

Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting

Held in the Martham Methodist School Room on 17 November 2004 at 19:30 hrs.

Those Present:

Councillors:

Chairman: T Woodward.

J Beales B Carberry T Gates M Huke B Huxtable K Jordan V Nicholas-Jago T Watson B Wright

Others: B Cllr J Hudson B Cllr B Coleman

Clerk in attendance: Lisa Harold

Together with 9 members of the public.

Apologies:

P Manifold

PUBLIC FORUM

Due to a serious incident which had occurred in the village on Wednesday 27th October resulting in 4 student workers from Polehouse Nurseries needing medical treatment, Mr Wensack had asked to address the Parish Council and was invited to speak. He reported that these students had been attacked by 4 people in Cess Road in what seemed to be a premeditated attack. He stated that the rest of the resident workers were "spooked" and they had been advised to remain out of the village centre for 2 weeks after the incident whilst enquiries were made and the situation resolved. Mr Wensack believed that the Parish Council should be aware of such an incident and asked for their comments.

Cllr Woodward expressed his concern that the situation should not be seen as an "us and them" situation and that all efforts should be made to integrate these most welcome visitors to Martham and to ensure that they, as well as permanent residents of the village, were safe. Since hearing of the incident shortly after its occurrence Cllr Woodward had spoken with the Police Inspector for advice and support, PC Cook reported that 2 juveniles had been bailed pending CPS action and that there seemed to be no undercurrent that it had been a racist attack. Cllr Nicholas Jago stated that it was probably a one off incident but that this did not underrate what had happened.

Borough Councillor Coleman offered to arrange a football match between his youth football team at the High School and the student workers, the Chairman also offered to visit the workers to speak with them. It was stated by a member of the Public Forum that not a lot was known about these visitors and it was agreed that some information about them should be written and submitted to the Parish Magazine. Mr Wensack was hoping to hold an open day so that anyone who was interested could visit Polehouse Nurseries to meet with the workers and see at first hand what they do.

It was noted that the resident at the white wooden house on the corner of Low Road and Polehouse Nurseries was disposing of many unpleasant items onto the highway. PC Cook stated that this was an ongoing problem that was being dealt with but could not discuss further due to legal reasons.

Borough Councillors Report

BC Hudson had nothing to report. The Clerk asked him to chase the breakdown of 106 monies which was pending from the Council.

COUNCIL MEETING

Declarations of Interest

T Watson, B Wright – Allotment holders.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

These having been circulated previously were ***Proposed*** by V Nicholas-Jago, ***Seconded*** by M Huke, Unanimous, and were duly signed as a true record.

Matters Arising

Staithe Road leases – Cllr Woodward to chase Cllr Manifold for these as soon as possible.

Membership to Freemasons- Cllr Woodward was waiting for further information regarding this and was hoping to make a full report at the next meeting.

Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting Cont...

Traffic speeds through the village – Due to the many groups that needed to be invited to this meeting this was taking some time to arrange. It was envisaged that this would take place sometime in the new year.

Finance Committee 05/06 Budget

Budget of £14900 Concurrent Functions and £16200 Non concurrent functions (being a decrease on the budget of the previous year of £1050 on Non Concurrent functions) had been proposed by the Finance Committee and it was recommended by Cllr Woodward that this budget be accepted, Cllr Nicholas Jago seconded, all were in favour.

Quality Council Status

Information booklets regarding this had still not been received. These would be circulated prior to the next meeting.

Medical Provision in Martham

As Cllr Manifold was absent this was deferred to the next meeting.

Planning

Planning Applications Received for Parish Council Comments

Address	Application Type	Comments
57 White Street	Extension	No objections
86 Repps Road	Improvements to fascia	No objections

Barnstormers renewal of application for micro light school, which had been discussed at the previous meeting, had been returned to the Planning Authority with a request to review in 12 months time. Phase 3 Hall Road development- The Planning Officer had agreed that the properties backing onto Rowan Road would be single storey dwellings only.

The enforcement appeal regarding the storage of vehicles on White Street- It had been agreed that these would be cleared by the end of April without the need for an enforcement notice to be served.

Finance

Item	Net	VAT	Total
Clerk net pay	451.35		
Clerk pension	86.89		
Clerk electricity	4.00		455.35
M Print photocopying	33.91	5.93	39.84
NCC Allotment rent ½ year	335.00		335.00
Internet	19.57		19.57
P Starling Grass cutting	135.00	23.62	158.62
Total for November	1065.72	29.55	1095.27

Finances to be agreed, Proposed by B Huxtable, Seconded by B Carberry, Unanimous.

Correspondence

It had been agreed by Great Yarmouth Borough Council that management of the Smees should stay with Martham parish Council on a 25yr agreement. Paperwork to follow.

Ponds

Nothing to report.

Footpaths

Nothing to report.

Footways/Highways

There was a continuing problem with fungus growth on trees at Rowan Road, advice regarding the replacement of trees felled due to this to be sought. Complaints regarding leaves on Repps Road had been received, Cllr Woodward confirmed that this road was swept regularly.

Repps Road green, the trees were overhanging the highway, Clerk to report.

It was reported by Cllr Huke that a bollard was broken off at the un adopted road between the Doctors surgery and the green his investigations had proved that this was neither the Borough Council's responsibility nor the County Council's. Cllr Woodward believed this road to belong to the residents of the property which it accessed due to discussions with a previous resident some years previous. It was believed that the Parish Council had installed the bollards as a safety precaution some years ago. It was

Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting Cont...

agreed to monitor the situation with problems being reported to PC Cook and also Cllr Huke. There was flooding on Repps Road outside the last bungalow as the soak away was not working. Clerk to report. The forecourt outside the 2 garages beside the public toilets was badly potholed and was dangerous. Borough Councillor Coleman to chase this as he believed that they belonged to the Borough Council and were due to be sold.

Repairs were needed to the un adopted road which accessed the playing field and youth club. Copy of Lease of Youth Club to be sought and moves made to identify who is responsible for maintaining this road. Cllrs Jordan, Carberry and Woodward to liaise with Mrs Banham (who was secretary of the Playing Field committee when the youth club was built) to investigate.

Village Green/Car Parks

It was agreed that the overflow car park signs should be removed. Cllr Watson to action.

Representative Reports

Boat Dyke Trust

Nothing to report.

First School

The PFI had fallen through, a meeting to be held on Monday 22nd November, morale was very low. It had been decided that the joint governing body would meet every 6 months for the foreseeable future. Cllr Watson stated that should anyone wish to see minutes of the meetings he would provide these at any time.

Allotments

The untaxed vehicle had been removed on 6th November 2004. It was recommended to the allotment committee that they amend clause 5f regarding unusable vehicles. Allotment committee to discuss and bring recommendation to Council for approval.

Playing Field

Cllr Watson forwarded the Playing Field Committee's feelings on the way in which the Finance Committee meeting with them had been conducted. He felt that as it had been stated that communications between the Playing Field Committee and the Parish Council were emphasised as not being as they should he was being criticised but felt that he reported as comprehensively as he possibly could at every meeting. He stated that the Playing Field Committee had asked for a written apology. The Chairman stated that he felt that the Finance Committee meeting had gone very well and therefore he would not sign such an apology. Cllr Jordan had attended the Playing Field meeting since the finance meeting and stated that Mr Roofe had reported to the Playing Field Committee that, although at times the conversation had been heated, the situation had been resolved amicably.

It was also reported that Mr Dickinson was "upset and disturbed" by the way his meeting had gone with the finance committee and that he would be writing to the Parish Council in the near future. It was asked that the minutes of every Playing Field committee meeting be sent to the Clerk. The Chairman assured Cllr Watson that he had the Parish Council's full support in his position as the Playing Field

Representative

Cllr Jordan stated that the 2005 Music for All festival was being organised for the Spring Bank Holiday Sunday.

Youth

Cllr Carberry reported that he had spoken with at least 16 youths (aged between 7-16yrs) who were interested in a skateboard park. He reported that only 3 people attended the youth meeting at the Clip which was very disappointing. Cllr Huxtable explained he had attended but no one was there so there must have been a mix up with the dates. Cllr Huxtable had organised a meeting on 26 November with Keith Roofe of the Playing Field committee and the Social Club to discuss the skateboard park, he will report at the next meeting.

It was agreed that a letter should be given to Cllr Carberry confirming the Parish Council's endorsement of a skateboard park so that he may approach the skateboard park company to form a plan.

Village Hall

As Cllr Manifold was not present the issue of the ownership of the facility could not be discussed. This was therefore deferred to the next meeting.

Minutes of Martham Parish Council Meeting Cont...

Luncheon Club

At the meeting on 26th October which was attended by Cllr Woodward and Cllr Watson it was decided that a further meeting to resolve problems with the way in which the cooks were paid and to possibly pay them by Direct Debit.

Parish Plan

It was asked that when the Traffic Speeding meeting date was finally set to ensure that members of the steering group were invited as this was a major concern highlighted in this report.

Transport

Nothing to report.

Village Signs

Packs had been sent to the schools, copies in the clip and also information in the Mercury and the Parish Magazine. Closing date 30/11/04.

Items for next agenda

None forwarded.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21:55 hrs.

Signed..... Dated.....

(Previous minutes are also available on the Council Website: www.martham.gov.uk).