

ILMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 26th June, 2013.

Present: Mr. A.G. Wilkins (Chairman), Mr. F.J. Edmunds, Dr. I.H. Jones, Mrs. A.D. Wright and District Cllr. C.J. Saint. Also present were Mr. Neil Gilliver, Mr. & Mrs. Tremellen, Mr. Tim Allen, Mr. & Mrs. Bridges, Mr. Geoff Davies, Mrs. S. Maybey, Mr. R. Hawkins, Mr. C. Johnson And Mrs. C. Jones.

Apologies were received from Mr. M.T. Robinson.

MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed and signed.

ARMSCOTE ROAD HOUSING

Mr. Neil Gilliver of the Warwickshire Rural Housing Association reported on progress. They hoped to start on site in September with some form of ceremony, with about 14 months to completion. He confirmed that the houses would be for local people. He said that the Housing Association would have a small budget of up to £2,000 for a project that would benefit the village, but this would be left to the Parish Council to decide. The Housing Association would like to know the Council's decision by late August. It was agreed that no street lighting was wanted. It was also agreed that the Parish Council would not adopt the balancing pond. Mr. Gilliver was thanked by the Chairman.

COMMUNITY SHOP

A letter had been received by the Parish Council from the Community Shop Committee expressing concern about the outcome of the Village Hall Committee meeting on 21st May 2013. The Chairman permitted an open forum during which the issues raised in the letter were discussed. The Chairman asked Cllr. Jones to address the issues raised. Cllr Jones stated that he had acquired information from the Charity Commissioners that confirmed Ilmington Village Hall is a registered charity and is managed by named trustees registered with the Commission. He further explained that trustees are not instructed delegates of their nominating body and therefore cannot be directed how to vote on any issue considered by the trustees of the charity. Cllr. Jones referred to the Charity Commission's regulations which state that trustees are individuals appointed to hold the property of the charity. They can only act on the lawful instructions of the charity trustees and in accordance with any provisions contained in the governing documents. Further, that all decisions by the trustees are taken by all the trustees, acting collectively and as a team. However, the decisions need not be unanimous. The general rule is that trustees must take personal responsibility for their decisions. As trustees must act jointly in administering the charity, they will also be responsible jointly to meet any liability incurred by them or

on their behalf. The Community Shop Committee had enquired whether the Parish Council's selection of a trustee for the Village Hall Committee had been correctly conducted. Referral to the minutes of Parish Council meetings confirmed that at the meeting on 24th April 2013 Cllr. Wilkins was appointed unanimously to serve as trustee on the Village Hall Committee and at the annual meeting of the Parish Council on 22nd May Cllr Wilkins was again unanimously appointed to service as trustee on the Village Hall Committee. As such, Cllr Wilkins is a trustee of the Village Hall Committee elected in line with the legal requirements for such a process. Cllr. Wilkins confirmed that he had been properly appointed, and that his duty as a Trustee was for the welfare of the Village Hall, and having looked at the plans he had concluded that having a community shop in front of the Hall would be detrimental to the Hall.

Cllr. Jones proposed that the Parish Council should maintain an open mind on the proposals for a community shop, but supported the endeavours of the Community Shop Committee. This was seconded by Cllr. Wilkins and agreed. Cllr. Edmunds further proposed that the views of the Parish Council be passed to the Trustees of the Village Hall Committee. This was seconded by Cllr. Jones and agreed.

MATTERS ARISING

1. Allocation of Housing. Cllr. Saint explained that if someone who wished to move into a smaller property was on the District Council housing list they would be notified if a property was available. They would then have to apply to the District Council after which a decision would be made as to who should have the property. He said that the bungalows in Elm Close were not solely for local people but were allocated on need.
2. Verge Mowing. Cllr. Saint explained that all areas should have a minimum of six cuts during the season. Mr. Geoff Davies asked whether or not the District Council were continuing to discharge responsibility for verge mowing to Parish Councils on their request. Cllr. Saint said that Mr. Scholefield, the District Street Scene Manager, should be asked whether the Parish Council could take on some of the work and if so what the financial arrangements would be.
3. Playground Inspection. Cllr. Edmunds said that he would be ordering the 5 tons of sand which was needed for the children's sand pit.
4. War Memorial. Cllr. Jones said that he had seen in France recently that plaques with all the names were put on their memorials, and that these could be replaced as necessary. He had taken some photographs of these and this should be discussed again at the next meeting.
5. The Chairman reported that Cllr. Robinson had put pea grit along the footpath from Ballards Lane across Bury Orchard to Back Street.
6. Defibrillator. Cllr. Jones reported that three new defibrillators were needed in the village. There had been a sponsored cycle ride recently to raise funds for this, and it should be suggested that the Housing Association should be asked to give the sum of

up to £2.000 which was available for a project of benefit to the village, to the Defibrillator fund.

7. Sports & Social Club. Cllr. Jones reported that although the Club could not be classed as a charity, there were possible ways of getting the amount the Club had to pay in Council Tax reduced. He was dealing with this and the matter should be brought up at the next meeting.

8. Cllr. Edmunds reported that he had obtained quotes for repairing the entrance to the Playing Field. He also reported that the film crew earlier in the month had used a lot of water, but had left the car park in a very tidy state.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. A letter had been received from Mr. and Mrs. Ausden of Sansome House suggesting that a small number of high quality dwellings could be built on their 5.5 acre field in Back Street between Mabel's Farm and the school, and asking for the Parish Council's comments on the principle of housing on the land,. Cllr. Jones proposed, seconded by Cllr. Edmunds and agreed that the Parish Council had no objections to Mr. Ausden's ambitions. He should be advised to put this forward to the District Council.

2. A letter from Mr. Geoff Davies raising several matters. First he was complaining about non-functioning gullies and the non-clearing of others. The Chairman reported that Mr. Jeff Morris of County Highways was aware of all these but still had done nothing about them. The next time it rained the Chairman would check these gullies and others and raise the matters again with Mr. Morris, and a letter listing all the gullies to be dealt with should be sent to him. Mr. Davies also asked that letters of thanks and appreciation be sent to the County Council and the school bus company for arranging for there to be a small bus taking the children to Ilmington school down Back Street. Finally he asked whether anything had been done about removing unnecessary road signs in the village. This should be brought up at the next meeting. The Chairman said that numerous highway issues had been raised with County Highways, but nothing seemed to get done.

FINANCE

The following cheques were agreed, signed and were within budget:-

(a) G.V.S. Righton	Mowing, etc, playing field	£ 802.80
(b) WALC	Copy of "Local Council Administration"	£ 61.85
(c) Ilmington PCC	Grant for mowing Churchyard	£ 500.00

With regard to the invoice from G.V.S. Righton, £214.00 for verti-draining one pitch and spreading fertiliser would be refunded to the Parish Council by the Playing Field

Committee. Cllr. Wright suggested that Rightons should be asked to mow round the children's playground every time they were mowing the playing field.

PLANNING

1. 13/01193/TREE. Application to crown reduce by 50% an apple tree at the Round House, Frog Lane. The Parish Council had said that this would destroy this tree. Some light pruning of outer branches would be acceptable. However the Forestry & Landscape Officer at the District Council had explained that there was significant decay in the tree which meant it would be advisable in the interests of safety to crown reduce the tree by 50%. This was accepted by the Parish Council.
2. 13/01304/FUL. Application for the erection of a 2 bay garage at Cherry Orchard, Frog Lane. The Parish Council had no representations to make.
3. 13/00932/FUL. Application for new garage at Dunbra, Lower Green. The Parish Council had no representations to make.
4. 13/01158/TREE. Application to crown lift a sycamore at Puddocks, Frog Lane. The Parish Council had no representations to make.

PLAYING FIELD

1. Cllr. Wright reported on much dog mess on the children's playground, and it was agreed that she should put up some signs.
2. Cllr. Wright said that she thought the gap in the hedge by the skateboard ramp was dangerous as children could get out onto the road. It was agreed that this should be looked at and whether to put in another gate in the gap should be decided at the next meeting.
3. Cllr. Edmunds reported that a new entrance had been made from the playing field to Mabels Farm field This was for parking for the Show.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Cllr Wright reported that vehicles were being parked in the residents area in front of the Armscote Road bungalows. Cllr Saint suggested that hatched markings should be requested from County Highways.
2. Cllr. Edmunds said that since Mr. Martin Taylor had resigned, a new Parish Councillor would have to be found, and he suggested Mrs. Rachel Edmunds. It was agreed that she should be asked about this, once the formal procedure following a resignation had been gone through.
3. Cllr. Wright reported that footpath SS156 from the junction of Front Street and Armscote Road had become very overgrown. An anonymous resident had strimmed this and Cllr. Wright had thanked him.

4. The Chairman reported that there were loose setts on Lower Green which needed attention, and that Severn Trent should be asked to reinstate the footpath near Chewton.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.30 p.m.

These minutes have not yet been confirmed, but they will be at the next meeting of the Parish Council on 24th July.

Date

Chairman