

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting  
held in the Village Hall, Glebe Avenue, Orton Waterville on  
Wednesday, 19 July 2006.

Present:- Mrs G Thornley (in the Chair) Mr M Chambers Mrs D Harkness Mr E Howlett  
Mr M Smith Mrs K Whitworth Mr C Whitworth

Members of the Public – one Press – none Ward Councillors – none

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mr C Long, Mrs J Farnham, Councillor J Crane, Councillor A Kempson, Councillor Mrs D Lamb and Councillor W Trueman.
2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – The following members declared interests:  
  
Mrs Diana Harkness – item 5(c) – is acquainted with the applicant but it was considered non prejudicial.  
Mrs Kim Whitworth – item 3 – a member of the Police Authority.
3. LOCAL POLICING MATTERS – PCSO Beverley Johnson attended the meeting and gave an update on the recent crime in the Ortons. The monthly crime statistics were circulated. At the moment there is a spate of burglaries which the police are dealing with. It is possible that 2 more PCSOs will be joining the Ortons team in the near future.
4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 JUNE 2006 – Mr Chambers proposed and Mr Howlett seconded that the minutes be signed as a true and correct record. This was carried.
5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
  - (a) Tree and Hedgerow Management (Minute 5a).

A letter objecting to the proposal to cut down trees was received from Mrs Ellen Braden, whose property backs on to the trees. These trees offer her a certain amount of security and protection from intruders into her garden and she asked for them to be left. Since the Parish Council has to take into account the Crime Prevention Act when it makes decisions, the Clerk sought advice from the City Council Tree and Woodland Officer.

A site meeting was held with Parish Councillor Diana Harkness present. She reported that Mr Horne, the Tree and Woodland Officer, was anxious to preserve the trees in their natural state in consideration of the Protection of Wildlife Act. The living trees were not a danger to anyone but he did agree that the dead ones should be removed after the nesting season. To this end he agreed to mark those which could be cut down. In the interests of the Health and Safety Act, Mrs Harkness proposed and Mr Chambers seconded that the Parish Council should have these marked trees cut down. This was carried and the Clerk was instructed to obtain quotations for this work.

In response to the complaint from Mr Scane regarding overshadowing, Mr Horne explained that to cut the trees down from the top would weaken the trees and be a Health and Safety risk. The correct way to increase light would be to lift the crown. However, it is the lower branches together with the undergrowth that gives Mrs Braden a certain amount of security, and the Parish Council has an obligation under the Crime Prevention Act to consider this.

The main concern, however, was the alleged encroachment of land. Several residents had taken a section of the tree belt into their own gardens and one resident had even cut down trees to make room for a shed. Mr Horne confirmed that according to his search, Nos 9 10 and 11 Pembroke Avenue, were encroaching over the boundary perimeter. However, the trees are not owned by the City Council and Mr Horne suggested that the Parish Council contact the Land Registry to find out in whose ownership they were.

A letter was read out from Parish Councillor Cyril Long giving a history of the ownership of this land in the past, and supporting Mr Horne's suggestion to contact the Land Registry. He also proposed that other dead trees in the area should also be removed at the same time as the marked ones. It was agreed to ask Mr Horne's advice on this also.

Since a member of the public had attended the Parish Council meeting on the assumption that he would be allowed to contribute towards the discussions, Mr Smith proposed and Mrs Harkness seconded that cards be produced and placed on the public seats explaining the rules and procedures of Parish Council meetings as far as the general public are concerned. This was carried.

(b) Village Hall Graffiti (*Minute 5b*).

Two quotations were received for applying anti-graffiti paint to the external walls of the Village Hall. From Mr M Dawkins the total would be £1070. Contract Services have quoted £740.25. Mr Chambers proposed and Mr Smith seconded that the quotation from Contract Services be accepted as the lower tender. This was carried.

(c) Vacancy in Orton Goldhay East (*Minute 5c*)

Written applications were received from Sarah Kamminga of Orton Southgate, Philip Nicholson of Orton Wistow and Angela Cairns of Orton Goldhay. Mrs Harkness proposed and Mr Howlett seconded that Angela Cairns be co-opted, since she was from the area where the vacancy existed. This was carried.

(d) Terms of Reference (*Minute 12*)

This draft proposal was circulated. Members were asked to bring their comments in writing to the next meeting. These comments will be discussed by a committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Mrs Harkness and Mr Smith.

(e) Queen's Garden Party (*Minute 15-May*)

A reply was received from CALC to the effect that the notice for nominations for the next Garden Party will appear in one of the CALC magazines shortly. This was noted.

(f) Street Furniture (*Minute 9a-May*)

An acknowledgement to our request was received. This was noted.

## 6. NEW CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

(a) Winyates School – A request for a grant of £1500 was received from Winyates School. It was agreed that, since this school falls outside the parish boundary, the Clerk should explain that Parish Councils can only give grants under section 137 of the Local Government Act to projects within their own parishes. Winyates Schools falls within the Orton Longueville parish.

(b) Telecommunications – A letter was received from Nationalgrid Wireless regarding a telecommunications installation at Ortons Telephone Exchange in Lady Lodge Drive. There were no comments to make about this, at this stage. It was noted.

(c) Landscaping – An invitation was received to a Peterborough Landscape Character Assessment and Green Grid Strategy Workshop on 20 July. This was noted.

(d) Environmental Improvement – The annual invitation to apply for a grant of up to £300 for any environmental improvement schemes was received. It was agreed to refer this to Mr Russell.

## 7. BURIAL GROUND

Following the letter to DEFRA (which was approved at the last meeting) to resume consideration of our application, a reply was received to the effect that, since the Parish Council no longer seeks consent for a footpath or carpark on the common land, a material change to the application had occurred. In order to proceed DEFRA required:

- Notification of the exact change including the area of common land now required;
- A copy of the notice re-advertising the proposal; and
- Two up-to-date maps clearly showing what was now being proposed.

This was required by 26<sup>th</sup> July. Due to the time limit imposed, the Clerk provided the Legal Department with the information required together with 2 copies of up-to-date maps, and requesting the Legal Department to deal with the re-advertising and reply to DEFRA.

A copy of the reply to DEFRA was received, in which the Legal Department had copied the information provided by the Clerk to DEFRA, and informed DEFRA of their intention to forward a copy of the re-advertised notice in due course.

## 8. ALLOTMENTS

A quotation of £3,010 was received from Contract Services for the fencing work at the Cherry Orton Road site. As this was higher than the quotation of £2,325 received from J Bradley, Mr Howlett proposed and Mr Chambers seconded that the tender from J Bradley be accepted. This was carried.

A new lock for the gates at the Gostwick site had to be purchased because the old lock was found broken. A complaint was received that the gates were difficult to shut because the hasp no longer reached far enough to fit over the hook. This was probably due to the wood shrinkage on the gate due to the exceptionally dry weather. Mr Smith agreed to inspect it to see if a simple adjustment could be made.

## 9. PLANNING MATTERS

### (a) New applications since last month

06/00920/CTR	Tree work at 12 Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville	No objection
06/00922/HAZ	Hazardous substances at 1-5 Stapledon Road, Orton Southgate	No objection
06/00949/FUL	Extension at 10A Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville	No objection
06/00833/FUL	Extension at 18 Valence Road, Orton Waterville	
06/00755/REM	Revised application at Showground, Alwalton	
06/01011/FUL	Office building at 3 Culley Court, Orton Southgate	

### (b) Decisions on previous applications

06/00616/FUL	Double garage at 3 Mill Crescent, Orton Waterville	Refused
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This was refused on the grounds that the size projected over the line on to the crescent and was, therefore, out of keeping with the street scene.

## 10. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

### (a) The following payments were authorised

M Russell (pond maintenance)	£40.00
Peterborough Office Supplies (stationery)	17.85
Hopper's Landscapes (churchyard tree)	100.00
Beebys Landscaping (churchyard maintenance)	£277.59
B T (phone charges)	£106.62
Inland Revenue	£24.01
Clerk's Salary (for June)	£452.99
Clerk's Expenses (for June)	£55.26

### (b) Income received to date

J Hopper – shed rent	£140.00
M Lodge – shed rent	£100.00
Bank Interest on Saver Plus Account (for May)	£145.15
Bank Interest on Treasurer's Account (for May)	£0.30

## 11. MAINTENANCE MATTERS

The following matters were raised:

- (a) The Play Area bin has been burned. It was agreed to ask the Refuse Department to replace it.

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- (b) Some old barriers on Oundle Road have been left exposed. It was agreed to ask Highways to take them away.
- (c) The post to the Mill Crescent sign has rotted. It was agreed to report this to the Highways Department.
- (d) Nettles are encroaching onto the footpath between Gannocks Close and Chapel Lane. It was agreed to report this to the Highways Department also.
- (e) It was agreed to request that off-set barriers be placed at the beginning of the footpath at the pond end of Cherry Orton Road.

## 12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman gave an up-date on the situation regarding 2 Cherry Orton Road.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20 pm.