

SOUTHOE & MIDLOE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of MEETING

Held on WEDNESDAY, 1st August 2012

In SOUTHOE VILLAGE HALL at 7.30pm

PRESENT: - Councillors, Mr. A. Marnes (Chair), Mr. A. Parsons, Mr. D. Saw, Mrs. S. Gadsby Mrs H. Rampley and Mr. M. Rawson, the Clerk and two members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Parish Councillor Mrs. M. Farmery and District Cllr. T. Clough had sent apologies which were received and accepted.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4th July 2012

These had been circulated to all Councillors, it was noted that removal of duplicated sentence had been done to draft version and that the results of the parish consultation be included as an appendix to the meeting minutes, it was proposed by Mrs. S. Gadsby with these amendments that the minutes were correct, seconded by Mr. D. Saw and unanimously agreed by those present, Chair signed the minutes.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Mrs. S. Gadsby reported on the recent meeting regarding the bus she had attended with representatives from Nene and Ouse transport and the County Council, and at the moment one proposal was that the Parish Council may be able to pay for a block subscription on behalf of residents, however, awaiting feedback on whether this would be possible. Other items to be discussed from the last meeting to be covered during the agenda.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs. H. Rampley declared an interest in agenda item 15, and it was agreed to make this item the last agenda item of the meeting. There were no further declarations received by those present.

Chairman closed the meeting for the next item

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No statements received.

Chairman reopened the meeting.

6. ALLOTMENT PROVISION

Mr. A. Marnes and Mr. A. Parsons had met with Dan Smith from Huntingdonshire District Council, notes from this meeting were circulated to all Councillors present, the Officer felt that overall the Parish Council had pursued every possible option in sourcing land for the provision of allotments. The Council discussed how funding may be secured if any land could be found, and the District Council Officer had suggested the Council could place themselves on a specific community land register stating the Parish Council were looking for land.

Mr. A. Marnes had also met with Luminus to see if they had any land available and they had no suggestions.

It was noted that the Council had received correspondence from Karen Kenny at NALG recently as well.

Councillors were mindful that it is a difficult situation and felt on balance that a letter should be sent to Oxford University Chest threatening them with compulsory purchase order through the District Council and requesting a reply within ten working days, Mr. A. Parsons agreed to collate this. Depending on the response to this then the community marker register would be the next option it was felt.

7. POLICING ISSUES/NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

There had been report received that no incidents within the last month, however, it was noted there had been some recent crimes in Buckden.

8. A1 MATTERS

It was reported that there had been a recent pile up at Diddington and concerns were raised regarding the grass within the central reservation becoming very high and therefore reducing visibility as it is above eye height. This matter had

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previously been reported, however, it has still not been attended to, Mr. A. Marnes to report again and request that the weeds be sprayed.

Mrs. H. Rampley also raised that the pot holes continue to be a problem along Rectory Lane and u-turn problems are also still being carried out on the A1 regularly.

9. FINANCE

The following invoices were presented:

Cambs County Council street lighting energy and maint (cheque re-issue) £651.83

Barnicoat Ltd clerking service £159.05

It was proposed by Mrs. H. Rampley, that the cheques be paid, seconded by Mr. A. Parsons, unanimously agreed and resolved that the above cheques be signed.

It was noted that to date no external audit feedback had been received.

10. PLAYING FIELD

It was noted that the annual play inspection was due to be carried out shortly and a letter had been received stating that the order confirmation had been received for the new play equipment and that all the SPACE money has been transferred to the Parish Council and that now SPACE will now disband. There was some uncertainty if installation was included within the costs given for the play area installation, so this to be checked and if equipment installed in between meetings satisfactorily then it was unanimously agreed by the Council to issue a cheque between meetings for £2721.60.

11. VILLAGE HALL

A letter had been received from the Village Hall Management Committee regarding the hedge at the back of the Hall as it is several feet above the gutters causing damp, it was agreed that hedge to be cut so that it is no higher than 5 foot in height. It was agreed that local quotes would be obtained for this work and digging the area out as the hedge so the responsibility of the Parish Council's. There was also clarification of the Parish Council's financial responsibility in regards to the Village Hall, this was discussed and confirmed that the Committee may ask the Council to contribute towards specific projects and that the Council would continue to pay the electricity bill.

12. CHURCH MATTERS & BURIAL GROUND

It was reported that the dial for the clock has now been made.

13. PLANNING

No items to be discussed.

14. CORRESPONDENCE / EMAILS

A copy of the items received had been circulated, it was noted that the Council needed to consider and adopt a revised Code of Conduct document, in principle the NALC model was agreed, however, Councillors wished to have time to review the Register Of Interest forms and supporting document in more detail between meetings.

15. WIND FARM

(Mrs. H. Rampley did not leave the room as it was agreed not applicable) Mr. A. Marnes reported that the Council's comments had been submitted to the District Council.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was agreed that Clerk to pursue obtaining a quote for the gate to the Recreation Ground, which to include removal of existing gate and replace with a self closing wooden garden gate with a latch that is safe for children. It was also discussed that the village website was being developed and it would be useful for some Council documents to be added to this.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This was agreed to be on Wednesday 5th September 2012, at 7.30pm.

The meeting was closed at 9.00pm.

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