

BURTON BY LINCOLN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting Held at the Burton Estate Club on Tuesday, 9th May 2006, Commencing at 7.45pm

Present: Eric Bell, (Chairman) Gordon Hickmore (Clerk to the Parish Council), Cllr Ray Sellars, Cllr David Cotton, Cllr Sarah Anyan, Mrs J Osterfield, Mr S Chadderton, , Mr G Lisseman, Mrs L Benson, Mr & Mrs F Applewhite Mr J Moore, Mr & Mrs P Cook, Mr & Mrs M Hakin, Mrs Anne Moore (Chair Burton Waters Residents) Mr G Oglanby, Mr & Mr & Mrs Reames, Mr & Mrs J West, Mr & Mrs R Newton and others 30 persons in all.

Introduction

Mr Eric Bell welcomed all parishioners to the meeting as the recently elected Chairman of the Parish Council. He stated that he was honoured to be elected Chairman and pledged to represent the interests of all parishioners during his term of office. He paid tribute to the retiring Chairman, John Copeland for all the time and hard work he had devoted to the parish during his 10 years in Office. It had been a period of great change with the development of the Burton Waters complex and the parish population almost tripling over the past 5 years. It was through his leadership that this change had taken place without difficulty and that we continue to enjoy harmonious relations between the communities. He proposed a vote of thanks on behalf of all parishioners, in recognition of all his hard work and dedicated service he had devoted to the parish during his 10 years in office. The resolution was greeted with acclaim.

1. Apologies for Absence: Mr P Russon, Mr J Copeland.

2. Minutes of the last Meeting The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 10th May 2005 were accepted as a true record, and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising.

3.1 Burton Pits Nature Reserve. The main pit with the fishing lake remained leased by Peter Russon and Sons while the two other lakes were leased by members of the fishing syndicate. One member had spent in the region of £30,000 clearing and dredging the lake and landscaping the area.

3.2 Burton Estate Club. The Club had applied for planning permission to extend the premises to improve the bar and provide a kitchen area and inside toilets. There was some concern that the application was for an "extension to the village hall" but the Clerk confirmed that the lease on the building remained with the Burton Estate Club. The address of the building had historically been known as the Village Hall since the Club was formed. The Club had negotiated a 35 year lease from the Monson estate and it was hoped that this longer lease would enable members to obtain a grant to cover the cost of the extension.

3.3 Anglian Water Bench Seat. In May 2005 the Council resolved to site the bench seat by the post-box. However, there were many who felt that the site was unsuitable and the seat remained in hall Yard. At the meeting of the Parish Council held earlier in the evening, the Council resolved to review this decision at the July meeting. On a show of hands, the meeting indicated almost overwhelming support for the seat to be positioned in the grounds of the Estate Club. The Clerk pointed out that as the seat was donated by Anglian Water and no public money was involved, the seat could be positioned in accordance with the wishes of the majority. However other sites would be investigated such as in the recessed area below the church. The Clerk agreed to seek the view of Mr Hansord who owned the land.

4. Annual Report of the Parish Council 2005/2006

4.1 The Chairman presented the Annual Parish Council report for 2005/06. A copy of the report is attached.

4.2 In answer to questions, the Clerk dealt with the following points not covered in the report:

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4.2.1 Vehicle Activated Speed Sign. VASS) The Clerk was pleased to report that he had secured a sponsor to fund the cost of a Vehicle Activated Road Sign (VASS) to be used as a traffic calming measure in the village where motorists were ignoring the 30mph speed limit. The equipment will be offered to other parishes along the B1398 as a local initiative to reduce the incidence of speeding. The Clerk will be contacting the police and the LRSP to approve the scheme. The cost of the equipment is £2750 plus VAT and Council expressed their thanks to the sponsors for supporting the parish so generously.

4.2.2 Road Markings. Repainting of the road markings in the village will be completed in the summer.

4.2.3 Quiet Lane – Fen Lane. Quiet lanes are a low priority with Lincs Highways and there are some doubts about their overall value. However, Highways conducting trials in conjunction with CPRE and the concept is included in the LCC Transport Plan for 2007-2011. Quiet lanes cannot exist in isolation and Highways will look at the possibility of Quiet lane status for Fen Lane when the planned cycleway is built linking the Pyewipe to Burton Waters. This is turn is linked to the construction of houses on Site A at BW but as the housing market is very slow, it will be 2-3 years before 50% of the houses are complete which is the trigger for funding. The Parish Council will continue to lobby for Quiet Lane status, but it is doubtful this would have any effect on the speed and volume of traffic using the lane.

4.2.4 Extension of 30mph speed limit. There was never a realistic prospect of extending the 30mph speed limit to New Farm as it does not meet the DoT criteria. It does not prevent us from continuing to lobby for an extension, but we should not be disappointed when it is rejected.

4.2.5 Defective Drain. This is a very sensitive issue and WLDC is taking legal action against the person responsible for the discharge of sewage which is leaching through a land drain and onto the road.

4.2.6 Graffiti. The Graffiti on the B1398 road signs has been reported to WLDC who are responsible for cleaning the signs.

4.2.7 Repairs to the Wellhead. The Clerk reported that he was in contact with Mr Paul Atkin but he was unable to complete repairs as he had been heavily involved with the Royal visit to the cathedral.

5. Financial Report.

The Parish Clerk presented the Parish Accounts for the year. He stated that the parish finances were in good shape and showed a modest expenditure over income for the year of £95. Income for the year totaled £3097 with £2745 from the parish precept and £355 from miscellaneous receipts and the VAT refund. The Council made grants of £900 and total expenditure was £3192. The current and deposit account balance at 31st March stood at £2736. The Journal cost approximately £300 per year to produce or just £1 per household for 4 issues which he considered excellent value for money. He was seeking sponsorship to cover the cost of printing the journal professionally to relive some of the burden on the editorial team. In 2005 the Parish Council agreed to provide a grant of £500 towards the cost of restoring the church bell - £250 from 2004/05 account and £250 in this financial year. A copy of the annual account is displayed on the notice board and at Annex B to the minutes. The accounts will be available for public inspection for 28 days prior to the audit date of 30th July.

6. Burton Waters & Odder - Progress Report

6.1 Work has begun on the rotunda over-water restaurant and it is expected to be completed handed over to the Chinese owners for fitting out by 4th June. The Bistro bar is expected to be opened at the end of June. No tenant has been found for the convenience store, but negotiations continue. The Burton Waters residents held their AGM in March and resolved to change the name of the organisation to the Burton Waters Residents Company. This change will enable the owners and tenants of businesses to be members of the group. The new Chairman of the committee is Mrs Anne Moore. The results of the Local Plan Inquiry and the recommendations of the inspector had been rejected by West Lindsey District Council and this had created problems for the developer. The hotel and conference site next to David Lloyds is proving difficult to market and an alternate use for the site is being considered.

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6.2 Burton Waters Cycleway. The Clerk confirmed that the extension of the cycleway to Burton waters from the Pyewipe would follow the A57 for part of the route but it would remain separate from the residential site. Construction would commence when 50% of the residential housing on site A is complete. The sum of £80,000 had been allocated by the developers towards the cost of the project.

7. The Burton Journal

7.1 The Burton Journal continued to be a valuable means of communication informing parishioners of Council business, events and issues and linking all communities within the parish. Production costs have been kept down by keeping the printing “in house” while maintaining the quality of the magazine as a whole. Costs work out at about £250 for the year or £60 an issue. Part of the cost is offset by a donation of £60 from a parishioner who wishes to remain anonymous but we will be seeking limited advertising to further reduce the cost of production. Costs cover paper, ink cartridges, laser toner and postage where copies cannot be delivered by hand. We are now producing 350 copies each quarter which takes 3-4 days to print and collate – a major task.

8. Suggestions for Items to be considered.

8.1 Footpath Safety and cleanliness on the B1398

Mr Fred Applewhite stated that the kerb is practically non existent on the footpath from Debonnaire Cottage to the Bede Houses and walking along there when the traffic is in full flow at 50mph is a constant hazard for all pedestrians including the school children. He requested that highways raise the level of the kerb. The clerk agreed to contact Highways Dept.

In conclusion the Chairman thanked all parishioners for attending the meeting and for their support throughout the year. There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.45 pm

Chairman Burton-by Lincoln
Parish Council