



## SWATON PARISH COUNCIL

### **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, September 20th, 2016 at 7.45pm in the Community Hut, Swaton.**

**PUBLIC FORUM, 7.30pm.** Three members of the public were present:

- Footpaths – a sign on the roadside pointing across a field has been knocked down and is behind a hedge. A sign between 2 fields is also down. Access into a path down Peppers lane is blocked by overgrown nettles on the verge. Cllr Dunlop said he would contact LCH.
- Footpath alongside High Street – on the east side at the north end is now only inches wide. It is slippery and dangerous. Grass cuttings have been pushed under the bench. Cllr Dunlop will contact LCH.
- Speeding signs – could the Village Fund be used? Village fund has been earmarked for the play park.

From last meeting – the damaged tree has been sorted. The bus shelter roof has been repaired – the Clerk to write thanking the resident.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.45pm.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs A Deptford, (Chairman), A Dunlop, Mrs E Penketh, A Wilson, the Clerk, Mrs S McIntyre and D/Cllr K Cook.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** There were none.
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 meetings of July 19<sup>th</sup>. Cllr Wilson proposed and Cllr Mrs Penketh seconded that these be approved as a true record. All agreed, the Resolution was passed, the Chairman signed the Minutes.
4. **COUNTY/DISTRICT/POLICE MATTERS.** No County or Police representatives were present. D/Cllr Mrs Cook reported from a recent Environment Overview and Scrutiny panel – for flooding the lead authority is now LCC not NKDC. She asked about the Emergency Plan – the Chairman said it was in its final stages. The Central Lincs Local Plan has been delayed and it looks like adoption is set for March 2017.  
7.51pm the meeting was closed for the public to speak about fly tipping.  
7.52pm the meeting re-opened. Cllr Mrs Cook will report areas of fly tipping.  
A digital hub is still being planned, a suitable venue is needed.  
She spoke about the NKDC Well Being initiative which is still being operated.
5. **PLAY AREA UPDATE.** Block Dispensation. The Chairman said he was disappointed that there seemed to be slow progress and hoped there would be a decision from this meeting. He also asked why a suggested committee had not been formed.  
Cllr Wilson had circulated a document of proposals and he explained some of the detail in these.  
Cllr Mrs Penketh explained her enquiries about possible grants. The Lincs Community Foundation is assisting with 2 possible sources.  
8.01pm The meeting was closed to allow members of the public to ask questions.

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8.05pm the meeting re-opened. The Chairman confirmed that just under £14,000 was available at the moment. In addition to providing play equipment, Cllr Wilson reminded the meeting that root protection was also required and the cost would be just under £800.

There was discussion about the 4 quotes provided and also about the next phase once this was complete.

The Chairman proposed and Cllr Dunlop seconded that Option 3 from Play-Ground Supplies should be accepted, but a lower price should be negotiated – and also for the root protection. Work should then commence as soon as possible. All agreed, the Resolution was passed. Cllr Wilson and the Chairman will progress this. Equipment : Double swing; Seesaw and 20m zip wire plus safety flooring. If a lower price can be agreed, then invoices to be agreed and paid as appropriate.

Funding would be needed for the next phase and Cllr Mrs Penketh will continue her enquiries with various possible sources.

6. **CLUSTER MEETING MEETING WITH PCC COMMISSIONER AUG 15<sup>th</sup>.** A report had been circulated by Cllr Deptford who attended. This had been noted.
7. **LCC GRASS CUTTING.** The Chairman said there had been very little feedback about LCC not carrying out or not financing parish grass cutting next year. Many parishioners will cut their own frontages. NKDC land will be cut as usual. It was decided that, in view of the lack of feedback, the Parish Council should take no action and will not renew the grass cutting contract as there will be no grant from LCC. Parishioners will then see what the actual effect will be.  
The Chairman said that any potentially dangerous areas must be reported to them as, subject to assessment, these will still be cut. It was agreed that the Chairman would inform LCC of the visibility splay on the south side of the bridge.
8. **POSSIBLE TRAFFIC CALMING FUND.**
  - **Speed indicator signs.** Cllr Mrs Penketh had made extensive enquiries into types of speed indication devices, where they can be fixed, their costs, and other parish councils comments. Possible signs for Swaton would be in the region of £3-5k. The possibility of a new battery for the current SID was discussed. Would someone in the village be willing to take on the responsibility of managing the SIDs?  
There was a discussion about whether this would be a suitable project at this time.  
The Council has no funds at the moment.  
It was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr Richardson that the idea should be suspended pending the availability of funding. All agreed, the Resolution was passed.
9. **LIGHTING.** Discuss extra roadway light opposite the phone box in High Street. Discuss a switch off.

The Chairman had made enquiries with LCC and NKDC. He said there is funding available for an additional light, subject to a consultation, on a first come first served basis. The cost would be about £1.13p per year per council tax payer. He proposed that a survey is carried out and that an additional light is requested as soon as possible in the dark section opposite the phone box. Cllr Dunlop spoke about existing lighting and the random, haphazard placement – and this creates unlit sections. He said that research did not link unlit roads with an increase in crime. He proposed that the lights should be turned off for one month to see what the impact is. Then if it is decided they should be switched on, they should be repositioned to make them more effective.

Cllr Dunlop's proposal was taken to the vote first – For: Cllr Dunlop and Cllr Richardson.

Cllr Deptford's proposal: For: Cllrs Deptford, Wilson and Mrs Penketh.

Cllr Deptford's proposal was carried.

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Cllr Mrs Penketh will organise a survey. The Chairman will also request that 2 lights which haven't worked for some time be removed and will report the light opposite the Hut entrance which is shaded by a telegraph pole in front of it.

10. **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN.** Cllr Mrs Penketh said that this may protect the Village from over development and also help to preserve the cartilage. After discussion, it was agreed that if parishioners felt they would like a Neighbourhood Plan then a village group should move this forward.

9.10pm. D/Cllr Mrs Cook left the meeting.

11. **FINANCE –**

- **Monthly report** from RFO. It was proposed by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr Mrs Penketh, that the report be accepted. All agreed, the resolution was passed.

- **Signing of Cheques and approval of BACS payments.**

The following additional BACS payments were proposed by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr Mrs Penketh and resolved. Resolution passed.

Mrs S McIntyre	Expenses Aug/Sept	£23.00
Continental Landscapes	Grass cutting	£115.20

- **2015/16 Audit.** This has been signed off by the External Auditor. Minor comments were noted, and the Closure notice was completed and will be published on the website and notice board.

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

- NKDC – Poster received to remind voters to register.
- Spires and Steeples Challenge – poster received.
- National Grid – Viking Link. E mails concerning this forwarded.
- Anglian Water – Water/Sewerage problems – Water in the Eau tested and found to be clear.
- Invitation to join Lincs Police and Crime Panel – closing date Mon Oct 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Safeguarding in the Community event – Thurs Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> 9.30-3.30 at NKDC.
- Safer together – outline Police and Crime plan – consultation closes Oct 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Parliamentary Boundary Review 2018 – Draft proposals.

13. **TRAINING.**

- Training dates for second half of the year in latest County Circular. These were noted.

14. **LALC.** Latest LALC County Circular received. This had been circulated and was noted. The Clerk will be attending the LALC AGM on Oct 18<sup>th</sup>.

15. **PLANNING:** There were none for this meeting.

16. **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.

17. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**MEETING – Tuesday November 15<sup>th</sup> 2016.**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.20pm