

BRAFIELD ON THE GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs V Hartley
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Tel (01604) 858360

Minutes of the Meeting
Tuesday 17th March 2009
Sargeant Memorial Hall, 7.30pm

Public Enquiries.

<p>Present:</p> <p>Mrs G Morgan-Chairman Mr D Clayson Mrs H Barnell Mrs R Kentigern-Fox Mrs Dawn Allingham Mr S Hollowell – SNC Councillor</p> <p>Mrs H Frostwick - Footpath Warden 2 parishioners</p> <p>Before the meeting a parishioner reported a broken neighbourhood watch sign in Green Road. There was also a complaint about parking and driving on verges. The SNC dustbin lorry goes over the verge unnecessarily – Clerk will write to SNC. Helen will put a piece in the newsletter about obstructing pavements for buggies and wheel chair users.</p> <p><u>2009/16. Apologies</u> – Kevin Ward, Gill Ager, Steve Hollowell, Brian Binley, PCSO Richard Markam.</p> <p><u>2009/ 17. Minutes of the previous Meeting (13.1.09)</u> These having previously been circulated and signed the Councillors duly adopted them as a true record.</p>	<p align="center">VH</p>
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<p><u>2009/18. Matters Arising</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Freedom of Information changes - Kevin had previously reported that he is in the process of rationalising all the files that he has electronically into one structure. When this is completed he will get together with Helen and Terry Barnell. ii. Weight Restriction Order – Gill Morgan informed the meeting that although the restriction order was in place no one wishes to police it. iii. Pub Field – no developments on this at present iv. Police matters – Richard Markam is leaving the Police as a PCSO and is to start a post as a Police Constable. Clerk to write and thank him for his loyalty to Brafield which had been proactive not reactive. v. Affordable Housing – the walk about is arranged for 23.3.09. vi. Car Shop Parking – this is still an issue despite the second letter having gone out. vii. Drains in Grove Road – since the road has been widened the drains are now set in from the edge of the road which results in water flowing onto Billing Road and posing an ice hazard. May Guerney did not seem hopeful about how to rectify this. Clerk to contact Martin Smith, from May Guerney to ask him to deal with the issue. viii. Font for website – after discussion it was agreed that the use of the font ‘Ariel’ should be continued. 	<p>VH</p> <p>VH</p>
<p><u>2209/19. Rights of Way</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Helen Frostwick had no problems to report. ii. There have been adverse comments about the use of crow scarers on local fields. NFU guidelines are that they should not be used before 7am, should avoid public rights of way and not be set too frequently. Ruth will find out whose land the equipment is on and inform the Clerk who will write to the relevant land owner/s. iii. Concern has been raised over the laurel hedge planted on the footpath side of wall on the path between the church and Billing Road. Helen Frostwick will take this up with NCC. 	<p>RK-F, VH</p>

2009/20. Police Matters

Ruth reported that a meeting of the Neighbourhood Watch is scheduled for 20.4.09 to discuss lines of communication and 'smart water'. Charlotte Pearson is taking over from Richard Markam as PCSO for Brafield. PC Roger Smith and PCSO Richard Markam had called recently with no significant incidents to report, some youths had been prevented from setting fire to the seat on the Green however. Litter is regarded as a priority. Yardley Hastings are suffering from anti-social behaviour in their lay-by.

2009/21. District Council Matters

Helen Barnell had contacted Steve Hollowell about rubbish left on the hedge near St Thomas Road.

It was agreed that the entry in the newsletter about the spring clean should be expanded requesting people to keep the area near their properties clear.

2009/22. Correspondence

- i. Mr Haynes – apologising for delay in response re overhanging shrubs in Care's Orchard – now been cut down
- ii. Persimmon Homes – re above + response
- iii. Heath Lambert – insurers for Spicers re damaged planter (£50 received)
- iv. Further letter to NCC Highways re grass cutting schedule
- v. SNC – re road closure for Country Fair
- vi. SNC – changes to cash Office arrangements at Towcester and Brackley offices
- vii. South Northants Homes – easier ways to pay rent newsletter
- viii. South Northants Homes – Briefing Paper
- ix. CPRE – Planning Road Show – 21.4.09 – KW may go
- x. Milton Keynes Council – Local Government Working Together Conference
- xi. South Northants Homes – Major Works Briefing Paper
- xii. SNC – Big Lottery Play Initiative Mobile Play Project – storage of equipment would be an issue
- xiii. NCC – Bus Servicer Contract Renewal
- xiv. Arts News
- xv. CPRE – Stop the Drop (litter) Campaign- Gill had registered with the Big Tidy Up campaign and will

KW

<p>receive tabards, bin bags posters etc. Dawn took the information. A date was set – 25.4.09.</p> <p>xvi. ACRE – Village of the Year Competition</p> <p>xvii. West Northants Joint Core Strategy Consultation and Update - KW</p> <p>xviii. Highways Agency – Stakeholder News</p> <p>xix. BDO Stoy Hayward – Local Council Briefing - DA</p> <p>xx. NCALC – Update - circulated</p> <p>xxi. Town and Parish Standard – newsletter - circulated</p> <p>xxii. Clerks and Council Direct</p> <p>xxiii. Local Council Review - circulated</p> <p>xxiv. Marian Rainbow – complaint! – Gill Morgan will reply</p>	<p>DA</p>
<p><u>2009/23. Highway and Transport Issues –</u></p> <p>Dawn Allingham and Gill Ager will attend a meeting at Thrapston over snow issues. She will check the liability position for an individual clearing snow from in front of their property.</p> <p>Kevin had reported about the Children’s Road Safety Poster Competition at Little Houghton that has been covered in the Parish Magazine. This seemed a good project in principle, it had been applauded by the PCSOs. The PC could replicate in some form perhaps especially if there is some progress on the Billing Road which could involve the children in producing posters about the environmental and amenity impact of large lorries breaching the order as well as the speeding issue down there.</p>	<p>GA, DA</p> <p>DA</p>
<p><u>2009/24. Strategic Planning</u></p> <p>Kevin reported on the following:</p> <p><i>At the last 2 meetings of Mid Northants. Parishes (3 Dec 2008 and 26 Feb 2009), these are the matters of information that have arisen.</i></p> <p><i>The continued lack of a Northampton Implementation Area has resulted in opportunistic behaviour by developers – aspirational ‘pre applications’ based on their land banks and interests - although the recession has started to impact on this little game.</i></p> <p><i>Allegedly – the EEDAW report (commissioned by the Development Corporation) identified and recommended the area N of Northampton to government but this has not been – as yet – taken up by government and has not been well received by the developers for whom – for various reasons – the southern side of the town is more attractive.</i></p>	

The **Joint Planning Unit** (Northampton, Daventry and SNC Districts) is now established as the body responsible for the strategic planning of West Northants – producing the so called **Joint Core Strategy** as part of the **Local Development Framework**. As part of this work, it is

[1] producing a draft **Affordable Housing Strategy**. This will be out to consultation in April 2009 and for adoption in 2011 as part of the Local Development Framework.

There was some suggestion that 50% of planning applications in the 2 rural Districts should have an 'affordable' housing component; and it's being intimated that this will have a significant impact on future village development. *This may cause us to rethink our strategy?*

[2] SNC contacted us about **village confines** late last year. The outcome of this is that the Local Development Scheme (see below) includes a Development Plan Document called Rural Settlements. In time the Joint Core Strategy will set out the 'settlement hierarchy' for villages in South Northants and this Document will 'set out revised village confines and areas of important local space in accordance with the Joint Core Strategy'. However, formal work on this is expected to start in May 2010.

It consulted (see minute in our last PC meeting) about the **'Issues and Options' for the Joint Core Strategy** in Autumn 2007 and we responded in detail then. The secondary consultation - which I touched on at the last PC meeting - was in fact a technical consultation required as a result of a new government regulation. It was only concerned with stakeholders identifying 'any other matters – subjects, topics or themes' that were not already covered by the Strategy. My feeling is that the extent of issues covered was already expansive and there was nothing to add. At the time of the last meeting I'd been under the impression that this consultation was another major series of questions taking into account the changing nature of circumstances in our area but this was not so (if you'd wondered).

It has produced a revised **Local Development Scheme** for its area approved in November. This provides the source for us as a PC to find out about our Council's planning policies in relation to a particular place of issue and the

status of these policies [i.e. it is the revised version of the old Local Plan produced by SNC pending creation of the new 3 District Core Strategy]. This can be found on SNC's site as well as the joint site at www.westnorthamptonshirejpu.org.

West Northampton Development Corporation (which covers the Borough in the main and is the government imposed body to override the local planning powers and force development to happen) has one more year to run and will then be reviewed. It is presently only approving relatively minor development applications.

The recent **Tory green paper** could indicate major change if they were to get elected in the relatively near future. Their proposals include the abolition of all regional government and assemblies/agencies, rewriting of Local Development Frameworks, repeal of national planning processes (with the exception of greenbelt preservation), changing the SE – centric nature of the economy, and changing (but not repealing) the planning appeals system.

Cogenhoe and Whiston have started to secede from Mid Northants Parishes and aligned themselves with a **Nene Valley Interest Group**.

2009/25. Local Planning

Further developments on Mere Barn and a garage on Billing Road – no objections.

2009/26. Parish Website Development

i) Terry Barnell was in attendance. It was agreed that font ariel be used from now. He offered to do bigger print of newsletter for individuals who asked for it. Dawn is updating the businesses information on the website.

Village Booklet – Dawn reported that this is finished. It needs circulating for 'proof' readers and is 40 pages long. It will now be circulated to councillors.

2009/27. Finance

- i. Allianz Cornhill – update of insurance policy with new play area included – Gill Morgan reported that the lease had been delayed by legal technicalities which hopefully will be sorted out by October.

ii. Received - £50 from Spicers for damaged planter

iii. Cheques to pay:

John Barr - Hanging NW signs	Chq 586 - £60.00
e-on Lighting – Energy	Chq 587 - £272.95
V Hartley petty cash	Chq 588 - £44.45
Road School – Printing	Chq 589 - £18.30
E-on – Lighting - maintenance	Chq 590 - £250.83

iv) PC Internal Audit – Dawn will liaise with Clerk about audit of books after year end.

v) The Parish Council agreed to pay the rent for the village hall for the Neighbourhood Watch meeting. This was proposed by Gill Morgan and seconded by Helen Barnell.

2009/28. Councillors Comments

Gill Morgan had emailed Environmental Health at SNC about the vehicles parked in Vicarage field.

2009/29. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS AT 7.30pm

Tuesday 19.5.09 – AGM and APM 7pm start

Tuesday 7.7.09

Tuesday 15.9.09

Tuesday 24.11.09

Meeting closed at 9.35pm.