

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

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

 Members of the Public – none PCSO Matt Lauch Ward Councillor – Gavin Elsey

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mr M Chambers and Mr M Stone.
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 11 - Mr P Froggitt (allotment tenant)
 Item 11 - Mr M Rowett (allotment tenant)
3. LOCAL POLICING MATTERS – PCSO Lauch reported that there had been a spate of burglaries, handbag snatches and theft from motor vehicles. Operation Stay Safe and Operation Anglian are taking place, and police are patrolling to keep youths dispersed. His attention was drawn to certain incidents which had occurred recently – gang intimidation and damage to property at the Church Drive shops and Trading from the Lay By on Oundle Road. He agreed to look into these matters.
4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 FEBRUARY 2009 – Mrs Farnham proposed and Mr Rowett 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 5a).
The working group have not met to deal with this matter. This was noted.
 - (b) Environment Project (minute 5c).
The trees and shrubs had been collected and an invoice received. No invoice had yet been received for the bird boxes. This was noted.
 - (c) Buckingham Palace Garden Party (minute 5f).
An email was circulated notifying the names of the successful nominees. This was noted.
6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED
 - (a) Consultation on Supplementary Planning Document – It was noted that these can be viewed on the City Council’s website where response forms can also be downloaded.
 - (b) Report from PCALC meeting – This written report was circulated with the agenda and taken as read.
 - (c) Update on Biodiversity Strategy – This document was felt to be of some importance and is being circulated to members.

At this point the Chairman adjourned the meeting to receive a report from the ward councillor regarding the Orton Centre, the Lady Lodge Arts Centre and the Community Fund. The meeting was re-commenced at 8.30 pm and it was agreed to add the following item on all future agendas – TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM WARD COUNCILLORS

7. PROCEDURES

The working group which met to review procedures and standing orders recommended that certain supplementary Standing Orders be added to the Model Standing Orders currently in place. Mr Smith proposed and Mr Froggitt seconded the following resolution:

THAT the following Supplementary Standing Orders be adopted in addition to the Model Standing Orders produced by NALC and that these Supplementary Standing Orders be reviewed at the Annual General Meeting each year.

1. A Planning Committee shall be appointed, the quorum for which shall be four or one third of its members whichever is the greater, with the power to decide the Parish Council's view on those planning applications where that view must be submitted before the next Parish Council Meeting can take place. Notwithstanding, if no objections from the public to such an application have been received, the Clerk, after consultation with at least two councillors who have examined the plans in detail, shall have the unfettered power to decide whether the plan should be considered by this Committee.
2. The Clerk, after consultation with at least two councillors, one of whom would normally be the Chairman or Vice-chairman, shall have the power to spend up to £500 a month to deal with emergencies between meetings.
3. The Clerk, after consultation with at least two councillors, one of whom would normally be the Chairman or Vice-chairman, shall have the power to make decisions where a decision must be made before the next meeting.
4. On specific matters, as the Council may decide, the Clerk, after consultation with certain named councillors, shall have the power to make decisions – subject to the financial limitations as stated in 2 above.
5. In an extreme emergency the Clerk shall have the power to make decisions without consultation – subject to the financial limitations as stated in 2 above.
6. As the executive officer of the Council, the Clerk shall have the power to make executive decisions according to the policies of the Council – subject to the financial limitations as stated in 2 above.

This motion was carried.

Mrs Farnham proposed and Mr Smith seconded that the Planning Committee, as mentioned in Supplementary Order 1 above, should consist of the following named persons:

Mr M Chambers, Mr C Long, Mr M Smith, Mr G Masters, Mr M Rowett, Mr M Stone, Mr P Froggitt, Mrs G Thornley, Mrs J Stokes and Mrs J Farnham, and that the total number being 10 would make the quorum 4.

This was carried.

8. BURIAL GROUND

Having received confirmation from the City Council that the application for Capital Expenditure on Burial Grounds from Orton Waterville was passed at their Budget Council meeting, Mrs Thornley proposed and Mr Rowett seconded that the tender from Maypine Construction Limited be accepted as the lowest 'bona fide' tender. This was carried.

9. VILLAGE HALL – It was reported that £4,300 should be granted from the Community Fund to extend the Village Hall Car Park. Planning permission has been granted for improved lighting. Mrs Farnham indicated that she would be stepping down as the Parish Council's representative on the Village Hall Management Committee at the next AGM.

10. STORAGE SHEDS

The Clerk reported that the Insurance Surveyor had been to survey the damage but she was still waiting to hear a decision from the Insurance Company. In the mean time it was agreed that quotations should be obtained for the demolition of the building. Concern was expressed regarding the Health and Safety aspect and it was agreed to contact a Health and Safety Officer to obtain Health and Safety advice. The temporary orange netting around the collapsed part of the building was quoted as £80 to erect. No confirmation had yet been received from the tenant to say that the building had been vacated. The Clerk was asked to write to the tenant to obtain clarification. It was agreed to review the Lease of the other Storage Shed at the next meeting.

11. ALLOTMENTS

A budget had been produced which showed that the annual income did not cover the expenditure on any of the allotment sites. Mr Smith proposed the following allotment rents for 2010/11.

- (a) Wyman Way – £6 per allotment because there is no water or security fencing.
- (b) Cherry Orton Road - £24 per allotment and £12 for half an allotment.
- (c) Gostwick – £24 per allotment and £12 for half an allotment.

This proposal was seconded by Mrs Thornley and carried. It was agreed to give the tenants 1 year's notice of this increase. It was noted that the Lease on the Gostwick site expires on the 27th January 2010. It was agreed to inform the City Council that the Parish Council wishes to continue with the Lease. A complaint had been received regarding bonfires. It was agreed to remind allotment holders to be considerate when lighting bonfires but to inform the complainant that occasional bonfires are allowed. It was reported that a lot of hen houses had been erected on the Gostwick site without permission. Mr Smith, Mrs Stokes and Mrs Farnham agreed to view these structures on site and report at back at the next meeting.

12. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

(a) The following payments were authorised

D Kirk (notice board repair)	£50.00
Peterborough Tree Services (hedgerow plants)	£143.75
PDG Architects (interim fee)	£1,418.86
CPALC (annual subscription)	£607.25
HM Revenue & Customs (Tax and NIC)	£104.30
Clerk's Salary (for March)	£395.20
Expenses (for March)	£34.75

(b) Income received to date

J Hopper – shed rent	£140.00
M Lodge – shed rent	£100.00
Bank Interest on Saver Plus Account	£1.65

(b) 2008/9 Recharges – Notice has been received that these recharges will be £1,405.09.

(c) Insurance – Norwich Union's Parish Council Scheme has been recommended. The Chairman is to be asked to compare this with Allianz, the Parish Council's present insurers, and to report back.

13. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) New applications since last month

08/01456/FUL	Extension at 48 Sevenacres, Orton Brimbles	No objection
08/01581/FUL	Extension at 23 Sevenacres, Orton Brimbles	No objection
08/01392/FUL	Change of use at Fitzwilliam House, Bushfield (Dental Surgery)	Objection*
09/00040/ADV	Signs at 3 Ortongate	No objection
09/00130/NTEL	Telecom mast at Beverstone, Orton Brimbles	Objection**
08/01581/FUL	Extension at 23 Sevenacres, Orton Brimbles	No objection

*The Parish Council was extremely concerned about the provision of services (especially health care) within its parish. It therefore opposed any change from the existing class of use on the present building unless and until permission for a dental practice of comparable size had been granted on another building in the Orton Centre on the grounds that this service is essential to the local community.

**The Parish Council objected to yet another mast on Brimbles Way as a proliferation of masts would have a detrimental impact on the visual amenity of the area. In particular, the Parish Council objects to the total height of the mast being 14.4m. This is higher than the existing mast and higher than the street lights.

(b) Decisions on previous applications

08/01335/ADV	Retention of illuminated display unit at Orton Filling Station	Withdrawn
07/01566/FUL	Part retrospective application for 4 units in Paxton Road, Orton Goldhay	Granted

14. MAINTENANCE AND OTHER MATTERS

(a) The Clerk was asked to report that the street light outside Matley Community Centre was not working. It was reported 6 months ago that it had completely gone out but it has not been repaired. It was agreed to request immediate action and better illumination.

(b) The Clerk was asked to report that flooding on the Oundle Road has deteriorated the road surface and to ask if anything could be done about this regular flooding in rainy weather.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.20 pm.