
PEGSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2 March 2009

Present: Councillor Peter Angus (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs Juliet Oakley
Councillor Rev. John Park
Councillor Mrs Pauline Proud
Councillor Alan Sambrook
Councillor Ms Julie Stephenson
Councillor Simon Willcox
Councillor David Woodard
Mr Hughie Hislop (Allotments Representative) – (part of meeting)
Clerk: Peter Basnett

As there were no members of the public present the Parish Council meeting started at 6.45 pm.

1256 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for anticipated late arrival had been received from Councillor Mrs Oakley and Councillor Sambrook. An apology for absence had been received from Councillor Miss Rothwell (another meeting). An apology for absence had been received from PC Leybourne.

It was resolved that the apologies be accepted.

1257 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest save for the Chairman's blanket declaration of interest on planning matters.

1258 POLICE REPORT

PC Leybourne's written report for February 2009 had been distributed to members. There had been four crimes. The crimes were two cases of avoiding paying taxi fares, criminal damage to railings in Edward Street and to railings in Front Street. The last two crimes appear to have been committed by local youths under the influence of alcohol.

Police and support officers are still patrolling disorder hotspots in the village. There has been an increase in juvenile disorder which is presently being addressed at present.

The Clerk reported PC Leybourne as saying that the speed camera in the village was obscured by tree branches making action against speeding vehicles unenforceable.

It was resolved to contact Northumberland County Council and ask for the tree branches to be cut back.

It was further resolved to request for more detail on the problem of juvenile disorder.

1259 ALLOTMENTS REPORT

The draft minutes of the Allotments Committee meeting held on 19 February 2009 had been distributed. The Chairman of the Allotments Committee, Councillor Willcox, enlarged on the details in the minutes.

Mr Hislop said that the shed reported to have been built without approval was well made and on the large side. He said that there was no problem with it.

A letter had been sent to a local business requesting that the potholes in the road be repaired. It was decided to wait for a response or for the potholes to be repaired.

A substantial quantity of asbestos had been deposited at the collection point. The Chairman said that he would contact the specialist firm and request that the asbestos be removed.

Mr Hislop reported that a quantity of old tyres had been deposited on the allotment roadway. Councillor Ms Stephenson said that if the tyres could be delivered to Cookswell Garage then she would arrange for them to be taken away at a small charge to the Parish Council. Mr Hislop said that he would take the tyres to the Garage. Both offers were gratefully accepted.

1260 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9 February 2009 were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

1261 CLERKS REPORT/ACTION ITEMS

Ref		Action
1	Old computer – to clear hard disk and donate to suitable person – Councillors Willcox & Rev Park.	Done
2	Flooding at Butterwell Drive – letter to CMBC requesting meeting with Northumbrian Water – to request meeting with Welbeck Estates	Clerk
3	Allotment access road at The Terraces – contact McInerney	Repaired
4	Allotments - asbestos signage – Councillor Willcox to report	Done
5	Teen shelter - nearest REKK shelter at Crook – it was resolved to wait for the results of the Pegswood Village Plan in the meantime Councillor Stephenson to report on the teen shelter at Crook	Councillor Ms Stephenson
6	Narrow estate roads – Chairman to report on approach to Castle Morpeth Housing –resolved to request that a representative from Castle Morpeth Housing attend a future meeting	Clerk
7	Request for dog waste bin at South View – Councillor Willcox to investigate further	Councillor Willcox
8	Ellis Square – possible closure of footpath – request for meeting with Castle Morpeth Housing Association – reminder sent but still no response – Councillor Woodard to take up.	Councillor Woodard

9	Community Action Northumberland – thanks for generous donation of £100	Received
10	Notice board insurance claim – policy excess of £125 applies	Noted
11	B Parker – Patton Way play area inspections February 2009 – no problems	Noted
12	Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering – letter of thanks for donation of £50	Received
13	A Sexton – concerns regarding site allocated for collection of asbestos – Councillor Willcox to reply	Councillor Willcox
14	Castle Morpeth CAB – letter of thanks for donation of £300	Received
15	Northumbria Police – crime reference 007754V/09 – damage to notice board – no one arrested and no further enquiries unless new information or evidence becomes available	Noted

1262 FINANCE

Agenda item 7.1 Invoices received & paid out of meeting – it was resolved that these be confirmed

		£ p
0902/125	Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering Committee - donation	50.00
0902/126	Community Action Northumberland - donation	100.00
0902/127	British Telecom – internet service (inc VAT£12.14)	93.11
0902/128	1st Pegswood Brownies- grant	300.00
0902/129	Predator Pest Control – pest control contract	77.50
0902/130	PB Basnett – postage stamps £37.80; batteries £3.91 & travel £2.50	44.21
0902/131	Azure Charitable Enterprises – village plan newsletter insert	59.40

Agenda item 7.2 Invoices received/internal vouchers – it was resolved that these be approved for payment

		£ p
0902/133	R Tasker – office cleaning February 2009	24.00
0902/134	B Parker - play area £90; dog waste bins £78; bus shelters £120	288.00
0902/135	PB Basnett – salary January to March 2009	1,917.22
0902/136	Post Office re HM Revenues & Customs – PAYE & National Insurance contributions	798.16
0902/137	Avery Weigh Tronix – letter scale update	8.64

Agenda item 7.3 Receipts received

	R Tasker
	B Parker
	Community Action Northumberland
	1 st Pegswood Brownies

Agenda Item 7.4 Income Received

		£ p
	None	

Agenda item 7.5 **Cleared Balance** as at 2 March 2009 - £63,885.66

Agenda item 7.6 **Bank Reconciliation Statement** – as at 2 March 2009 - it was resolved that this be approved.

Agenda item 7.7 **Budgetary Control Report** – as at 2 March 2009 – it was resolved that this be approved

Agenda item 7.8 **Internal Check report** – Councillor Miss Rothley reported on her examination of a selection of payments.

1263 PLANNING MATTERS

Applications Received:

No planning applications had been received since the last meeting.

1264 CORRESPONDENCE

		Action
1	Northumberland County Council – Morpeth Household waste recovery centre opens 4 March 2009	Noted
2	Northumberland & Newcastle Society – February edition of Journal	Received
3	Allotment & Leisure Gardener – magazine	Received
4	Community Action Northumberland – latest edition of Community News	Circulated
5	Castle Morpeth Borough Council – Festival of Sport – 15-20 March 2009	Received
6	The Boundary Committee for England – electoral review of the new Northumberland Unitary Authority – any views on the new division arrangements to be submitted by 11 May 2009 – Councillor Woodard to report back	Councillor Woodard
7	Martin & Heather Hackett – request for a donation towards competition costs of two sons competing in World Karate Council championships in Dublin in November – entry fee £499 each – Resolved to make a grant of £200 payable to the Karate Club	Clerk
8	Craig Collins – request for a donation towards costs of Sea Cadets sea going course costing £230 – previous grants 2005/2006 £50 & 2007/2008 £75 – under S. 137 of the 1972 Local Government Act (the Free Resource) resolved to make a donation of £50 to Ashington Sea Cadets	Clerk
9	Pegswood Village plan – minutes of meeting held on 11 February 2009	Agenda Item 15

10	Standards Board for England – Town & Parish Standard issue 4	Received
11	Complaint from resident of Hebron Avenue about debris caused by refuse vehicles cutting corner of village green – Chairman to contact Green & Clean	Chairman

Councillor Sambrook arrived at this point.

1265 MEMBERS REPORTS

1. Chairman

The Chairman reported on the last ceremonial meeting of Castle Morpeth Borough Council held on 26 February 2009. Councillor Sambrook had received the great honour of being made an Alderman for his long service and contribution to the Borough Council.

The Chairman reported on his attendance at the memorial service held at St Andrew's Church, Bothal, for the late Lady Anne Bentinck. It had been very well attended with a cross section of the local community. Councillor Rev John Park had officiated and several members of the Parish Council together with the Clerk had attended.

2. Northumberland County Council – Councillor Woodard that the budget had been set with a 3.8% increase in council tax for the Castle Morpeth area. The Parish Council proportion of council tax for a band D property was £63.05.

He said that the County Council was going out to public consultation on education with a project called "Narrowing the Gap".

1266 GRANT APPLICATIONS

A grant application had been received from Pegswood Recreation Ground and Social Welfare Centre for a contribution towards the £3,033 cost of the repair of the old hall floor.

After a discussion it was resolved to make a grant of £1,200 subject to the work being completed.

1267 HANDYMAN

The Clerk reported that there had been 12 expressions of interest and requests for the tender forms. The closing date is the 9 March 2009.

It was agreed that the Chairman and available members attend at Project House at 7.00pm on 11 March 2009 prior to the Pegswood Village Plan Steering Group meeting and open the tenders. They have the duty to select a shortlist of not less than three and no more than five tenders.

Interviews will be arranged on the Clerk's return from holiday.

1268 WELFARE PARK AND CHANGING FACILITIES

An examination of the Northumberland Charter for Local Councils showed anomalies in the Northumberland County Council approach on open space and playing field maintenance. It was a question as to whether the County Council or the Parish Council would have to bear the cost of maintenance. The Parish Council had made no budget provision in 2009/2010 for the cost of the grounds maintenance but it had made provision for the maintenance of the changing rooms.

Councillor Sambrook reiterated his view that the Charity would not split responsibility for the Welfare between the changing rooms and the playing fields

The Chairman reported that there had been a delay in letting the contract for the new changing rooms.

It was resolved that the Chairman contact Andy Rutherford of Northumberland County Council for information on responsibilities for the grounds maintenance.

1269 QUALITY PARISH COUNCIL STATUS

David Francis of the Northumberland Association of Local Councils had been unable to attend the meeting and it was resolved that this item be deferred to the next meeting.

1270 PEGSWOOD VILLAGE PLAN

The minutes of the Steering Group meeting held on 11 February 2009 had been circulated. Councillor Mrs Oakley and Councillor Rev. Park reported on the good progress that had been made.

The next meeting was to be held on Wednesday 11 March at 7.00pm at Project House.

1271 NEW WASTE BINS

It was resolved to purchase a litterbin for the Post Office and a dog waste bin for a site to be selected.

1272 HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

This was referred back for further discussion and the Vice-Chairman and Councillor Mrs Proud agreed to examine it and make recommendations.

1273 CONTRACTORS SAFETY DECLARATION

This was also referred back for further discussion and the Vice-Chairman and Councillor Mrs Proud agreed to examine it and make recommendations.

1274 PARISH COUNCIL CHARTER

The Chairman said that he had not completed work on the analysis of the Charter and it was agreed that this be deferred until the next meeting.

1275 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business to discuss.

1275 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 6 April 2009. The Annual Assembly of the Parish will be held at Pegswood Welfare at 7.00pm on Monday 20 April 2009. The Annual meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 11 May 2009.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Minutes Approved by: _____ Date: _____