

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Burton-by-Lincoln Parish Council Held at the Woodcocks on Tuesday 13th May 2008

Present: Eric Bell, Steve Chadderton, Fred Myers, John Moore, Peter Cook,

In Attendance. Gordon Hickmore (Clerk), Cllr David Cotton, Cllr Ray Sellars

Also Present: Mr J Copeland, Mr & Mrs M Hukin, Mrs P Cook, Mr J Green and others.

Apologies: Cllr Jackie Brockway, Ian Marriott, Joan Osterfield, Mr R Dowson, PC Martin Clark

Eric Bell welcomed Council members and parishioners to the meeting. He stated that he was standing down as Chairman but he would remain an active member of the Council. He congratulated David Cotton on his re-election as the representative for the Saxilby Ward on the District Council.

1. Election of Officers and Acceptance of Office

1.1 Chairman. It was proposed by Cllr Bell and seconded by Cllr Myers that Dr Steve Chadderton be appointed Chairman for 2008-09. Carried unanimously.

Resolved: That Mr Steve Chadderton be appointed Chairman of the Parish Council.

1.2 Vice-Chairman. It was proposed by Cllr Bell and seconded by Cllr Moore that Fred Myers be appointed Vice Chairman. Carried unanimously.

Resolved: That Mr Fred Myers be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council.

1.3 Acceptance of Office. The acceptance of office was duly signed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman and witnessed by the Parish Clerk.

1.4 Register of Members Interests. The Clerk reminded all Councillors that they should register any changes to the declaration of member's interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting. The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13th March were agreed, and signed by the Chairman.

3. Clerk's Report

3.1 Theft of Vehicle New Farm. Enquiries revealed that the reported theft of a 4x4 vehicle was incorrect but a motor cycle that was reported stolen was later recovered from a nearby field. It was over 7 days before the police came to investigate.

3.2 Electricity Supplies Burton and Burton Waters.(Para 2.1) Eon confirm that there is an ongoing programme to improve the electricity service to the village and Burton Waters. An upgraded supply is planned for Burton Waters in 2010 which will be routed under the Fosdyke from the Skellingthorpe transformer. Supplies to the West end of the site, which will include the new holiday complex, will be routed from Saxilby. An alternate power supply for Burton village will be provided by new supply line from Lincoln.

3.3 Waste recycling.(para2.3) The new recycling collection is now in force and is working well. However, with the increase in the recycling materials, the blue bin may need to be collected weekly.

3.4 WLDC Parish Assembly. The Clerk attended the parish assembly in Gainsborough on 3 April. It was an interesting evening which included a tour of the new District Council offices. He pointed out that the West Lindsey Parish Assemblies were now well established and an important forum where parishes can express their views and ideas on local issues. He recommended that Councillors attend future meetings.

3.5 Roads and Road Safety. The repairs to the B1398 were completed successfully. PC Martin Clerk carried out a speed check on vehicles travelling through the village on Friday 2nd May from 3.30 to 5pm. He was greatly surprised by the volume of traffic using the village as a cut through and has request the Road Safety Partnership to install “Archer”, a device to record the volume and speed of traffic. This could help the parish in seeking further traffic calming measures.

4. Annual Parish Council Report

4.1 The Chairman presented the Annual Parish Council report to the meeting. He stated that copies of the report will be available for parishioners at the Annual Parish meeting to follow. A copy of the report is at Annex A.

5. Finance

5.1 Annual Accounts. The Clerk presented the accounts for the year 2007/2008. A copy of the balance sheet is attached at Annex B to the minutes.

Resolved: That the Parish accounts for the Financial Year 2007/2008 be accepted.

5.2 Annual Audit. The Annual Return for the year ending 31 March is required to be presented to the external auditors by 30th June. Members of the Council approved unanimously the statement of accounts and the statement of assurance required by the auditors.

Resolved:

1. The statement of accounts contained in the Annual Return presents fairly the financial position of the Council for the period ending 31st March 2007
2. The Statement of Assurance is approved by the Council.
3. Mr Nigel France is appointed as the Internal Auditor for the Council

The declarations were duly signed by the Chairman and the Responsible Finance Officer.

5.3 Authorisation of Expenditure. The follow expenditure was authorised by the Parish Council:

Allianz Cornhill Insurance	£309.39
Staples	£58.80
Hickmore – laser toner	£51.25
Clerk’s salary April – June	£344.88
Woodcocks	£175

6. Planning

6.1 The Council considered the following planning applications prior to the meeting:

6.1.1 Application 121818 Burton Waters. The erection of office accommodation and car parking Site D at Burton waters. The Council had no observations to make on the proposals.

6.1.2 Application 121843 Burton Cliff farm. (Cllr F Myers registered a prejudicial interest). To retain change of use and alterations to buildings from agricultural storage for use as a classic car restoration workshop and offices. The council opposed the application for change of use of the buildings.

6.2 A decision is awaited on the following application:

6.2.1 Application 121437 Burton Waters - Erection of a 120 bedroomed hotel, conference centre.

6.3 Proposed New Rugby Club – B1398. The Clerk advised the Council that plans for the development are at an advanced stage and the Architect is willing to explain the plans to the Council prior to submission to the planning authority.

6.4 Development of Site B Burton Waters. The developer will be revealing the plans for Site B at the Annual parish meeting. It is expected that it will include plans for shops and 49 houses.

6.5 Rosewalk, Main St Burton. The new owner of Rosewalk has informed the Clerk that he is revising the plans for the property and is currently consulting with West Lindsey regarding the style of the new building so it is complimentary to the village and to the adjoining properties. He is also seeking professional advice to restore M'ladi's walk to its original form.

7. Correspondence

7.1 Correspondence received included the following items:

- WLDC Information Booklets for Members.
- Lincs Association of Local Councils April Circular
- WLDC – Concessions for Senior Citizens
- East Midlands Regional Assembly – Regional Plan to 2026
- Code of Conduct for Councillors
- Election correspondence
- Gordon Hickmore - retirement

8. Burton Waters and Odder

8.1 The Landings – Health and Safety issues. Peter Cook expressed concern about the health and safety risks attached to the removal of the bollards at the Landings to allow service vehicles to access the shops and offices. Often they were not replaced creating a trip hazard for pedestrians. It was the view of the Council that this was not a concern of the Parish Council but was the responsibility of the Management Company to ensure the safety of the area. Both the management and the businesses should have a H&S policy identifying risks with remedial action as they would be liable for any injury or claim. Peter Cook agreed to contact the Management Company expressing his concerns.

8.2 Burton Waters – Road Traffic Act. The Clerk agreed to investigate the powers of the police in relation to the enforcement of the Road Traffic Act at Burton Waters.

Note: The Clerk is advised by the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership that a “public place” is defined within the Road Traffic Act as anywhere that is open to the public, including paid or unpaid access. Therefore those areas that are accessible to the public at Burton Waters are subject to the Road Traffic Act, but there are grey areas. For instance the 20 mph speed signs are only advisory so it would be difficult to enforce a speed restriction, but a driver could be charged with dangerous or careless driving. The residential area is private land so no offence, even drink related, can be enforced unless it can be proved that the driver first drove on a public road.

9. Any Other Business

9.1 Retirement of the Parish Clerk. Gordon Hickmore had written to the outgoing Chairman expressing his wish to retire as Clerk following the Annual Parish Meeting. He stated he had held the office for 8 years during which time the parish had almost quadrupled in size from 150 to nearly 550 people. It was a very busy and satisfying job but now at the age of 72 it was time to enjoy a more leisurely retirement. The vacancy had been advertised in the May newsletter but so far we had not received a response. He would be advertising the vacancy within the Lincolnshire Association of local Councils network which he hoped would reach a wider readership. He stressed that he would continue to support the new Chairman until a replacement is appointed. Julia Hepburn had indicated that she would be willing to edit and publish the Newsletter. Gordon stated he hoped to continue with the publication of the Burton Journal provided the Parish Council would cover the production costs.

9.2 The meeting recorded a vote of thanks to Gordon for all his hard work on behalf of the parish during his term of office.

9.2 Lincoln Cycle Race. John Moore had report a case of dangerous driving by one of the support vehicles to the race organisers. The driver had acknowledged his error and had offered to donate his fee for the race to a charitable cause. It was suggested that the Church Fund would be a worthy beneficiary. John Moore agreed to follow up on the complaint.

9.3 Lincoln Rugby Club – Plans. Mr J Copeland expressed concern that Lincoln Rugby club should be allowed to publish plans for the site prior to submission to the Planning Authority. The Clerk explained that under the revised planning regulations, applicants are encouraged as part of the planning process to consult fully with the public and other bodies before final plans are submitted to the Planning Authority. This is particularly important if a project is likely to be controversial so that changes and amendments may be made before the plans are submitted. This process is aimed at encouraging public participation in planning issues and speeding up the planning process so that obvious errors and concerns can be resolved before the plans are formally considered by the Parish and District Councils.

9.3 Next Meeting. The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 8th July in the Estate Club

9.4 There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.15 pm.

..... Steve Chadderton
Chairman