

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting
held in the Village Hall, Glebe Avenue, Orton Waterville on
Wednesday, 20 June 2007.

Present:- Mrs G Thornley (in the Chair) Mrs J Farnham Mrs D Harkness Cllr A Kempself
Mr C Long Mr M Smith Mr M Stone
Members of the Public – one Press – none Ward Councillors – Cllr Mrs Sue Allen

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs A Beeton, Miss A Cairns, Mr J Gillings and Mr M Chambers. Mrs Farnham apologised for the fact that she would have to leave at 9.30 pm.

The Clerk read out letters from both Mrs Beeton and Miss Cairns resigning their seat. Miss Cairns is moving away from the area with her employment and Mrs Beeton, with her many other commitments, no longer has the time to devote to the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Clerk should acknowledge the letters accepting the resignations and thanking them for their time of service.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – There were none at this stage.
3. LOCAL POLICING MATTERS – PCSOs Barrie Sinfield and Beverley Johnstone attended the meeting. Sgt Sheffield's reply to the matter regarding Overton Way had been circulated with the minutes. The PCSOs confirmed that the area is constantly being patrolled, at all times of the day and that some arrests have been made. Several other matters were brought to the PCSOs attention which they made a note of.
4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 MAY 2007 – Mrs Farnham proposed and Mrs Harkness seconded that the minutes be signed as a true and correct record. This was carried.
5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(a) Drinking Ban (Minute 8b)

A letter was received from the City Council confirming that the request for an alcohol ban had been logged, and that this had been passed to the Community Safety Partnership to take into consideration when deciding the most appropriate use of Designated Public Places Orders in the City.

It was reported that the local off licence had applied for a renewal of its licence and it was agreed to write to the Licensing Committee informing them that the Parish Council had received numerous complaints of rowdiness, anti-social behaviour, criminal damage and underage drinking in the vicinity of this shop relating to the purchase and consumption of alcohol. In the interests of the Protection of Children and the Prevention of Crime and Disorder it was agreed to ask them to consider this when deciding whether or not to grant or put restrictions on this application.

(b) New Code of Conduct (Minute 8c)

There were no more planned workshops on the new Code of Conduct.

A letter was received from CALC giving its recommendation to Parish Councils. Apparently there are two different Model Codes of Conduct: one a general one, the other a Parish and Town Councils one. The general one had been circulated last month. The Clerk circulated the Parish and Town Councils Model Code of Conduct at the meeting. CALC's recommendation was as follows:

- To adopt the Parish and Town Councils Model Code of Conduct (as opposed to the general Model Code which includes a different paragraph 7)
- Adopt the above Model Code **including paragraph 12(2)** and put in place light touch rules of operation – see below
- Adopt the above Model Code to take effect from September 1st 2007.

Light Touch Rules

The adoption including Para 12(2) means that councils need to set up rules of how the situation will operate when a councillor with a prejudicial interest is invited to make a factual presentation and answer questions. A resolution has to be passed as to when he declares an interest. Should it be at Item 2 on the agenda? The public will also be allowed to speak. Should the number of speakers and the length of time they speak be limited and should they be allowed to speak only once? The public participation is not part of the debate but merely fact giving and answering questions in the same manner as the councillor with the prejudicial interest. It is recommended that the issue of rules is reviewed within a year.

It was agreed to defer this item to the next agenda to give members time to read the document. A decision will then have to be made if the obligatory newspaper notice is to go in with the CALC block advertisement.

(c) Press Releases (*Minute 8d*)

Following the two further resignations, it was agreed to advertise the 3 vacancies in the local press and to say something about the recent walk through Orton Goldhay when the Parish Council reviewed the state of the area.

(d) OCSYP (*Minute 5f*)

It was agreed that the Clerk should write to this Counselling Service to ascertain why there had been no response. If indeed they would like representation from the Parish Council then Mr Stone has shown interest.

(e) Training Courses (*Minute 8i*)

It was reported that Mr Gillings was unable to attend the training course at St Ives. Nothing further had been heard about the training course at Bretton on 17 July. The Clerk will continue to endeavor to find out whether it is still on. In the meantime the councillors wishing to go on this course will wait to hear from the Clerk. The Clerk will also find out whether CALC are running any themselves.

(f) Walk-about in Orton Goldhay (*Minute 8l*)

A walk-about in Orton Goldhay was held on 12 June. It was agreed that the area had much improved since the last time a walk-about was done. A representative from Cross Keys was present and took notes of matters still requiring attention. Councillor Kempzell had successfully arranged for the City Council to remove the rubbish wrongly placed in the recycling bins.

(g) Accounting Software (*Minute 8m*)

The new accounting software had been ordered and will arrive on 8 August when the Clerk will have a Training Day.

(h) Rats (*Minutes 8n*)

On 2 June a telephone call was received from the Pest Control Department. They had received a complaint that rats were on the allotment and were therefore enforcing their authority to place test bait. This was done on 4 June. On inspecting the traps on 18 June in the presence of the Chairman and the Clerk, it was found that the bait had been taken. The procedure would have been that Orders would have been issued for the Parish Council to rid the site of these pests. Since the Pest Control Officer was at the site already, he could leave the poisoned bait while he was there. The cost to the Parish Council would be £50 plus £25 for each subsequent visit. The traps would be inspected in a fortnight's time and if the bait was all taken, more poisoned bait would be left until there were no more rats to take the bait. The Chairman and Clerk agreed for the poisoned bait to be laid and for subsequent visits up to three times.

Mr Smith proposed and Mr Stone seconded that this action be retrospectively approved.

(i) Bus Shelters (*Minute 14a*)

A reply from the City Council was received and circulated with the email address and telephone number for any further reports of damage to bus shelters.

(j) Community Involvement

This document which had been circulating from previous months, was received back too late for the Clerk to return the questionnaire. However, the Clerk was able to confirm that as Statutory Consultees the Parish Council will continue to be consulted on Planning Applications by the City Council.

6. NEW CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- (a) Peterborough Standards Committee – A notice was received from CALC that a vacancy had occurred for a Parish Representative on this committee. This was noted.
- (b) Rights of Way – A consultation document on Rights of Way has been produced. The notice of this giving the website where it can be viewed and downloaded was circulated with the agenda. This was noted.
- (c) Peterborough Roller Hockey Club – An acknowledgement was received for the funding granted by the Parish Council. This was noted.

7. BURIAL GROUND

The Clerk was pleased to announce that a decision had been received from DEFRA, dated 13 June 2007, as follows:

“In exercise of the powers conferred by section 194 of the Law of Property Act 1925 and of all other enabling powers, consent is hereby given to the works described in paragraph 1 above. For the purposes of identification only, the locations of the works are shown in pink on the attached plan.”

The whole letter and attached plan was filed in the appropriate folder and was available for viewing. It was agreed that the next step is to apply for planning permission. For this the Parish Council would need to instruct the architect. It was agreed to remain with the same architect who had already been dealing with this case and to keep the same committee as before, ie the representatives of the Village Ward together with the Chairman and the Clerk. It was agreed that the Clerk should arrange a meeting between the committee and the architect to discuss the drawing up of detailed plans for the Parish Council’s approval prior to submission.

Quotations had been received for a wooden fence as agreed at the last meeting as follows:

Mark Whatling	£1938.00.
J Bradley	£1812.00.

On further inspection of the site, it was noted that the neighbouring land had erected palisade fencing which was much stronger and more vandal proof. In the interests of the Prevention of Crime and Disorder, J Bradley was asked to quote for this type of fencing as well. His quotation was as follows:

For galvanised palisade fencing	£1960.00.
For green coated palisade fencing	£2350.00.

Councillor Kempzell asked for clarification as to whether the palisade bars each had a three-pronged spiked top as opposed to a single spike. Provided that it had he proposed that we accept the quotation for a green palisade fence. If it was not, then as long as the new quotation was below £2,500 it could be accepted; otherwise it should come back to the Council for approval. This was seconded by Mrs Harkness and carried.

8. ALLOTMENTS

Correspondence was received from allotment holders and a prospective tenant regarding the state of the Gostwick allotments. It was agreed that the Orton Brimbles ward representatives together with the Vice Chairman and Clerk should make an inspection of the site.

It was also agreed to obtain a quotation for the cutting of the Wyman Way meadow.

9. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) New applications since last month

07/00785/FUL	Extension at 42 Whitewater, Orton Wistow	No objection
07/00780/FUL	Retrospective extension at 46 Church Drive, Orton Waterville	No objection
07/00654/ADV	Sign at unit 2 Culley Court, Orton Southgate	No objection
07/00281/FUL	Garage at Matley Primary School, Orton Brimbles	No objection
07/00847/FUL	Conservatory at 89 Lessingham, Orton Brimbles	No objection

07/00886/FUL – Garage at 21 Lady Lodge Drive. This item was received too late to go on the agenda. However, the ward Councillor, Mrs Allen, requested that the Parish Council support her objection on behalf of a

neighbouring resident. Since it appeared to be a contentious issue, the Clerk was instructed to ask the Planning Department for an extension to the consultation period and to put it on next month's agenda. In the mean time, parish councillors will be able to undertake a fact finding site visit.

(b) Decisions on previous applications

07/003000/FUL	Air conditioning unit at Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood	Approved
07/00586/TRE	Tree work at 554 Oundle Road, Orton Waterville	Approved
07/00663/CTR	Tree work at 24 Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville	Approved
07/00593/FUL	Conservatory at 31 Borthwick Park, Orton Wistow	Approved

10. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

(a) The following payments were authorised

Anglian Water (Cherry Orton Road allotments)	£32.51
Beebys (churchyard maintenance)	£299.80
HM Revenue & Customs (for June)	£84.12
Clerk's Salary (for June)	£391.09
Clerk's expenses (for June)	£33.53

(b) Income received to date

J Hopper – shed rent	£140.00
M Lodge – shed rent	£100.00
VAT Refund	£1,511.19
Allotment rents	£77.00
Bank Interest on Saver Plus Account	£164.52

14. MAINTENANCE MATTERS

The following matters were raised for the attention of the Council:

- (a) The Chairman had a site meeting with Mr Rowcroft from Highways regarding the state of the roads. Although Cherry Orton Road looked bad because of the numerous patching, it was fundamentally sound; whereas Lady Lodge Drive was all right on the surface but was slipping underneath. The part of Lady Lodge Drive which was done last year had been rejected by the Council and was being redone this year under the guarantee. Cherry Orton Road would not be resurfaced this year but it will be reviewed in the 2008 budget.
- (b) The speed activated sign on Brimbles Way near Matley is not working. This is a danger due to the proximity of the school and the Protection of Children from Harm.
- (c) The Orton Parkway coming off the Fletton Parkway roundabout is far too dark. The City Council is to be asked to review the adequacy of lighting which is below acceptable levels.
- (d) The Council had put 4 wooden posts in the grass verge near the Cherry Orton Post Box – 2 have now gone missing. The Council is to be asked to replace the 2 missing posts.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The WI has replaced the sign To the Village Hall due to deterioration. The Chairman asked that a letter of appreciation be sent to the WI Chairman, Mrs B Noble.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.55 pm.