

SEIGHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th May 2009 at Seighford Village Hall.

Those present;

Parish Councillors-

Mrs M Rathbone [chair]	Mr W Brown [deputy-chair]	Mr J Eld
Mr R Eld	Mr D Price	Mrs J Wetton
Mr R Booth	Mr J Dunning	

Mr D Jones, clerk to the council and approximately 16 members of the public.

Councillors M Winnington [County/Borough & R Sutherland [Borough] from 20.00 hrs

Prior to the meeting starting the Council elected Mrs M Rathbone to be Chairman for the coming year and Councillor W Brown to be Deputy-chair. Both positions were proposed, seconded and approved unanimously.

1/ Councillor Rathbone welcomed those present and the meeting started at 19.30 hrs.

2/ Apologies; none were received.

3/ Councillors to advise the meeting of any agenda items in which they have an interest;

Councillor R Eld-St Chad's Church

Councillors R Eld, J Eld and W Brown –Seighford Airfield development

4/ Council representatives on local bodies;

It was agreed that the following councillors would represent the Parish Council as stated.

- Cooper Perry School-Councillor Mrs J Wetton.
- Great Bridgeford Village Hall- Councillor W Brown.
- Derrington Village Hall-Councillor J Dunning.
- Seighford Village Hall- Councillor Mrs Rathbone.
- Derrington Millennium Green- Councillor W Brown.

5/Development at The Green, Seighford;

Mr Simmons presented the Council with the completed Section 106 agreement for signature. After a brief discussion and as there were no concerns with the terms of the agreement, the chairman duly signed it on behalf of the Parish Council.

6/ Matters raised by the general public;

Drive-me Appeal; Councillor R Thomas from Ranton Parish Council appraised the meeting of the current position which had been outlined in his email dated 12th May that was circulated to all councillors and is attached to these minutes for the public record. Ranton & Seighford Parish councils are instructing a

barrister, the action group is to raise funds only. The position of the councils instructing barrister was cleared by the Chairman and clerk of Ranton PC in discussions with NALC. All information is being distributed to all councillors and the Seighford commitment was at present capped at £4000. However as the appeal could now possibly extend to 6 days from the original 2 days extra funding will be required. Concern was expressed by some councillors that they did not always seem to know what was happening promptly, but any information will in future be sent to the clerk for distribution..

Following a question from the floor it was explained that the Parish Council's income consisted of the parish rate [precept], a grant from the Borough Council, an annual VAT refund , rent from the football field in Seighford and a refund of work done on an agency basis for the County Council Highways. The average annual expenditure of the Parish is approximately £13000.

At present it appeared that the Council would not have any further moneys to donate to the appeal fund, despite Councillor Brown intimating this at the parish meeting.

7/ Confirm minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th March 2009;

The minutes, having been previously circulated, were accepted and signed as a true record. The clerk apologised for the error in detailing the venues of the April & May meetings.

8/ Matters arising from these minutes;

Item 4; Councillor Price was asked for a copy of the transcript of his statement to the meeting, he declined.

7 [III] Doxey hedge- does not yet appear to have been cut .Council to write to David Kidney MP.

7[IV] Illano cottage -work has been done on the drainage but has not yet been fully tested due to insufficient rainfall..

7 [V] Great Bridgeford Bus shelter- was eventually completed by Mr Smith. However Mr Jeff Brown the farmer cleared up the site and has erected a fence to keep cattle away from the foundations. To be thanked on behalf of the council

13[II] Storage container on land at The Grove, Great Bridgeford- no response has been received from Persimmon the previous owners of the land. Councillor Rathbone has found out the maintenance company responsible for the site and is contacting them for details of the current owner.

9/ Financial matters;

a. Authority was given to pay the following invoices-

Clerks salary & expenses-	£466.22
TGM [grass cutting April]	£351.19
Wicksteed Leisure [paint for play equipment]-	£336.89
Derrington Village Hall [grant]	£1500.00
Community Council [photocopying/printing]-	£50.16
First City [cost re Drive-me appeal]	£1833.55
SPCA [annual membership& course costs]	£401.00
Great Bridgeford Village Hall [hire fees]	£16.10

R Smith [work on bus shelter at Great Bridgeford] £1850.00

Allianz Insurance [annual premium] £809.58

- b. Draft accounts; the councillors had been supplied with a draft set of annual accounts before the meeting. However as they are still with the internal auditor it was agreed to defer acceptance until the July meeting.
- c. Estimate of council income/expenditure for coming year; the councillors had been supplied with an estimate of the council's expenditure/income for the coming year. The clerk stressed that it was an estimate based on historical spend and projection. The council agreed to delay the repairs to the Great Bridgeford bus shelter for another year saving an estimate of £900. At this stage nothing had been received from the County Council regarding our Highway Maintenance Allowance for the coming year.. Clerk to give update of figure for the July meeting.
- d. Request for more funding for the Drive-me appeal; was deferred until the July meeting.
- e. To agree grants for the coming year; deferred to the July meeting as clerk was asked to provide details of previous grants paid.

10/ Correspondence received since the last meeting;

A list of all correspondence received since the March meeting was distributed to the councillors. Any councillor wishing to peruse any item please contact the clerk.

11/ Planning matters;

Local Development Framework; Councillor Price had prepared a response from the Parish Council as agreed at the March meeting. This was duly submitted to the Borough Council.

Derrington-23 St Matthews Drive; work is under way on large concrete pad which is concerning neighbours.

Councillors Winnington & Sutherland expressed their thanks to the residents for their support, work and ideas in the action group they organised to look at problems that could be created by the proposed LDF especially on the roads in the parish.

12/Issues concerning Highways, Footpath and Playing Fields;

Derrington; Blackhole Lane /Long Lane- the owner of the property on this junction has mowed the verges for a number of years. He is now landscaping the same verges and planting flower beds. It was agreed that it was nothing to do with the Harish, it comes under the Highways .

Main Road into Stafford, A518 is severely potholed by M6 bridge. According to Councillor Winnington this is to be repaired during this financial year.

Seighford;

- Clanford Road-opposite Seighford Hall- the road has a sharp drop between the road edge and the verge.
- The gulleys outside the Drive-me entrance need attention as the road frequently floods.
- The "Give Way" signage from the main road onto Clanford Road has been provided.

- The lines on the road outside the school have still not been provided despite a site meeting with Mike Webb
- The ditch outside Seighford Hall has been cleared as agreed with the Environmental Agency.

Great Bridgeford; bench on the green at Whitgreave Lane, has been promised for the end of May

Concern was expressed about advertising signs that have appeared advertising Seighford Lakes and the Hollybush Pub.

13/ Items for the next Parish Council meeting to be held on July 20th at Derrington VH as follows;

Accept annual accounts and agree annual return for the district auditor.

Agree grants to be made to local institutions

Discuss further funding to the Drive-me appeal

NB; please note clerk is away from 13th to 27th June