

SWATON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, September 15th, 2015 at 7.45pm in the Community Hut, Swaton.

PRESENT: Cllrs A Deptford, (Chairman), C Richardson, Mrs E Penketh, A Wilson, and the Clerk, Mrs S McIntyre.

One member of the public was present.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Cllr A Dunlop. His apology and reason was accepted.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS.** Block exemption granted by the Clerk for matters in connection with the Swaton Play area.
3. **SIGNING OF THE MINUTES** - Clerks' Notes from the meeting of July 21st, 2015, – accepting as Minutes. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Penketh, and seconded by Cllr Wilson that these be accepted as Minutes.
All agreed, the Resolution was passed, the Chairman signed the Minutes.
4. **COUNTY/DISTRICT/POLICE MATTERS.** D/Cllr K Cook had presented her apologies. There were no reports.
5. **PLAY AREA UPDATE.** Block Dispensation.
 - Removal of broken equipment. Cllr Wilson confirmed this had been removed and where appropriate, sold, raising just under £135.00.
 - Cllr Mrs Penketh updated the council on enquiries and progress re grant application(s). She has had advice from the Grants Officer at LCC, about grant providers, information required and public consultations.Cllr Wilson is looking at costs, designs and layouts. They will continue to work together to produce a report for the next meeting - or call an earlier meeting if needed.
There was discussion about starting work on the entrance and looking at possible tree work. Mrs Harborow and Cllr Dunlop may have information about tree work.
6. **FLOODING ISSUES.** Various e mails had been circulated between meetings. The Chairman reported that the hole in the road towards the A52 is causing concern and could be dangerous - it has been reported again to the LCC.
Cllr Richardson reported that a recent meeting provided very little fresh information. It was mainly about the pumps at Boston and their possible closure and implications.
7. **NEWSLETTER.** Cllr Mrs Penketh said that outside printing costs seemed expensive and she was looking at various options either for colour or black and white printing.
8.14pm meeting closed to allow a member of the public to speak.
8.17pm meeting re-opened. Further enquiries will be made re printing costs.
8. **BENCHES.** Various enquires had been made. Costs of benches with backs had been obtained, and the purchase of 2, with delivery, would be £370. The Chairman successfully obtained a grant for that amount from the Big Society Fund. LCC permission to place the benches has been obtained, but further permissions from the utility companies is needed.

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It was proposed by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr Richardson that the 2 benches be purchased. Further enquiries will be made about the locations and permissions from the utility companies. All agreed, the resolution was passed.

9. **SPEEDING ISSUES.** Update on liaison with various agencies between meetings. Cllr Mrs Penketh has liaised with the LRSP and there will be an official speeding survey in October - both directions - for speed and numbers. LCC will look at the results from this and make an assessment. Mrs Penketh spoke about community volunteers operating a speed gun and she has also met with Mr Ford from Leasingham. Some signs can be provided for the village, where to place them throughout the village was discussed.

10. **FINANCE –**

- Monthly report from RFO. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Penketh and seconded by Cllr Wilson, that the report be accepted. All agreed, the resolution was passed.
- Audit 2014/15. Now signed off by external auditor, and the appropriate notices have been published. Councillors to note the external auditor's comments at Section 3 of the document - this was circulated. The Chairman said it contained some advice on how to record 'Trust Funds' for the future.
- Signing of Cheques and approval of BACS payments.
The following additional BACS payments were proposed by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr Richardson and resolved.

Mrs S McIntyre	Expenses July/August	£33.00
Continental Landscapes	2x grass cuts	£206.49

11. **CLERK'S REPORT AND UPDATES.**

- **Local Plan Engagement** – Briefing sessions. Chairman and Clerk to attend Sept 29th 6pm. Posters will be sent out by NKDC in due course.
- **Re-accreditation for Foundation Status** – report and e mail had been circulated. It was agreed that currently there were no real direct benefits from having such an award and no re-accreditation would be sought at this time. The Chairman explained the amount of work involved and thanked the Clerk for this. The Clerk said she would gradually work through the requirements for a Quality award and ensure all was in place should there be any direct benefits in the future.
- **Press release from LCF.** Lincs Community Foundation now managing Comic Relief Funding.
- **NKDC 'Tell Us' Campaign.** Posters received for display in the village.

12. **TRAINING.**

- Planning/Neighbourhood plans – Wed Sept 30th: EP and AW. It was generally felt that the available training for the Councillors and the Clerk was useful and membership of the annual training scheme had been beneficial.

13. **PLANNING:**

- Planning Portal, including Plain English Guide – details and link circulated.
- 15/0956/HOUS. Erection of 2 storey side extension, Eau Farm Cottage, Main Street. The Council agreed that 'No Objections' be returned to NKDC.

14. **LALC.**

- County News no 150 circulated.
- Note the sudden death of the former Chief Exec of LALC – Clerk sent a card.

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15. **URGENT MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION.** Any urgent matters which have occurred after the agenda was published – these can be discussed but no resolution can be made.
The situation about some overhanging hedges was noted.

Next Meeting - Location of benches.

16. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday November 17th, 2015.**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.50pm.