

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting
held in the Village Hall, Glebe Avenue, Orton Waterville on
Wednesday, 18 February, 2009.

Present: Mr C Long (in the chair) Mrs J Farnham Mr P Froggitt Mr M Rowett
 Mrs J Stokes Mr M Stone Mrs G Thornley

Members of the Public – two Ward Councillors – none PCSOs - none

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mr M Chambers, Mr G Masters, Mr M Smith and Cllr Elsey.
2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS –
 - Item 9 – Mr C Long (member of Village Hall Committee)
 - Item 9 – Mrs J Farnham (member of Village Hall Committee)
 - Item 10 – Mr P Froggitt (allotment tenant)
 - Item 10 - Mr M Rowett (allotment tenant)
3. LOCAL POLICING MATTERS – There were none present.
4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 JANUARY 2009 – Mr Stone proposed and Mrs Farnham seconded that the minutes be signed as a true and correct record. This was carried.
5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
 - (a) Freedom of Information Act (minute 6a).
Due to the Chairman being on holiday, the working group have not met. This was noted.
 - (b) New Councillors Training (minute 6b).
Notice was received that new training courses will be scheduled after April. This was noted.
 - (c) Environment Project (minute 6c).
An order for trees and shrubs (within the approved budget) has been placed with Peterborough Tree Services. This was noted.
 - (d) Vacancies (minute 6d).
The Chairman had contacted Robert Maskill who confirmed that he is interested but is temporarily unavailable due to a health problem.
 - (e) Bus Shelters (minute 15c).
It was reported that the vandalised bus shelters have been repaired but the graffiti still remains. This was noted.
 - (f) Buckingham Palace Garden Party (minute 6f).
No Bulletins had yet been received. This was noted.

STORAGE SHED

At this point an item regarding the Storage Sheds at the Cherry Orton Allotments was brought forward from item 10. It was brought to the attention of the Parish Council that, during last week's heavy snowfall, a resident had reported that one of the storage sheds had partially collapsed. The Clerk, on being informed of this, immediately notified the tenant and both went to inspect the damage. The rear part of the shed, which is not as much used as the front, had completely fallen in and was hazardous for 2 reasons: (i) the roof was constructed of asbestos and (ii) more of the building was in danger of falling. The Clerk sought advice from CALC and was told to first contact the Insurance Company and then to comply with Health & Safety Regulations regarding putting a cordon round the building. Also the tenant should be asked to remove his storage from the sheds and he and the allotment holders should be notified to keep clear of the building. The Insurers were sending their own Surveyor to assess the damage but he had not yet contacted the Clerk. Due to the age of the building it is not certain that the Insurers will pay out. In the absence of the Chairman, the Clerk consulted Mr Froggitt who contacted a Builder to cordon off the building and advise whether or not it was repairable. The Builder condemned the building and advised that none of it was safe. Should there be another heavy snow fall, the front was also in danger of collapsing. The Clerk immediately terminated the tenancy agreement with the tenant and instructed him to remove his belongings and to notify her when the shed had been vacated. Letters were sent to the allotment holders. The Clerk's action was endorsed by the members of Council and it was agreed to thank the resident who had informed Mr Long.

(d) The Clerk was asked to report overhanging trees at 3 Cherry Orton Road.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was agreed to ask the ward councillors to report on the state of the new Ortongate.

It was agreed to request the City Council to consult the Parish Council about happenings at the Lady Lodge Arts Centre.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40 pm.