

Minutes of the Meeting of the Burton-by-Lincoln Parish Council Held at the Burton Estate Club on Tuesday 15th March 2005

Present: John Copeland (Chairman), Gary Lisseman, Eric Bell, Gillian Jolly, Steve Chadderton, Joan Osterfield, Peter Russon

In Attendance. Gordon Hickmore (Clerk), Cllr David Cotton, Cllr Ray Sellars, Cllr Sarah Anyan-Needham Andrea Smalley (Lincolnshire Police - Community Support Officer)

Also Present: - Mr P Cook, Mr D Rossington, Mrs E Cousins, Mr P Walker, Mr N Jackson, Mr D Whyles Mr J Moore, Mrs G Yeates and others

1. Minutes of the Last Meeting. The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 7th December 2004 were agreed, and signed by the Chairman.

2. Declaration of Interests

2.1 Burton Estate Club. The Clerk confirmed that the Standards Committee had considered the request from the members of Burton Parish Council for the grant of dispensation in respect of Burton Estate Club. Dispensation was granted for a period of 4 years from 10th Jan 2005 subject to the following provisions:

2.1.1 Whenever possible debate and decision taken at Council meetings in connection with Burton Estate Club to be held in open session.

2.1.2 Members of the Parish Council present at meetings must clearly state that they have a prejudicial interest in the matter but have been granted dispensation to speak and vote

2.1.3 Any vote taken in connection with a matter relating to Burton Estate Club must be on the basis of the community coming first.

2.2 Mrs Gillian Jolly declared a prejudicial interest in item 4.2.3 Grant for the Church Bell, and agreed not to speak or vote on the matter. The Council did not consider it necessary for her to withdraw from the room.

3. Clerk's Report

3.1 Local Strategic Partnership Meeting (para 3.1). The next meeting of the Local Strategic Partnership is on 21st March in Saxilby. Steve Chadderton agreed to represent the Parish Council at the meeting.

3.2 Free Trees (para 5.5). The Chairman confirmed that the free trees supplied by Lincolnshire County Council had been planted to screen a redundant beet storage area on land owned by Mr Fred Myers. The area falls within land farmed under the Countryside Stewardship Scheme. The trees were planted by members of the Burton Retired Gentlemen's Club in memory of Mr Derek Warnes.

3.3 Flood Risk Presentation (para 8.5). A presentation given by the Upper Witham Drainage Board in the Burton Estate Club on 8th March, was well attended by parishioners. The talk which was very reassuring, covered the construction and management of the flood defences along the Fosse and the protection this provides for properties at Burton Waters and Odder.

3.4 Fly Tipping. No further information is available on the progress of the fly-tipping prosecutions.

4. Finance

4.1 Parish Balance. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Current account stood at £1039 with £2527.79 in the deposit account and £35 in cash. He presented the draft income and expenditure account for 2004-05 which showed surplus of £743 for the year. However there were a number of expenses which required authorisation before the 31st March but it would still leave a balance of income over expenditure of £250. This could allow the Council to make a donation to a deserving cause under S137.

4.2 Grant for Church Bell Fund. Mr John Moore explained that the Parochial Church Council had raised only £1500 towards the £4500 cost of rehangng the church bell, which had the dual role of summoning parishioners to services and providing the chimes for the church clock. While the Church could just meet the cost, there would be no funds remaining to carry out other essential repairs to the building. It was proposed by Eric Bell and seconded by Peter Russon that the Council provide an immediate grant of £250 towards the cost of rehangng the bell with a further £250 in April. The resolution was carried unanimously.

Resolved: That the Council provide a grant of £250 towards the cost of rehangng the Church bell with a further £250 in April.

4.3 Authorisation of Expenditure. The follow expenditure was authorised by the Parish Council to be paid in March:

Clerk's Salary October 2004 – March 2005	£302.44
Lincolnshire Highways – production of Road Signs	£250
Grant for Church bell fund	£250

The following expenditure was approved for payment in April/May

Staples Stationery	£100
Lincs Association of Local Councils – subscription	£90
Welldressing expenses for VE Day celebrations	£50
Grant for Church bell fund	£250

4.4 Internal Auditor. The Parish Council agreed to the appointment of Mr Nigel France as the Internal Auditor for the Parish.

5. Planning

5.1 Planning Applications.

5.1.1 M05/P/0128 Hawthorn Cottage Burton. The Council had no observations to make on the Application to build a garden wall separating the house and garden at Hawthorn Cottage.

5.1.2 M04/P/0819 Cedar Lodge Burton. The Council had no observations to make on the minor amendments to the roof elevation at Cedar Lodge.

5.1.3 M05/P/0170 Mill House Burton. The Council had no observations to make on the application for alterations and extensions to Mill House Burton.

5.2 Local Plan 2003-2016 - Sites BW2 & BW3 Burton Waters. The Clerk reported on the proceedings of the Local Plan Inquiry hearing on 9th March, regarding the objections raised by Midas Homes and Burton Lodge Ltd to the wording of the plan in relation to sites BW2 and BW3 at Burton Waters. The appellants are seeking approval for the current planning permission on BW2 for 60 holiday cottages to be widened to include residential and commercial properties. Burton Lodge Ltd is seeking the reinstatement of site BW3 for further development. The land includes the wooded area at the entrance to Burton Waters as well as the woods and lakes between the David Lloyd Club and the A57. Burton Lodge Ltd suggests there is a requirement for “special needs housing” which could be built in this area as it is close to amenities. West Lindsey District Council is opposing the applications on the grounds that any change to the plan will upset the overall balance of the development. WLDC maintain that no planning consent has ever been given on site BW3 which should remain as a landscaped area. It is also an area subject to flooding. The inquiry was adjourned with the inspector requesting details of all current planning consents before making a site visit. Although it is difficult to judge the outcome, the Clerk believed that the appeal will be rejected.

5.3 Protected Frontages – Main St Burton. Post the meeting it was confirmed that the Local Plan Inquiry had accepted the application by the Parish Council for the frontages leading into the village from Fen lane to be designated as “Important Frontages in Settlements”. This will preserve the view across the fields as you enter the village and stop any further development beyond the existing houses on Main St.

5.4 Naming of Land at Fen Lane. The owners of the stables at Fen Lane/Main St have advised WLDC they intend to name the site as “Abbot’s View”.

5.5 Lodge Farm – Fen Lane. A complaint had been made that a building at Lodge Farm, Fen Lane was being used as a dwelling. WLDC Planning Dept has been informed and is investigating.

6. Correspondence

6.1 Correspondence received included the following items:

WLDC Information Booklets for Members.

Lines Association of Local Councils January Circular

Lincolnshire County Council Local transport Plan

Standards Board – Code of Conduct Review

DEFRA – Clean Neighbourhoods and Environmental Bill

(The bill gives Councils the power to issue fixed penalty notices for litter, graffiti and dog offences)

East Midlands regional assembly Information booklets

WLDC Affordable warmth Strategy

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister – Local Vision Discussion documents –

Vibrant Local leadership, Why Neighbourhoods Matter,

Office of Deputy PM – freedom of Information Act Authorised officers.

WLDC – Funding Fair 7th April – information on grants and funding for local organisations

Sgt Craft Saxilby Police – Information letter

7. Roads Footpaths & Road Safety

7.1 Speed Limit B1398. Lincolnshire Highways confirm that the proposed 50mph speed limit on the B1398 will be installed the week commencing 3rd May.

7.2 Road Signs. The Parish Council has ordered road signs at a cost of £250 which will be erected at the start of the speed limits on the B1398 and Main St. They will read “Burton by Lincoln -Please drive carefully through our village”. Similar signs have also been ordered to be erected on the A57 at Odder. The signs are designated as traffic calming measures and the cost of production is borne by the Parish Council. Improved 30mph limit signs have also been ordered for the approach into the village from Fen Lane.

7.3 Fen Lane. The Parish Council resolved to press for the 30mph speed limit to be extended from Woodcote Lane to New Farm as recommended in the Parish Plan. Mr R Sellars agreed to contact Lincolnshire Highways Dept requesting that the salting of the road be extended from Woodcote Lane to beyond New Farm.

8. Burton Waters and Odder

8.1 There were no items affecting Burton Waters and Odder not covered in other agenda items. The Annual General Meeting of the Burton Waters Residents Association will be held on 16th March at Woodcocks. The Council will be represented by the Chairman.

9. The Future of the Burton Estate Club

9.1 Mr David Rossington stated that although there were concerns amongst some club members who had expressed reservations about the proposal to formally establish the building as a village hall, there was general agreement that the club should seek grant aid to improve the facilities. He had established that as a private club, grants would not be available from County Council or lottery funding, unless the building was administered by a Parish Hall Management Committee (PHMC). This would mean that the lease would have to be transferred to a PHMC who would then be empowered to seek grants from public funds. He explained that Canwick village hall operated under a similar arrangement with a PHMC established as a Charitable Trust, but with the Canwick Social Club responsible for the day to day running of the facility. This arrangement had worked successfully for 60 years and could well provide a blueprint for the future.

9.2 However, he emphasised that the process would take time but as a first step, the Club needed to negotiate a longer lease on the building as the current 17 year term would be too short to secure a grant. The Club in the past had offered to buy the freehold of the property but the Monson Estate was unwilling to sell. At the last Club Committee meeting, it was agreed that the Secretary should write to Lord Monson to seek a minimum 35 year lease on the building. The Clerk confirmed that £350 had been allocated in the 2005/06 budget to cover legal costs associated with the establishment of a PHMC.

9.3 In general discussion there was a view expressed that a large sum of money should not be spent on a leasehold property as this would only benefit the Monson Estate. Some thought should be given to finding an alternative site, where a custom built facility could be built with adequate parking and with recreational facilities which could be used equally by villagers and Burton Waters residents.

10. Miscellaneous Items

10.1 Vandalism – BT Telephone Box. A group of youths had been seen in the vicinity of the telephone box and the information has been past to PC Willey for investigation. It was thought that local youths were involved.

10.2 The Burton Journal. The next edition of the Burton Journal will be published in early April.

10.3 Siting of the Bench Seat. LCC Highways Dept had agreed to the siting of the bench seat close to the post box. The Clerk confirmed that the parish insurance covered public liability of £5m. Estimates would be required to construct the hard standing. Following discussion the Parish Council agreed to site the seat adjacent to the post box.

Resolved: That the bench seat be located by the post box.

10.4 Waste Disposal and Litter. Problems remained at Burton Waters regarding the storage of wheelie bins. This was part of an ongoing review of services by WLDC. The Chairman thanked the members of the Litter Squad for their continuing efforts to keep the B13978 and Fen Lane clear of rubbish.

11. Any Other Business

11.1 Annual Parish Meetings. The Annual Parish Meetings will be held in the Burton Estate Club on the following dates, all parishioners are welcome to attend:

11.1.1 Annual Parish Council Meeting. Tuesday 3rd May at 7.30pm

11.1.2 Annual Parish Meeting. Tuesday 10th May at 7.30pm

11.2 There being no other business the meeting closed at 2105.

.....John Copeland
Chairman