

LITTLE EATON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 22nd AUGUST 2007 AT THE O.A.P. HALL, BARLEY CLOSE.

PRESENT: Simon Downing [Chairman], John Easter, Brian Adams, Norman Grundy, Bill Hutchison, Tom Parr, Brenda Shore and Cllr. Alan Summerfield.

Cllr. Carol Hart [DCC], fourteen members of the public and David Dodgson [Clerk].

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

0807.01 As it became apparent that the Chairman had an interest in resident concerns about to be voiced, the Vice-Chairman assumed the Chair.

Many concerns were expressed about a planning re-application for additional dwellings on Morley Lane – the details of which mirrored those recorded at Minute 0406.17.2. John Easter confirmed that the concerns would be borne in mind when the re-application was considered in the upcoming Agenda.

Other residents recorded concerns regarding possible planning approval breaches at the Tomlinson construction site on Duffield Road and fears were also expressed about the proposed usage of the former HL Plastics site. Cllr. Summerfield noted both sets of concerns and undertook to raise the issues at Borough.

AGENDA PART I: NON-EXEMPT INFORMATION:

0807.02 Apologies for Absence: Alan Machell, Tim Phillipson and Cllr. E Knight [EBC]

0807.03 Declarations of Members' Interests: Simon Downing declared an interest in the last item at Agenda item 16[C] and indicated he would pass the Chair to John Easter and take no part in the consideration.

0807.04 Non-exempt Minutes of Meeting on 25th July 2007: It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Chairman sign-off the Minutes as a true record.

0807.05 Reports of Sub-Committees: There was nothing to report.

0807.06 Crime / Neighbourhood Watch / Anti-social Behaviour:

Bill Hutchison reported that PC Crooks had agreed to keep an eye on the problem of litter at Croft Corner whilst Norman Grundy said that on the odd, evening occasions when he had visited the area, he had found nothing of consequence.

Brenda Shore reported concerns on Barley Close over 'boy racers' and John Easter responded that the Police were aware of this and were attempting to deal with it.

Simon Downing said that Council should continue to monitor these issues.

0807.07 Reports from outside body Representatives: Cllr. Hart reported that D.C.C. was consulting on a proposed 40 mph limit on the B6179 south and the Clerk confirmed that this consultation was to be considered later at Agenda item 10.

0807.07 Reports from outside body Representatives: continued ...

Cllr. Summerfield reported on issues he had taken away from the July '07 meeting:-

- The change of use from 'industrial' to 'office' use of the MW Polymers site would not require planning permission so the provision of extra car parking could not be influenced.
- He had noted that the dead tree on Alfreton Road was still 'in-situ' so he would progress this matter further.
- A detailed response from the Environment Agency regarding field flooding off Alfreton Road was still awaited.
- An E.B.C. official was to make a site visit to survey the need for a litter bin by the Co-op bus stop.
- He passed to Norman Grundy details of E.B.C.'s committed and proposed procurement plans for mobile, play equipment.

0807.08 Finance:

On a proposal by Bill Hutchison – seconded by Brian Adams – it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the following accounts be cleared for payment:

1902	S J Brown – Contractor Services: July '07	£270.25
1903	L.E. Senior Citizens – Hall hire: April-July '07	£52.50
1904	Park Hall Designs – Web site management: July-Aug.'07	£40.00
1905	C Hourd – Park-keeping: August '07	£348.00
1906	D Dodgson – Clerk salary/exp's: August '07	£432.75
1907	Petty Cash top-up [via DD]	£75.00

0807.09 Park / Pavilion:

John Easter reported that on 30th July, the Park-keeper had suffered accidental damage to his hand which required a couple of hospital visits. Mr Hourd is expected to resume his duties on 28th August and it was agreed that John Easter should monitor his fitness.

Mrs Weston and her daughter had been accompanied by Mr Easter around the park to consider a possible site for a semi-mature tree which the former wished to donate. After discussion, Council agreed to choose a species and location during the planned review of park trees in September.

Whilst a response from Mr Salt regarding the 'brick-yard' was still awaited, John Easter reported that – during informal talks – Mr Salt had intimated the possible availability of a plot of land at the bottom of Holm Avenue – despite being very disenchanted about the planning delay on his proposed barn conversions at Elm Farm. After discussion, it was agreed that when/if Mr Salt replied to Council's letter, LEPC would respond by indicating its support to any planning appeal Mr Salt might mount.

0807.10 Footpaths: There was nothing to report.

0807.11 Highways: Clerk spoke to an 'initial consultation' letter from D.C.C. regarding the proposed imposition of a 40 mph speed limit from the 'Little Chef' to the current 30 mph location on the B6179. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should record Council's support for the proposal.

Brian Adams reported that an overhanging hedge on Alfreton Road near to T'owd Lane was obstructing passage. John Easter responded by stating that the hedge was trimmed annually – around this time of year – by Amber Valley Borough Council. It was agreed that the situation be monitored ahead of the September meeting. After Bill Hutchison had raised the problem of post-rain 'puddling' on the pavement by the Co-op, it was agreed to review the matter at the September meeting.

0807.12 Street Lighting: Norman Grundy had no problems to report.

0807.13 Emergency Planning: Tom Parr reported that the 'Community Response Plan' had now been upgraded and that he and Alan Machell would spend the next few weeks contacting all listed parties to seek their 'inclusion approval'.

0807.14 Better Kept Villages: Bill Hutchison reported that Mark Rayner would be beginning work on Phase 1 at Croft Corner the following week and he reminded the Chairman that the removal of the current tree stump was therefore a priority. Simon Downing undertook to progress Mark Toms re the commencement of Phase 1 at the park bank.

Bill Hutchison then spoke to his pre-distributed paper on the proposed, Phase 2 procurement of bulbs/flowers for Croft Corner. On a proposal by Bill Hutchison – seconded by Norman Grundy – it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to procure items as detailed. Tim Phillipson had undertaken to collect the bulbs from Gedney, Lincs. and Bill Hutchison would collect the flowers from Meynall Langley.

The Chairman reported that Mark Haspel was aware of the need to remove the blue cedar at Croft Corner and Bill Hutchison said that he – perhaps with Tim Phillipson – would visit DGC shortly to procure winter bulbs. Finally, John Easter said that several residents had asked for thanks to be passed to LEPC for the splendid displays of flowers in the village.

0807.15 Churchyard: Brian Adams reported the general surrounds were in good order but some of the plots needed attention. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that – as time permitted – LEPC’s contractor be asked to apply weed-killer to the affected plots.

0807.16 Youth Facilities: Norman Grundy reported that the ‘Skate & Ride’ park would visit on 14th September and he shortly expected to receive posters and consent forms. He thanked Cllr. Summerfield for providing the report which indicated E.B.C.’s positive intentions regarding mobile play equipment.

0807.17 Planning Matters:

0807.17.1 Council noted three recent, conditional approvals.

0807.17.2 Council considered the following applications and raised no objections:

0707/0051: Enlarged conservatory: 37 Crab Tree Hill

0707/0074: Side ext’n/front porch: Bleak House, Rectory Lane

0807.17 Planning Matters: continued ...

0807.17.3 Having earlier declared an interest in the following application, the Chairman passed the Chair to John Easter and withdrew. The application in question [ERE/0707/0077] was for the erection of two dwellings plus changed driveway access at Moor Farm, Morley Lane – which had been a major topic of concern at the earlier session of ‘Public Participation’ at Minute 0807.01 above.

This application follows the refusal of a previous application [ERE/0306/0043] which sought the erection of five dwellings on the site. Despite the reduction in dwelling numbers, there was agreement that the current objections raised earlier by residents – together with those recorded by LEPC about the earlier application – remained valid. On a proposal by Brian Adams – seconded by Cllr. Summerfield – it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that LEPC should object to the current application – both on previous grounds and because a daytime ‘ecological assessment’ in November was perhaps diluted in value by its very timing. Clerk to inform E.B.C.

0807.18 Licensing Matters There was nothing to report.

0807.19 Correspondence Check-list and Clerk’s Report Clerk spoke to the pre-distributed check-list and invited Councillors to tick any items of interest - which he would then forward. Simon Downing indicated that he would be tabling recent correspondence from a resident at the September meeting.

0807.20 Village Hall/Car Park Project: Simon Downing reported that LEPC was a finalist in the WREN grant application competition. The final hurdle was a 2-sided, A4 submission of what benefits and ongoing outcomes would result from bid success. He distributed a draft document for consideration after the meeting.

The Chairman also reported that – because the Big Lottery Fund had been inundated with applications – it had found it necessary to limit initial assessments to around 1/3rd of those received. He was pleased to say that LEPC’s application had been accepted for initial assessment – decisions on which were now expected in December.

He reported that the final car park bollards were now in place and – responding to Norman Grundy’s progressing of car park lighting – said that lighting would follow the current priority of securing boundaries with neighbouring property.

0807.21 Allotment Update: Clerk reported that he had written to Mrs Le Blond seeking a site and/or office meeting but had been informed by her secretary that she was on annual leave until 28th August. Clerk to progress upon her return.

0807.22 Web Sites: It was agreed that the site was growing and was well maintained. A link to the L.E.C.A. site was now in place and an article on the 'Bates Trust' would shortly appear. Simon Downing suggested that the public notice board at Croft Corner should bear details of the web site. After discussion, it was agreed to revisit this matter in September.

0807.23 Revised Village Plan: There was nothing to report.

0807.24 Items for next Agenda:

- Park/Pavilion: Survey of park trees and tree donation offer.
- Highways: Hedge condition: Alfreton Road / T'owd Lane.
Pavement depression near Co-op.
- Web Sites: Web site address on public notice board: Croft Corner

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.23 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 26th September 2007 at 7.30 pm.
[Apologies: B Shore]

Signed:.....

Chairman

Date: