

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting  
held in the Village Hall, Glebe Avenue, Orton Waterville on  
Wednesday, 19 September 2007.

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Present:- Mrs G Thornley (in the Chair)    Mr M Chambers    Mrs J Farnham    Mr J Gillings  
          Mrs D Harkness                    Mr T Howlett    Mr C Long        Mr M Smith from 7.45pm  
          Mr M Stone  
          Members of the Public – one    Press – none        Ward Councillors – none

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr A Kempself and Cllr Mrs S Allen. Mr Smith apologised for being late. Mrs Harkness gave notice that she would have to leave at 9.30pm and Mrs Farnham gave notice that she would have to leave by 9.45pm.
2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – Item 8 – Mr C Long (member of the Village Hall Committee)  
  Item 8 – Mr E Howlett (member of the Village Hall Committee)  
  Item 8 – Mrs J Farnham (member of the Village Hall Committee).
3. LOCAL POLICING MATTERS – PCSO Beverley Johnson reported that arrests had been made due to the evidence of Smart Water. The crime in Orton Waterville has gone down and, therefore, the concentration of manpower is being targeted in areas of Orton Longueville parish. However, the PCSOs are still cycling through Orton Waterville and keeping an eye on things such as illegal parking.
4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 JULY 2007 – Mr Howlett proposed and Mr Stone seconded that the minutes be signed as a true and correct record. This was carried.
5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(a) New Code of Conduct (Minute 5b)

A reply was received from CALC regarding the dispensation rule. This was circulated to all members and noted.

New Declaration of Interest forms were circulated to all members for completion and return.

(b) Vacancies (Minute 5c)

Notification was received that no election had been called for and it was confirmed that the Parish Council could now go ahead and co-opt. The Clerk had tried to contact two people who had previously expressed an interest but one had moved away and the other's circumstances had changed and he was no longer available. It was agreed to contact Mr Sockalingum, an allotment holder from Chandlers, who had once attended a parish council meeting and shown some interest.

(c) OCSYP (Minute 5d)

A letter of acknowledgement for the grant was received and confirmation that Mr Stone would be added to the executive committee. This was noted.

(d) Training Courses (Minute 5e)

Notice of a Training Course for parish councillors run by CALC at its headquarters in St Ives was given. Interested parties should contact the Clerk. This was noted.

(e) Traffic Regulation Amendment Order (Orton Centre) 2007 (Minute 6a)

Confirmation was received that this was now in place. This was noted.

(f) 46 Cherry Orton Road (Minute 12a)

The Clerk had ascertained that no mention of access was made in the conditions of the planning consent. However, the access on the planning application was shown as 'existing'. The Clerk contacted Mr Seymour to ask if he was aware that permission from DEFRA was required to make an access across Common Land. Mr Seymour replied that he had not made an access – the access was already there when he had bought the property. The Parish Council meeting accepted this and agreed not to take it any further.

(g) Website (Minute 13)

It was reported that a website for Orton Waterville already existed. Mr Smith agreed to find out what the capabilities of this website are and, in particular, whether it could offer the Parish Council a page on it.

6. NEW CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- (a) Prospective Purchaser – A letter was received from a prospective purchaser of property in the parish asking if the Parish Council could say whether it would object to a planning application, if made, on the property in question. The Clerk had replied that, whilst the Parish Council was consulted on planning matters, it was not the proper authority which can legally grant consent. That authority lies with Peterborough City Council. This was noted.
- (b) Martin Whelan – Correspondence was received from Martin Whelan, the Parish Support Officer, asking if he could come to address the Parish Council. An arrangement was made for the meeting on 21 November at 7pm. This was noted.
- (c) Kathie Longbone – Mrs Harkness informed the Parish Council of the Neighbourhood Investment Area Leader, Kathie Longbone, and proposed that she be invited to speak on 17 October at 7pm. This was seconded by Mr Chambers and carried.
- (d) Bus Services – A letter regarding changes in the bus service was circulated with the agenda. This was noted. A previous objection to the service had now rectified itself and Mr Gillings, who had asked for it to be an agenda item, was satisfied. It was agreed that no further action was necessary.
- (e) Renewal of Car Park Permits – It was agreed to reapply for this year's permits the same as last year, ie the permit holders being the Clerk, the Chairman, the Vice Chairman and Mr Chambers.
- (f) Anonymous Letter – An anonymous letter was received by the Clerk and circulated with the agenda. It was agreed take it no further. The general policy of ignoring anonymous letters was confirmed.
- (g) Trees and Ponds – A report from the Tree and Pond Warden was read out. Quotations are awaited for 150 hedgerow plants to infill gaps at Gostwick allotments, Debdale hedgerow, hedgerow near the orchard of old Lady Lodge Farm, and at the Play Area. Mr Howlett proposed that this recommendation be accepted and that Mr Russell to be asked to apply to the City Council for this funding on our behalf. He also proposed a vote of thanks for the work that Mr Russell does. This was seconded by Mr Chambers and carried.

7. BURIAL GROUND

The Clerk reported that the fencing between the Windmill and the proposed cemetery was now in place.

A plan had been received from the Architect and circulated with the agenda. The local vicar had been consulted and, in his opinion, there were too many paths for a lawn cemetery. He, from his professional experience, also recommended that the paths be tarmac and not gravel. Mr Howlett proposed that this advice be followed and that the Vicar be thanked for his advice. This was seconded by Mr Chambers and carried. Mr Chambers also proposed that the height of the fencing on the plan be reduced to 2m. This was seconded by Mrs Farnham and carried.

8. VILLAGE HALL

By the week of the Village Show the graffiti had still not been removed. On chasing up the City Council it was only possible to have the graffiti removed in time for the Show. Re-waxing would have to be done later, if still required. It was agreed that the re-waxing would not now be required.

The Parish Council continues to have representations from the Village Hall Committee regarding the tree which the City Council inspected in July and considered that it needed attention within 6 months. Although it has not yet been 6 months, the Village Hall Committee are greatly concerned about it from a Health & Safety point of view. It was agreed that the Clerk should write again expressing these concerns.

9. ALLOTMENTS

(a) Wyman Way

The quotation from Peterborough Tree Services for the annual meadow cut was £750. This was double what it was last year. The Clerk endeavoured to obtain alternative quotes. Beebys Landscaping quoted £519 for this year and £545 for next year. Mr Chambers proposed and Mrs Harkness seconded that Beebys quotation be accepted as the lower tender. This was carried.

(b) Cherry Orton Road

On 30 July a final visit was made by the Pest Control Officer. There was no sign of an infestation of rats on the allotments. The allotments were pronounced clear and the traps removed. This was noted.

(c) Gostwick

A quotation of £145 for clearing the weed growth from the Car Park area was received from Beebys Landscaping. Continuing maintenance of spraying the car park 4 times a year would be £120 per annum (£30 per visit). They also quoted £145 for cutting down and removing cuttings from Plot 23. Mr Howlett proposed and Mrs Harkness seconded that these quotations be accepted. This was carried.

Letters had gone out to all the allotment holders notifying the change in the Contract to begin on 1 April 2008. All allotments were occupied except plot 23 which was in a poor condition. It was debateable whether anyone would take this plot on. A member of the public who was present at the meeting and who was on the Council's waiting list indicated that he would take it on whatever condition it was in. Mr Stone proposed and Mr Smith seconded that Mr Gary Masters be offered this plot free of charge for the rest of this year. This was carried. Mr Masters agreed to reposition the boundary wire in its original place.

Another call was received regarding wasps on the allotment. A second call out to the Pest Control Officer was made. It was discovered that the 'queen' had survived the first visit and afterwards had begun to rebuild her colony. A reduced fee of £50 was charged to the Parish Council for the call out.

A complaint was received regarding bonfires being lit on the allotments. Having looked into the legal position as regards bonfires, it was discovered that occasional bonfires were allowed. The Clerk had impressed on allotment holders (when asked about this) that consideration should be taken of neighbouring residents.

It was agreed that the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Councillors representing Orton Brimbles should accompany the Clerk on another site visit to identify any action that may need to be taken.

## 10. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) New applications since last month

07/01135/FUL	Car parking at Norwich & Peterborough B/S, Lynch Wood	No objection
06/01863/FUL	Amendment to new Orton Centre plan	No objection
07/01304/FUL	Extension to 20 Whitewater, Orton Wistow	No objection
07/01397/TRE	Tree work at 4 Debdale, Orton Waterville	No objection
07/01415/TRE	Tree work at 554 Oundle Road, Orton Waterville	No objection

(b) Decisions on previous applications

07/00799/LBC	Replacement windows at 76 Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville	Approved
07/00973/FUL	Decking and awnings at Windmill, Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville	Approved
07/00988/FUL	New shop front at 2/3 Bushfield Court, Orton Centre	Approved
07/01033/FUL	Change of use of former Barclays at Lynch Wood	Approved
07/01064/FUL	Garage conversion at 4 Gleneagles, Orton Waterville	Approved
07/01138/FUL	New shop front at QD, 1 Misterton, Orton Centre	Approved
07/01156/FUL	Change of use at Unit 1 and 2 Gateway Park, Orton Southgate	Approved
07/01171/FUL	Conservatory at 22 Gostwick, Orton Brimbles	Approved
07/01198/FUL	Conservatory at 3 Pembroke Avenue, Orton Waterville	Approved
07/01241/ADV	Illuminated sign at 25 Manasty Road, Orton Southgate	Approved
07/01242/FUL	Windows at 25 Manasty Road, Orton Southgate	Approved
07/01277/CTR	Tree work at 31 Cherry Orton Road, Orton Waterville	Approved
07/00785/FUL	Extension at 42 Whitewater, Orton Wistow	Approved
07/00847/FUL	Conservatory at 89 Lessingham, Orton Brimbles	Approved
07/00886/FUL	Garage extension at 21 Lady Lodge Drive, Orton Waterville	Approved
07/01017/FUL	Extension at 4 Dundee Court, Orton Northgate	Approved
07/00896/FUL	Generator at Kingfisher House, Goldhay Way, Orton Goldhay	Approved

## 11. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

### (a) The following payments were authorised

OCSYP (grant under section 137 LGA)	£500.00
BT (phone charges)	£112.87
Coleman's (filing cabinet)	£324.99
PCC (wasp treatment)	£178.75
J Bradley (fencing)	£2761.25
Beebys (churchyard maintenance for August and September)	£599.60
HM Revenue & Customs (Tax and NIC)	£107.57
Clerk's Salary (for August and September)	£778.77
Clerk's expenses (for September)	£58.02
CALC (block advert)	£24.00
M Russell (pond maintenance for 2 quarters)	£80.00
RBS Software Solutions (Accounting software and Training Day)	£634.50

### (b) Income received to date

J Hopper – shed rent	£140.00
M Lodge – shed rent	£100.00
Bank Interest on Saver Plus Account	£223.11

### (b) Wages

The Clerk explained that Bulley Davey had been performing a wages service for the Council for the past four years, as a personal favour to her, free of charge. Not only was this service free of charge but, because the Accountants were performing this service on line, the Parish Council was receiving a bonus of £150 from the Inland Revenue as an incentive payment. The Clerk appreciated the help that was given to her at the time of her bereavement but asked the Council to consider putting this arrangement on a more professional footing now that four years had passed. It was agreed to ask Bulley Davey to provide a quotation for next year based on the actual cost of the Wages Service.

## 12. MAINTENANCE MATTERS

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

- (a) It was reported to the Parish Council that the bushes between the Napier Place Sheltered Housing complex and the public footpaths were originally planted to act as a screen to protect the elderly residents of the complex, and therefore ought to be at least 1 metre high. The City Council, when cutting the hedges, have taken it far below 1 metre thereby causing the residents to feel vulnerable. It was agreed to inform the City Council of this and find out what its policy is.
- (b) It was reported to the Parish Council that there is no lighting whatsoever on the roundabout at the junction of Fletton Parkway with Orton Parkway. It was agreed that this was particularly dangerous on such a busy roundabout especially now when the dark nights are drawing in. It was agreed to notify the City Council.
- (c) It was reported that there was a dead tree in the grass verge of a public footpath which runs between The Gannocks and The Meadows, Chapel Lane. As this could be a danger to pedestrians using the footpath if a branch was to come down, it was agreed to ask the City Council to remove the dead tree.
- (d) The Parish Council was pleased to note that the City Council had patched up the holes in Cherry Orton Road and Chapel Lane. However, it has not yet replaced the white line markings (especially at the junction of Chapel Lane with Cherry Orton Road) and it has been some time now. It was agreed to remind the City Council about this.
- (e) It was reported that the hedgerows along the footpaths and bus lanes in Orton Brimbles have not been cut back for some years. Now that the nesting season is over, it was agreed to ask the City Council when this is to be done.

## 13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.00 pm.