

LITTLE EATON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 27th JUNE 2007 AT THE O.A.P. HALL, BARLEY CLOSE.

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

Cllr. Carol Hart [DCC], Brendan Morris [EBC], three members of the public and David Dodgson [Clerk].

PRE-MEETING: Mr Morris spoke to his pre-distributed paper on the compulsory acquisition of land for allotments. He spoke of the complexity, cost and duration of the exercise – highlighting that Severn Trent [as a ‘Statutory Undertaker’] – had a higher level of protection. He responded to members’ questions and undertook to research whether a CPO could be sought primarily for a play/sports area with allotments as an adjunct. The Chairman thanked Brendan Morris for his attendance and guidance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

0607.01 A resident asked if a ‘village skip’ could be reintroduced but was informed that huge increases in ‘landfill tax’ – together with higher skip hire costs – made this economically unviable.

A resident reported that the pavement between the ‘Queen’s Head’ and New Inn Lane was in poor condition whilst other village pavements had been well resurfaced. Cllr. Hart undertook to raise this issue at DCC. A representative of the village ‘allotment project’ sought a summary of the ‘PRE-MEETING’ and was provided with a copy of the speaker’s notes. Having been informed by the L.E.A.P. representative that Duffield P.C. had increased the area of its allotments, Council – in the light of the earlier presentation – indicated that they would continue to apply themselves to this difficult issue.

AGENDA PART I: NON-EXEMPT INFORMATION:

0607.02 Apologies for Absence: Brian Adams & Cllr. E Knight [EBC]

0607.03 Declarations of Members’ Interests: There were none.

0607.04 Non-exempt Minutes of Meeting on 16th May 2007: After Tom Parr was substituted for Tim Phillipson on the ‘Website Co-ordination Sub-Committee’ at Minute 0507.05, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Chairman sign-off the Minutes as a true record.

0607.05 Reports of Sub-Committees: There was nothing to report.

0607.06 Crime / Neighbourhood Watch / Anti-social Behaviour:

Bill Hutchison reported resident concerns about youth activity in the new car park. The Chairman said that PC Crooks had reacted and also confirmed that a local ex-policeman had reported licence plate numbers of possible drug users at the car park. John Easter said the situation had improved due to the above actions but then reported both trouble at the Church Hall – with a shed break-in and attempted theft of lead – and reports of petty crime at the top of Park Close. The Chairman undertook to raise these issues with PC Crooks and indicated that the ex-policeman was prepared to write an article on ‘parental drug awareness’ for the next NW newsletter.

0607.07 Reports from outside body Representatives: Cllrs. Hart and Summerfield reported that the Borough Council meeting was scheduled for the following evening.

0607.08 Finance:

0607.08.1 On a proposal by Norman Grundy – seconded by Alan Machell – it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the following accounts be cleared for payment:

1883	Cancelled cheque	£	0.00
1884	Aggregate Ind’s. UK Ltd – Car park extension		£70586.33
1885	M W Haspel – C/yard maint’ce & bowls path re-lay		£ 1370.00
1886	Severn Trent Water – Charges to 07.06.07	£	470.12
1887	Abbey Glass – Pavilion window repairs	£	410.00

1888	S J Brown – Contractor services: May '07	£ 258.50
1889	Park Hall Designs – Web site maintenance: June '07	£ 20.00
1890	C Hourd – Park-keeping/Exp's: June '07	£ 364.25
1891	L Hollis – Pavilion cleaning: Apr. – June '07	£ 190.20
1892	D Dodgson – Clerk's salary/exp's: June '07	£ 432.75
1893	D Ingman – Internal Audit: 2006-07	£ 135.00
1894	D Dodgson – P/copies: Apr.- June '07	£ 23.94

0607.08.2 Clerk reminded members that their Returns of Financial & Other Interests were needed for submission to the Borough Council [6 were received on the night and 4 are awaited].

0607.08.3 The Chairman invited members to consider possible projects for a revised village plan ahead of revisiting the topic on the July agenda. He also undertook to seek a visit from a D.R.C.C. representative to advise on plan consultations and possible funding for plan preparation.

0607.08.4 Council noted the positive report from the Internal Auditor in respect of the Accounts/Annual return for 2006 – 2007.

0607.09 Park / Pavilion:

0607.09.1 As well as reporting that a non-parishioner had voluntarily 'strimmed' the bank, John Easter also recorded that he had received 'infant thanks' for the return of the roundabout! He said rats had been sighted near the park steps on the car park and the Clerk was asked to report this to E.B.C.

0607.09 Park / Pavilion: continued ...

0607.09.2 Mr Easter remained concerned about over-use of the park by junior football clubs and – given recent weather conditions – had fears about vehicle access to & parking on the field during Carnival. After discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that – following consultation with colleagues – John Easter would rule on event cancellation[s] during the Carnival period if unacceptable ground damage might result. Tom Parr reported a request from Duffield carnival group asking whether – as they had cancelled their carnival – their floats could join the Little Eaton parade. This was agreed.

0607.09.3 Tim Phillipson said that some trees in the park were in need of remedial action or – in a few cases – possible removal. It was **RESOLVED** that members should convene a site meeting in July to survey the problems. Responding to Norman Grundy, John Easter felt that, given her very limited hours, the work of the pavilion cleaner could be classed as 'adequate'.

0607.10 Footpaths: Tim Phillipson had obtained a commercial quotation for 'web site compatible' footpath mapping but still needed clarification from DCC over both copyright issues and the possible provision of a similar 'compatible' data source. It was agreed to revisit the issue in July. Simon Downing said the contractor had tidied up the path between Barley Close and Alfreton Road.

0607.11 Highways: Alan Machell briefly spoke to the reply from MW Polymers following LEPC's parking concerns and said he would be taking up the offer of a site meeting with the firm. Bill Hutchison had been made aware of a resident repairing various cars on the roadway of New Inn Lane and Tom Parr undertook to gather more facts. Cllr. Summerfield was asked to have EBC remove a dead tree opposite 84 Alfreton Road.

0607.12 Street Lighting: Norman Grundy had no problems to report.

0607.13 Emergency Planning: Simon Downing reported that he had supplied sandbags to some residents and Cllr. Hart was asked to enquire if County could deliver more sand to Cuckoo Wood Farm. Alan Machell confirmed that the Village Emergency Plan would be completed ahead of the October deadline.

0607.14 Better Kept Villages: Bill Hutchison, Tim Phillipson and Brenda Shaw had met to consider possible regenerative work at both Croft Corner and the park bank. Three quotations for preparatory work at Croft Corner were considered and on a proposal by Tom Parr – seconded by Bill Hutchison – it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to award the work to Mark Rayner in the sum of £240.00. Tim Phillipson undertook to inform Mr Rayner. Various views on park bank options were aired and it was agreed to revisit this issue in July. Norman Grundy reported a tidy up of the area behind The Smithy – possibly by the owner[s] – and said it looked much better. Tim Phillipson felt there was a need for additional dog waste bins – if only to avoid the use of normal litter bins! The Clerk will bring the most recent costings correspondence from EBC to the July meeting for reconsideration.

0607.15 Churchyard: After discussion and following a proposal by Tim Phillipson, seconded by John Easter, Council unanimously **RESOLVED** that the churchyard maintenance contract be awarded to Mark Haspel for the period June 2007 to May 2010.

0607.16 Youth Facilities: Norman Grundy reported that the climbing wall – originally scheduled for Carnival Day – would now visit on Sunday 1st July. He was still hopeful that the skate-park would visit in the Autumn and he had reiterated to Rachel Sidebotham that if any visiting facilities became available during the coming year, the answer from Little Eaton would be YES PLEASE! Having attended recent ‘play workshops/seminars’, John Easter opined that virtually all parishes had concerns about youth service resource limitations.

0607.17 Planning Matters:

Council considered the following applications and raised no objections:

- 0507/0024: Conservatory: 29 Camp Wood Close
- 0507/0037: Garage: 2 Haddon Drive
- 0507/0052: Dormer windows: 11 Haddon Drive
- 0507/0065: Rear extension: 96 Alfreton Road
- 0607/0024: Extensions & garage: 35 Vicarage Lane

0607.18 Licensing Matters There was nothing to report.

0607.19 Correspondence Check-list and Clerk’s Report Clerk spoke to the pre-distributed and ‘late’ check-lists and invited Councillors to tick any items of interest - which he would then forward.

The Chairman spoke to a letter from the Thomas Bates Trust seeking a parish council representative for its committee. Bill Hutchison volunteered and undertook to inform the Secretary of the Trust.

Council also noted Alex Sommerville’s letter of thanks for his leaving gift.

0607.20 Village Hall/Car Park Project: Simon Downing informed members that the bids to both WREN and the BLF had been acknowledged as ‘Valid’ and that a representative of WREN would be visiting the village on 4th July for the purpose of ‘bid verification’.

Three quotations were considered for the fencing of the car park in the area abutting Peter Morley’s land. On a proposal by John Easter – seconded by Bill Hutchison – it was **RESOLVED** to award the contract to Summertime Fencing in the sum of £3,300.00. However, as the firm is not V.A.T. registered, they were to be asked to have their materials supplier[s] VAT invoice LEPC – with the non-material balance being paid to Summertime. The issue of car park lighting was deferred.

0607.21 Allotment Update: It was felt that this had been adequately covered at the pre-meeting presentation.

0607.22 Web Sites: Tom Parr reported that previous carnival photographs had now been posted and advised colleagues / clerk to contact Bruce Broughton individually if they were happy for their e-mail address to appear on the Council web site.

There was unanimous, positive support for Brenda Shore's proposal to post 'progress photographs' of Croft Corner's regeneration on the web site.

0607.23 Items for next Agenda: Revised Code of Conduct
Footpaths: Details for web site
Better Kept Villages:
Car park bank
Blue cedar: Croft Corner
Dog waste bins
Revised Village Plan

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.38 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 25th July 2007 at 7.30 pm.

Signed:.....

Chairman

Date: