, seconded by Councillor Bullivent and agreed, it was :

RESOLVED : To accept and approve the apologies from Councillors Allen and Billam. It was also noted that Councillor Day had apologised that he would be a few minutes late. Councillor Day arrived at 7.50pm.

75 2007/08 : To Select and Appoint a Vice-Chairman

Proposed by Councillor Fillingham, seconded by Councillor Rayner and all present agreed, it was :
RESOLVED : To elect Councillor Capes as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council. Councillor Capes duly signed a declaration of acceptance of this office.

76 2007/08 : To receive declarations of interest

Councillor Day declared an interest in relation to minute ref. 80 2007/08 and 93 2007/08 and declared that he would abstain from voting on these items. He also declared a prejudicial interest in relation to minute ref. 81 2007/08 and left the room during this discussion.

Initialled Chairman

77 2007/08 : To approve the notes of the Council Meeting held on 18th June 2007 as the Minutes of that meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Fillingham, seconded by Councillor Bullivent and agreed, it was :
RESOLVED : To approve the notes of the Council Meeting held on 18th June 2007 (as amended for an error on Page 1) as the Minutes of that meeting. These were signed by the Chairman.

78 2007/08 : To consider whether to continue in membership of the Association of Burial Authorities

The Clerk reported on her investigation into the options for membership of burial associations. The current membership of the Association of Burial Authorities expires at the end of November 2007 with a current annual subscription of £54. The alternative option is that the Council becomes a member of the Institute of Cemetery & Cremation Management (ICCM), which has developed a corporate arm to specifically work for burial and cremation authorities. The Confederation of Burial Authorities (CBA) has now voted to merge into the ICCM's corporate arm. The Council can join for a current annual fee of £65, which includes a quarterly copy of The Journal, its informative magazine, a free copy of which the Clerk has obtained for the Council to consider. The Clerk further explained the potential benefits of membership of this body. It was agreed that the Clerk should circulate details of the alternative option for a decision to be made at the October Council meeting.

79 2007/08 : To consider what actions may be taken by the Council in light of the recent flood

Considering the discussion that had occurred during the Open Forum, the Chairman opened the debate by stating that the Council would be represented at the WLDC Local Enquiry but the latter is unlikely to be held for some weeks and there is more bad weather forecast in the short term. In consequence, he proposed that letters be sent to responsible agencies now outlining the Council's disappointment with their performance and raising the issues that they need to address quickly to avoid a recurrence of the flooding and/or to manage the crisis in an efficient and proper manner. Following some discussion, it was agreed that letters be sent to :

1. **The Environment Agency** – Issues : lack of communication with Flood Warden, lack of communication with households signed up to Flood Warnings Direct, inadequate help lines, inadequate maintenance of sluice gates where River Eau meets the River Trent at Susworth, the maintenance/strengthening of the river banks beyond the Messingham Road bridge.
2. **LCC** – Issues : maintenance of storm drains and their suitability to meet the requirements considering the increased size of the village.
3. **Lincolnshire Police**. To be commended for their actions in relieving the water on Gravel Pit Road and for their assistance to householders on Lindholme. Issues : the control of the parking (and behaviour) of sightseers during the flood.
4. **WLDC**. To confirm the number of flooded properties (believed to be 28 - the Flood Warden to confirm the number to the Clerk). Issues : lack of communication, inadequate help lines. In its capacity of coordinating the Local Enquiry, WLDC also to receive copies of the letters the Council is sending to the other agencies.

Councillor Parry reported that Councillor Underwood-Frost had attended Scotter during the evening of 25th June 2007 and had assisted in the delivery of sand bags. He had suggested that there should be a central repository of such bags and nominated people to deliver them to homes in need. However, the Flood Warden pointed out that sand bags were of no use in this situation with Councillor Day concurring, as a parishioner had reported to him that he had placed sandbags at every entrance to his house so the water came in through the air bricks and up through the flooring. In consequence, it was agreed that there was no benefit in having a central repository for sand bags.

80 2007/08 : To approve the acquisition of two parcels of land off High Street from Beal Developments Limited and to delegate authorities for the signature of the contract and signature of the subsequent land transfer

Initialled Chairman

The Council considered the recommendations received from its legal advisor in relation to the draft contract for this acquisition. Proposed by Councillor Rayner, seconded by Councillor Brown and agreed (with the exception of Councillor Day who abstained), it was :

RESOLVED : That the Council should acquire from Beal Developments Limited two parcels of land off High Street, Scotter, in accordance with the draft contract examined, signature of the contract being delegated to the Clerk as Proper Officer. The signature of the subsequent deed of transfer of the land to be delegated to the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council, the document being in a form prior approved by the Council's legal advisor.

Councillor Day then left the meeting room prior to the next agenda item.

81 2007/08 : To approve action taken by the Clerk under delegated powers in relation to a mole infestation and bunker clearance at the cemetery

The Clerk explained that, during the period, the Village Person had informed her of moles being active in the cemetery and creating mole hills close to memorials in the south eastern quadrant. The Clerk inspected the site and was concerned that the mole hills could result in a risk to public safety so instructed the Council's pest control contractor to deal with the problem. The Clerk took the opportunity to ask the contractor to check the rat bait stations at Riverside once the flood waters receded to see if any remedial action was required in relation to these. On visiting the cemetery, the Clerk further noticed that the bunker was full as a result of the recent hedge cutting exercise at the cemetery and further instructed the Council's clearance contractor to clear this bunker. Invoices are awaited from both contractors. Proposed by Councillor Armstrong, seconded by Councillor Brown and all present agreed, it was :

RESOLVED : That the Council approves the emergency actions taken by the Clerk.

Councillor Day then returned to the meeting.

82 2007/08 : To agree what action to take on maturity of the Guaranteed Investment Bond

The Clerk reminded the Council that it had invested £25k for a period of 3 months in a Guaranteed Investment Bond to maximise interest, with the bond maturing on 26th July 2007. Options are to re-invest the sum (plus its interest) for a further three months or transfer it to its deposit account. If the money were to remain in the bond, it will generate gross interest at 5%, compared with the deposit account rate of 2.656%. The Clerk explained that, following payment of the invoices listed for approval at this meeting, the deposit account will stand at c. £13k and this should be sufficient to cover payments to be made during the three months. However, should the Council need to obtain the money from the bond, this can be accommodated with the loss of 30 days' interest. Proposed by Councillor Capes, seconded by Councillor Rayner and agreed, it was :

RESOLVED : To reinvest the capital and interest in a new 3 month Guaranteed Investment Bond.

83 2007/08 : To consider the granting of wayleave consent for YEDL to maintain its electricity network on land owned by the Council at the cemetery/allotments

The Clerk explained that YEDL, as part of its ongoing programme of maintaining its network, is proposing to rebuild the existing overhead lines in the Scotter area, including work in the cemetery/allotments. Effectively, it plans to remove the poles and stays from the cemetery driveway and replace the overhead lines with underground lines. It then plans to add a double pole and two stays close to the substation and to add a stay to the existing pole on the allotment boundary with Astley Crescent, with new overhead lines running between these. The proposed annual wayleave for this equipment is £77.22. Councillor Capes commented that the proposed line of the new underground cable would put it in the path of the beech tree and suggested that, if the wayleave consent form were to be signed, an accompanying letter should ask YEDL to do all in its power to mitigate damage to the roots of this tree. Proposed by Councillor Rayner, seconded by Councillor Brown and agreed, it was :

RESOLVED : To approve the granting of the wayleave to YEDL, subject to the requirement to mitigate damage to the roots of the beech tree, with the wayleave to be signed by the Chairman and witnessed by the Vice Chairman.

To facilitate the identification of damage caused by YEDL during the process for rectification at their cost, Councillor Rayner suggested that condition survey photographs should be taken prior to the work commencing and Councillor Brown will attend to this.

84 2007/08 : To consider how the Council should deal with issues raised during the Annual Parish Meeting

The Clerk reminded the Council that further issues raised at the APM for discussion at a Council meeting included the prevalence of litter and dog fouling and a request for more attractive village signage. In relation to litter, it was agreed that the Chairman should include comments about litter in the next Chairman's Report to the Eau Valley Advertiser, seeking volunteers to take part in a village clean-up initiative. Councillor Day also suggested that the Clerk should obtain details from WLDC as to the duties of its litter gang that attends the village on Tuesdays to see if there would be any scope in directing their work to needy areas. The Clerk will attend to this. In relation to village signage, it was further agreed that the Clerk should investigate and price up signage options in readiness for the precept meeting in December. Prices for 6 signs will be required.

85 2007/08 : To receive a report from the Cemetery & Allotments Working Group on its recent safety inspection of the cemetery.

Members of the working group had visited the cemetery on 22nd and 23rd July 2007. As a result of the torrential rains in recent weeks, a large number of graves are showing signs of subsidence. Whilst the subsidence in many is fairly slight (only a few inches), a small number have slumped by more than a foot and are a significant danger to safety. These need to be attended to immediately. In consequence, proposed by Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Rayner and agreed, it was : **RESOLVED : That the Village Person be instructed to fill with top soil on Tuesday 24th July 2007 those graves that present a significant risk to safety.**

These can be seeded with grass at the appropriate time. The Council then went on to discuss the rest of the subsided graves which, whilst not a significant risk to safety, impede maintenance activities and (with more rain forecast and the ground still very wet) may subside still further if not quickly attended to. With this coming at a time when the Village Person is already stretched due to the rate of grass growth, it was further suggested by Councillor Brown that the Council's emergency contractor be employed to fill these graves, supplying additional top soil as required, up to a maximum spend of £750, beyond which the matter would be discussed again at full Council. At this point, Councillor Day declared a prejudicial interest and left the room. After further discussion, proposed by Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Rayner and agreed by all present, it was : **RESOLVED : To instruct the Council's emergency contractor to supply top soil as required and to fill all subsided graves in Scotter cemetery in the earliest possible timescale up to a maximum spend of £750 excluding VAT.**

Councillor Day then returned to the meeting. Considering the ground conditions and weather forecast, it was also agreed that the working group will monitor the situation at least fortnightly.

86 2007/08 : To receive the Clerk's Report

The Council noted the following report presented by the Clerk :

75a 2004/05 & 47 2007/08: Public open space adoption and maintenance

Having obtained the views of Councillors Capes and Day, the Clerk wrote to Stamford Homes to accept their offer to install a number of concrete marker posts to delineate the boundary alongside the public footpath. Considering the very overgrown state of the current public open spaces within the development, she also asked for confirmation of their plans to manage and maintain these until their formal adoption by the Council, reminding Stamford Homes that the Council would not be prepared to accept the land in a poorly maintained condition. A response is awaited. The Council's

Initialed Chairman

legal advisor has now confirmed that Stamford Homes' solicitors have finally received instructions to proceed with a contract for this land and will supply the legal advisor with a draft contract in the near future.

The Clerk has written yet again to Mr Dickinson, WLDC Planning, regarding the outstanding conditions relating to the public open spaces at Waggoners Close and Site B, The Rookery, and raising the concerns voiced by the developer and residents of Site A, The Rookery, in regard to the fencing at the latter. A response is awaited. In the interim, the Clerk received a telephone call at home from a resident of Site B, The Rookery, on the morning of her return from holiday. The resident had been given the Clerk's home phone number by a member of the WLDC Planning team and was raising her concerns about the very poor state of the Site B open spaces, having been informed by WLDC that they were the responsibility of the Parish Council. The Clerk explained the current situation to the resident and asked her to raise the matter with Mr Dickinson directly. With the lack of any response from Mr Dickinson over such an extended period, the Chairman asked Councillor Parry for his assistance and it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Chief Executive of WLDC to raise the Council's concern about the very poor service.

Having obtained the views of Councillors Capes and Day on the planting proposals, the Clerk also wrote to the developer responsible for the public open space at Site A, The Rookery, suggesting changes to the planting schedule. The letter confirmed that the Council has no responsibility in relation to the Site B open space and suggested that the developer and any concerned resident should raise their concerns directly with Mr Dickinson. A response is awaited, together with a firm and increased offer of a viable financial settlement for the Council to take on the ownership of and responsibility for this space.

173 2006/07 : Title deeds for Council-owned land

There is nothing further to report at this time.

189c 2006/07 : Signposting to new roads off Elizabeth Close

The Clerk chased Mr Radley, WLDC, for a formal response in relation to this matter and in relation to various street signage problems. A response is awaited.

12b 2007/08 : Affordable housing status

The Senior Rural Housing Enabler for the district met with Mr Northcote at WLDC on 8th June 2007 to discuss the Council's letter to him (of 30th March 2007) querying the status of some of the recently erected affordable properties in Scotter and to explain that he had failed to receive any response from Mr Dickinson on the matter, despite promises to the contrary. In consequence, Mr Northcote arranged for a further meeting between the Housing Enabler and a different member of the Planning team to discuss the matter. This meeting took place on 3rd July 2007, with the officer promising to take up the issues personally and respond swiftly. The Housing Enabler will contact the Council again when this response has been received.

6 2007/08 : Notice board for Scotter cemetery.

The notice board was received on 20th June 2007 and collected by the Council's term contractor for delivery to the cemetery, where it will be erected when time and ground conditions permit. It was inspected for damage on the day of delivery by Councillor Day and the Clerk and all was found to be in good order. Payment was then effected and a receipt of payment received. This was forwarded to WLDC in good time for release of the grant of £765 which was duly received and sent to the bank on 16th July 2007. The Clerk added this notice board and the other two notice boards to the Council's insurance policy with effect from 27th June 2007. Allianz Cornhill has confirmed that it will make no additional charge this year. However, for a total cover of £2600 for the three notice boards, the premium for 2008/09 is likely to increase by c. £34 plus IPT.

Initialed Chairman

17a 2007/08 : Felling of trees on Sands Lane

The Clerk chased Mr Darley (LCC Highways) for a response to the Council's letter asking for details of the assessment carried out by a tree expert proving that the damage had been caused by tree roots and requesting the replacement of the trees by fastigiate columnar varieties of oak and beech. A response was received from Mr Darley's manager, Mr Wiles, and was circulated to Councillors for information. The Clerk explained that a telephone message had been left by LCC on 20th July 2007, offering to plant two replacement trees. She will follow this up.

40b 2007/08 : Grass cutting

The Clerk wrote to Serviceteam to delay the second cut to the end of July 2007 and to remind it that it has yet to supply written confirmation that it strictly adheres to the requirements of LCC's SWP when working in the parish. A response has been received, confirming that the revised date will be accommodated and that the company will abide by the safe working procedure.

53 2007/08 : The Council's Financial Regulations

The Clerk has updated the Council's Financial Regulations in line with the resolution passed at the June Council meeting and posted the revised version on the website. In line with the Risk Management Policy, the new notice board has been added to the insurance policy. The Cemetery & Allotments Working Group will consider the security of the garage at its next meeting. In the interim period, the Clerk has instructed the Village Person to remove the spare keys to the equipment from the garage.

54 2007/08 : The future organisation and administration of Parish Assemblies.

The Clerk has written to WLDC, giving the Council's organisational preferences and views on topics to be covered at future Parish Assemblies.

56 2007/08 : The revised Code of Conduct

The Clerk has informed the Standards Board for England that the Council adopted the revised Code of Conduct, unamended, at its June meeting. She has also made the necessary changes to the Standing Orders to allow for this (and the review of the Financial Regulations) and posted these on the website. The public forum prior to the start of meetings has been instituted for this meeting.

57 2007/08 : A request from a parishioner in relation to the private road on Riverside

The Clerk has responded to the parishioners who had raised this issue to outline the County Council's position in relation to this private road, confirming that it does not meet the necessary criteria to allow it to be adopted.

58 2007/08 : Annual Riverside Service, 15th July 2007

The Clerk responded to Rev. Gregg, confirming the Council's permission for the churches to use Riverside for the annual service, subject to them having obtained the appropriate event insurance. Rev. Gregg has since responded, thanking the Council for its permission and confirming that the relevant public liability insurances will be in place for the event, arranged through the insurance policy of the Methodist Chapel.

63 2007/08 : Proposed street name of Granary Fold for the street serving the phase 2 development off The Granary.

The Clerk wrote to WLDC to confirm the Council's acceptance of the name of Granary Fold proposed by Beal Homes for the second phase of this development.

66c 2007/08 : Community Amateur Sports Club Scheme

Details of the scheme were included in the latest circulation to Councillors. It has been suggested that the Clerk should send a copy of this document to all of the local sports clubs with the exception of SJFC which is already aware of the scheme. The Clerk will attend to this.

66kk 2007/08 : LALC Training Courses

Information on available training courses from LALC was included in the latest circulation to Councillors. One of the courses available is a Burials Seminar on Tuesday 13th November 2007 (7pm to 9pm) at Sudbrooke Village Hall to cover changes in legislation in relation to burials/burial grounds, good practice in terms of maintenance and how to deal with sensitive issues. The cost is £5. Proposed by Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Rayner and agreed, it was :

RESOLVED : That Councillor Capes attend the Burials Seminar on behalf of the Council.

70a 2007/08 : Overhanging trees, Messingham Road

The Clerk spoke to the Tree Warden in relation to this issue of tree branches overhanging the public footpath and hindering passage. As the Tree Warden was unable to assist in this instance and as the trees in question belong to LCC Highways, the Clerk wrote to Mr Darley to ask that the County Council prune these trees sympathetically to 2.5 metres, to maintain the pleasing aspect that the trees lend to the road. He has since responded to confirm that he has instructed his contractors accordingly.

87 2007/08 : To receive new correspondence not already included above

The Chairman explained that the following are for the attention of Councillors and (where appropriate) will be circulated after the meeting. If the need arises to take action on any piece of circulated correspondence, it will become an agenda item at a future Council meeting.

87a WLDC informing the Council that it is holding a series of training/awareness seminars on the revised Code of Conduct during late August/September 2007. It also encloses a form on which a Member is to notify receipt of a gift or hospitality over the value of £25, registration of which must be made within 28 days. For circulation.

87b LCC introducing the 2007 Free Trees for Parishes scheme. 25 small trees or 250 hedge plants or 5 large trees or a pro-rata mix of the foregoing is on offer, with a list of available plants/trees provided. Applications are to be received by end September 2007, with plants to be collected during January 2008. In relation to this item, the Clerk explained that she had received an approach from Mr Long who is keen to undertake some Tree Warden duties. It was agreed that Councillor Capes will discuss the Free Trees scheme with Mr Long with a view to the latter identifying suitable locations for trees and hedging. Councillor Brown reminded Councillor Capes of available trees at Scotterthorpe allotments for re-planting within the parish.

87c WLDC, informing the Council that it is about to consult on its Licensing Policy.

87d Notification of the 8 villages in Scotter's class (total class size of 18 villages) that will go through to the second round of the Best Kept Village Competition 2007. Scotter is not amongst them. For circulation.

87e CPRE, enclosing its Countryside Voice newsletter, annual raffle tickets, a copy of its Lincolnshire Branch Annual Report 2006/07 and an e-mail regarding its new Regional Group website. For circulation.

87f WLDC informing the Council that it has published its Best Value Performance Plan 2007/08. Copies are available in libraries within the district and can be viewed on the WLDC website.

87g LCC, providing a report on visitor numbers to the Council's website during June 2007. For circulation.

87h Anglian Water, providing a copy of its Drinking Water Summary Report, 2006, and its "Keeping Water Healthy" leaflet. For circulation.

Initialed Chairman

87i LALC, enclosing its LCR newspaper, July 2007. For circulation.

87j Clerks & Councils Direct newspaper, July 2007. For circulation.

The following items of correspondence were noted by the Council and will be filed by the Clerk :

87k WLDC, giving notice of meetings of the Council (16th July 2007) and the Standards Committee (4th July 2007) and providing minutes of committee meetings published since 18th June 2007.

87l Various promotional literature from Parkers Bulbs, SMP Playgrounds and Glasdon.

88a 2007/08 : To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings published since the last Council meeting and adopt the recommendations contained therein

The Council considered the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 18th June 2007 and 2nd July 2007. Proposed by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Bullivent and agreed, it was :

RESOLVED : That the Council concurs with the actions taken by the Planning Committee and adopts the minutes of the Committee meetings held on 18th June 2007 and 2nd July 2007.

88b 2007/08 : To note the receipt of results from the planning authority

The Council noted the following results received from the planning authority :

M06/P/1274 6 Lark Rise, Scotter – a planning application to erect a single storey extension.

Granted

120062 Land adj. to Sewerage Works, Scotter Road, Scotton – a planning application to erect a barn for storing tractor, hay, straw and grass fertiliser.

Granted

120367 Plot 9 Waggoners Close, Scotter – a planning application to erect a dwelling with attached garage.

Withdrawn

120372 2 Westcliffe Road, Scotter – a retrospective planning application to erect an extension and alterations.

Granted

120403 6 Riverside, Scotter – a planning application to alter and extend together with replacement garage.

Granted

89 2007/08 : To note income received during June 2007 and to approve the cash book as at the end of June and its reconciliation to the bank statements

The Council noted the following income received during June 2007.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYER</u>	<u>DETAILS</u>	<u>RECEIPTS</u>
01.06.07	Cliff Bradley & Sons	Interment of cremated remains of M. Smith (AD54)	25.00
01.06.07	R. Wallace & Son	Erection of memorial to M.L. Kidney (AD36)	80.00
05.06.07	Co-op Bank	Interest - Current account	1.31
11.06.07	Barningham Memorials	Additional inscription to L.P. Cave (BB26)	25.00
11.06.07	Barningham Memorials	Erection of memorial to S.J. Woodward (BF64)	80.00
11.06.07	YEDL	Wayleaves/rentals	1.50
28.06.07	H.M. Revenue & Customs	VAT repayment	277.13
TOTAL RECEIPTS			489.94

It then examined the cashbook as at end of June 2007. The Clerk explained that the bank statements as at the end of June had not been received from the Co-op Bank, the latter blaming the postal strike. Copies have been requested and are awaited. In the meantime, the Clerk has conducted a reconciliation of the cash book to the bank balances at the end of June, having obtained details of the latter by phone. Whilst these balanced, it was agreed that the cash book should not be signed until the formal bank statements have been received.

Initialed Chairman

90 2007/08 : To approve payments to be made

The Council examined the accounts to be paid for supplies and services received since the last meeting. Proposed by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Armstrong and agreed, it was :

RESOLVED : That, in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act, 1972, the Council will incur expenditure on a skip service which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the inhabitants of the Parish and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure. Also, that the following payments should be approved.

<u>CHEQUE</u>			<u>NET</u>		<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>NO.</u>	<u>TO WHOM PAID</u>	<u>PARTICULARS OF PAYMENT</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>PAYMENTS</u>
Direct Debit	Tiscali	Broadband/phone calls, May '07.	23.17	4.05	27.22
401747	H.M. Customs & Revenue	PAYE & NI, Month 3	423.66	-	423.66
401748	Mrs M. Brown	Wages	491.78	-	
		Mileage	6.00	-	
		Postage	3.36	-	501.14
401749	Mr. J. Lyon	Wages	626.64	-	626.64
401750	Thompson Waste Mgt	Skip service - Franklin Rd (07/06)	160.50	28.09	
		Skip service - Mill Crescent (21/06)	151.00	26.43	
		Skip service - Charles Ave. (28/06)	243.00	42.53	651.55
401751	Spencer's Garage	Fuel	115.86	20.27	136.13
401752	G.I.D.B	Drainage Rate(Assessment No. 76)	2.16	-	
		Drainage Rate(Assessment No. 77)	1.35	-	3.51
Direct Debit.	BT	Line rental, 3 months from 1st July	39.65	6.93	46.58
TOTAL PROPOSED PAYMENTS			2,288.13	128.30	2,416.43

91 2007/08 : To take any points from members, identify items for the next agenda and to note urgent items of interest.

91a Councillor Armstrong reported that potholes have reappeared on Butterwick Road, Susworth. The Clerk will report these to LCC Highways.

91b Councillor Capes reported that he had received complaints about flyposting within the village. The majority of the posters complained about have been posted by the Eau Community Centre, with the sheer quantity of posters and some inadequate fixing adding to the village's litter problem. Whilst appreciating that excessive posting was an issue, Councillor Day commended the Eau Community Centre for its pro-activity in generating activities for the young to take part in during the school holiday period and suggested that, if a letter of complaint were to be issued, this should be sensitive to the Centre Committee's objective of providing services to the community. The Council agreed with this view. In consequence, the Clerk will write to the Centre's Committee to commend it for the services it is seeking to provide but to ask it to have a more focussed approach to advertising its events.

91c Councillor Capes reported that, in his capacity as Tree Warden, he is in discussions with WLDC in relation to obtaining a preservation order for the tree on the south side of Scotter library.

92 2007/08 : To resolve whether, in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press should be temporarily excluded from the meeting due to the commercially sensitive nature of the following business.

Proposed by Councillor Rayner, seconded by Councillor Fillingham and agreed, it was :

RESOLVED : That, in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press should be temporarily excluded from the meeting due to the sensitive nature of the following item of business.

With the public and press excluded :

Initialed Chairman

93 2007/08 : To consider recent correspondence in relation to the Council's land holdings

The Council considered the paper provided by the Clerk, with attached correspondence from the Council's legal advisor and land valuer, in relation to Goosemoor and Constable land. Proposed by Councillor Fillingham, seconded by Councillor Rayner and agreed by all (with the exception of Councillor Day who abstained), it was :

RESOLVED : That the Council deny the request that it should consider the sale of its land holdings at Goosemoor.

The Clerk will write to the interested party to inform them of the Council's decision. In light of the land valuations received, the Clerk will also examine the agreements for the rental of Goosemoor and Constable lands to identify the mechanism for movements in rents payable and will report on this at the September Council meeting.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Clerk:

Chairman:

Date: