

MINUTES of Oakthorpe, Donisthorpe and Acresford Parish Council held on Tuesday 21 September 2004 in Donisthorpe Community Centre @ 6.00pm.

PRESENT Cllr Hair (Chairman), Cllr's Dolman, Matkin, Merry, Mole, and Warwicker.
David Taylor MP, County Cllr Sheahan and 22 members of the public present.

APOLOGIES received from Cllr's Hart , Morris-Chapman and PC Trower.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Merry declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 9a. Cllr Warwicker declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda item 6d.

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- 1) Resident asked what was going to happen about the footpath at the back of Ramscliffe?
Cllr Hair replied he had tried to contact Andrew Perry, but had been unable to get hold of him, therefore he requested Clerk to contact Andrew Perry to arrange for the hedge/nettles to be cut down.
- 2) Cllr Warwicker thanked David Taylor MP for sending him information on the tip in Moira. Cllr Warwicker advised he had written to Mr Darling regarding the speed of traffic on the Moira Road, in particular from HGV lorries using the road.
David Taylor MP advised that he would with County Cllr Sheahan pursue these issues, as he has a meeting scheduled with the police in the forthcoming months.

082/04 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 AUGUST 2004 AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the meeting held on the 17 August, were signed as a true record of the proceedings by the Chairman. No matters arising.

083/04 REPORT UNDER CRIME AND DISORDER ACT INCLUDING POLICE REPORT

No police present, PC Trower unable to attend due to shift pattern.

084/04 APPROVAL FOR ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS (PLANNING APPLICATIONS):

Planning observation required prior to 10 September 2004

- a) **04/00714/FUL** – Erection of stables and change of use of land for the keeping of horsers, Land adjoining Springfield Farm, Chapel Street, Oakthorpe – **No objections.**

Planning observation required prior to 31 August 2004

- b) **KL/04/00979/FUL** – Erection of single storey rear extension, 51 Ramscliffe Avenue, Donisthorpe – **No objections.**

Planning observation required prior to 25 August 2004

- c) **04/01167/TPO** - Crown reduction to 2 prunus trees (protected by TPO T/162) (Amended application – tree 4 - 20 per cent reduction and reshape and tree 5 – 30 per cent reduction and reshape – **No objections.**

Planning observations required prior to 7 September 2004

- d) **04/01294/FUL** – Erection of single storey rear extension, 9 Coopers Close, Acresford – **No objections.**

- e) **04/01299/FUL** – Erection of single storey rear extension to form conservatory, 7 Foxglove Avenue, Donisthorpe – **No objections.**

Planning observations required prior to 8 September 2004

- f) **04/01310/FUL** – Erection of single storey side/rear extension, demolition of side boundary wall erection of replacement boundary wall with railings and gates and external alterations, Edenholme, 1 Measham Road, Donisthorpe – **No objections.**

Planning observations required prior to 9 September 2004

- g) **04/01334/ADC** – Display of externally illuminated fascia signs and advertisement boards, Masons Arms, 1 Church Street, Donisthorpe – **No objections.**

- h) **04/01335/FUL** - Erection of single storey front and rear extensions and external alterations, Masons Arms, 1 Church Street, Donisthorpe – **No objections.**

Planning observations required prior to 15 September 2004

- i) **04/01339/FUL** – Formation of vehicular access, 51 Measham Road, Oakthorpe – **No objections.**

085/04 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Hair advised that the travellers who sited themselves in a field on the Measham Road have moved on. County Cllr Sheahan stated that they went on their own accord, and all other areas surrounding the National Forest need to be secured, to stop this issue arising again.

Cllr Hair also advised that the Clerk had to report an offence, 4 men supposedly travellers stole branches off the trees and tried to ram the gate in Donisthorpe Country Park. Leicester County Council notified Cllr Hair that they are putting a soil bung around the entrance gates to the park to try to avoid travellers locating there.

086/04 REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

Cllr Merry attended the Ashby Canal Forum, and advised the Transport & Works Act is going ahead after the enquiry at Snibston. There were 4 objections, British Wildlife being one of them, but the issues are to be resolved. Workings will commence on the canal from Snarestone to Measham, then an additional act will be produced for Donisthorpe to Measham. Leicester County Council have set aside money for the works.

Cllr Warwicker had previously contacted the Clerk regarding the Hicks Lodge Liaison Committee, and also advised the Cllr's he was disappointed with the committee as he had not been advised of the last meeting, and also had to pay additional postage for the minutes of the meeting. Clerk advised that the meeting would have been stated at the end of the previous minutes. Cllr Merry advised the next Hicks Lodge Liaison Committee meeting is to be held in March 2005. David Taylor MP advised the Hicks Lodge will soon move on to Heather/Ravenstone. An appeal is being considered as there is a risk they are dragging their feet on the restoration of the site.

087/04 SPORTS AND LEISURE CENTRE REPORT

a) **Fun Day Event** – A good day was had by all. A profit of £110.33 was made. Four people who ran the fair rides advised they would come on to the Management Committee to assist with next year's event.

b) **Additional Grants** – Clerk advised she had received a grant for £300 from Florence Turner Trust to help pay towards additional internal changes. Also Louise Winterburn from Coalfield Regeneration Organisation would like to attend a meeting at the Leisure Centre regarding additional funding for internal changes.

Resolved: Clerk to arrange meeting with Cllr's Hair, Merry and Mole.

c) **Sport England Report** – All Cllr's had read the report and Cllr Mole stated that the facilities were not designed correctly in the first place. They requested Clerk to request additional funding from Sport England.

Resolved: Clerk to contact Sport England to obtain final payment.

d) **Staff Holiday Payment** – This item is to be put into confidential and moved to the end of the meeting.

e) **External Boot Cleaners** – Cllr's advised Clerk to request prices, and agreed to item being purchased under delegated powers.

Resolved: Clerk to arrange.

088/04 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) **04/01416/FUL** – Retention of earth bank and erection of garden store, Allotments to rear of Coopers Close, Acresford – **No objections.**

b) **04/01444/FUL** – Erection of single storey extension, 42 Church Street, Donisthorpe – **No objections.**

089/04 DECISION NOTICES & APPEALS

a) **04/00694/FUL** – Change of use to off-road vehicle training course at money Hill Farm, Burton Road, Stretton-En-Le-Field – **Granted.**

b) **04/00747/FUL** – Raising of land levels at Land adj Hooborough Brook, Burton Road, Acresford – **Granted.**

c) **04/00843/FUL** – Erection of two storey side extension and formation of access at 8 Measham Road, Acresford – **Granted.**

d) **04/00979/FUL** – Erection of single storey rear extension at 51 Ramscliffe Avenue, Donisthorpe – **Granted.**

e) **04/01022/FUL** – Erection of one two storey dwelling and detached garage together with alterations to vehicular access at Land to the rear of 44 New Street, Donisthorpe – **Refused.** Therefore an appeal was lodged 14th September 2004.

- f) **04/01162/OUT** – Residential Development (Outline) at Land off Ramscliffe Avenue, Church Street, Donisthorpe – **Refused**.
- g) **04/01167/TPO** - Crown reduction to 2 prunus trees (TPO order T/162), at 1 Stanleigh Gardens, Donisthorpe – **Consent**.
- h) **04/00590/OUT** – Erection of one dwelling, Land adj to Hollybush Inn, School Street, Oakthorpe – **Appeal lodged 08 August 2004**.

090/04 FINANCE

- a) **Parish Council Accounts for payment** – (please see separate sheet).
Resolved: The schedule totalling £3202.26 be approved for payment. All Cllr's in favour.
Oakthorpe Rec. Project - Accounts for payment – (Please see separate sheet).
Resolved: The part schedule totalling £1949.92 be approved for payment. All Cllr's in favour.

Councillor Merry declared a prejudicial interest in the next item and left the room.

Resolved: The payment of £444.06 be approved. All in favour.
 Total Oakthorpe Rec. Project payments for the month being £2393.98

Councillor Merry returned to the meeting.

- b) **Conclusion of Audit 2003/4 Accounts**
 Clerk advised audit for the year had been completed and returned by Hacker Young Chartered Accountants.

The following Agenda item was moved forward in light of the number of residents attending, to allow representatives for all parties to speak and to resolve in a polite and timely manner.

091/04 DONISTHORPE SCOUT BAND

Cllr Matkin requested all attendees to stand, as a sign of respect and to hear a short poem about a local resident who had unfortunately died in a traffic accident.

Cllr Matkin read out a letter received from a local resident who lived in Ashlar Drive regarding the practice times the band were playing to. Email, and copy of letter also sent by resident to Clerk. Cllr Matkin requested Michael Popejoy, Group Scout Leader to say a few words.

Mr Popejoy advised he had previously been a member of the band, which was formed in early 1940's after the second world war. The band have performed both nationally and internationally, and aim to give youngsters something to respect. They were not aware they had been evicted from DM's and have contacted the local Council who advised they were able to play until 9.30pm.

A majority of the local residents in Ashlar Drive advised they were not against the band but requested that the band attendees should not be climbing on the fences and banging their instruments after practice up and down the streets. They requested an agreement for the band to stop playing at 9.00pm.

Resolved: Donisthorpe Scout Band Leaders and players agreed to cease playing at 9.00pm.

092/04 CLERK'S REPORT

- 1) **Civic Service, St John's Church** – To be held on Sunday 26th September at 6.00pm, and Reverend Burgess requested a sum of £200 towards the cost of the catering.
Resolved: All Cllr's in favour of paying £200 for Civic Service, Clerk to notify Reverend Burgess of outcome.
- 2) **LCC, Plastic Bottle Recycling Week, 27th September – 1st October 2004** – Noted, and Cllr Merry took poster to advertise in Leisure Centre.
- 3) **Leicestershire Footpath Association, Autumn Newsletter** - Noted and Cllr Hair took information.

093/04 CORRESPONDENCE for DISCUSSION

- a) **NWLDC, Annual District/Parish Meeting, 20 October 2004** – Noted, Cllr's Hair and Merry to attend. Cllr Hair enquired if the Parish Council would like to donate a bottle of whisky to Malcolm Diaper, who is retiring on 8th October 2004.
Resolved: All Cllr's in favour and Clerk to purchase card/bottle and arrange delivery.
- b) **SLCC, Leics & Rutland Ordinary Branch Meeting** - Noted.

- c) **LCC, Annual Meeting between representatives of Parish Local Councils and the County Council** – Noted, Clerk to organise receiving information by email.
Resolved: All in favour.
- d) **LCC, County Service, Sunday 7th November 2004** – Noted.
- e) **NWLCVS, AGM, Wednesday 13th October 2004** – Noted.
- f) **Office of Deputy Prime Minister, Consultations on draft x 2** – Noted, Cllr Merry took drafts and will forward on to other Cllr's.
- g) **EMDA, Newsletter** – Noted, Cllr Merry took newsletter.
- h) **LCC, Proposed No Waiting, Measham Road, Oakthorpe** – Noted, and as it's a safety issue, majority of the Cllr's in favour.
Resolved: Clerk to reply and to advise Cllr's in favour of revised plan.

094/04 GRANT APPLICATION (UNDER SECTION 137)

Macmillan Cancer Relief – Noted, and Cllr's agreed to donate £50 as they are unable to arrange a coffee morning, given the timescale involved.

Resolved: All Cllr's in favour of £50 donation and Clerk to arrange.

Crimestoppers – Noted. Cllr's declined donation.

Resolved: Clerk to reply and advise donation request has been declined.

095/04 PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

Clerk advised she had now received training on a parish website, and was currently populating the site organised by LRAPLC via Leicester Parish Council website. However the Parish Council were also able to have their own website with their own name for £40 + vat for 2 years. Clerk suggested www.odapc.org.uk if Cllr's agreed to own site.

Resolved: All Cllr's in favour, and Clerk to notify.

096/04 PARISH COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL WARDEN & HERITAGE WARDENS

Clerk read out letter received from Harold Evans daughter, advising that her father was standing down from the Warden's post due to age and health issues. Clerk to advertise vacancy in Parish Newsletter.

Resolved: All Cllr's in favour.

Clerk stated that she had been handed information on Heritage Wardens from Parish Archaeological Warden Mr Alan Ingle, who advised that he was unable to do this role, and stated different Warden's were required to perform various duties.

Mr Ingle requested a copy of the parish boundary map, which Clerk will try to arrange. He also stated he had been advised by LCC what they require of him doing the Archaeological Warden's position, but wanted to know what the Parish Cllr's requirements were? The Cllr's agreed there were no set requirements and Mr Ingle confirmed he would report to the Clerk regularly on what he is doing.

Resolved: All Cllr's in favour.

097/04 TRAFFIC, SCHOOL STREET, OAKTHORPE

Clerk read out email with suggestions from Cllr Hart. Cllr Merry advised Headmaster Mr Norman Jones had requested a one-way system between The Gate Public House and New Street. All other Cllr's to look at issue next week and report suggestions at the next meeting.

098/04 PARISH NEWSLETTER

Clerk advised Steve Berrill requested additional payments for the newsletter as he is paying a lot of the costs out of his own pocket. Clerk suggested Cllr's request a breakdown of the costs, and once advised a decision will be made.

Resolved: All Cllr's in favour and Clerk to notify Steve Berrill of request.

099/04 OAKTHORPE ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB

Clerk advised a meeting was arranged between Cllr's Hart, Merry and Clerk with both John Collier and Brian Jones. Brian Jones stated that although the Football Club agreed to pay additional costs, they had a couple of additional requirements. They requested, the Parish Council to regularly re-seed required areas, to consider drainage issue within 2/3 years or earlier if needed via grants, and a solicitors stamp of approval on agreement.

All Cllr's agreed to adhere to first two requests but declined to arrange a solicitor's stamp of approval.

Resolved: All Cllr's in favour of Clerk amending wording on agreement, and to advise Club on outcome of additional requests.

CONFIDENTIAL – EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

That in pursuance of Section 1 (2) to the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960 and Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972, it is **RESOLVED** because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and the press are not admitted to the meeting during the consideration of the following items:-

100/04 STAFF RESIGNATION

Cllr Hair read out letter of resignation from Clerk, Mrs Lynn Usher, due to relocating abroad, which advised she would work 3 months notice (officially until 31st December 2004) and up to 14 December 2004, allowing for holidays. Clerk had produced advertisement for job vacancy, and detailed job description. Clerk requested to advertise the job as soon as possible, in the Burton Mail and Ashby Times. She stated the closing date should be 19th October, for the Parish Cllr's to view curriculum vitae's for replacement and to interview successful candidates on Thursday 28th October 2004.

Resolved: All Cllr's accepted letter of resignation, and agreed to additional requirements, to pursue a replacement within the given timescale.

Councillor Warwicker declared a prejudicial interest in the next item and left the room

087/04 SPORTS AND LEISURE CENTRE REPORT

d) **Staff Holiday Payment** – Cllr Hair advised Lynne Warwicker had done an excellent job covering Sheila Merry, and requested the Parish Council to pay her for her time.

Resolved: All Cllr's in favour of paying Lynne Warwicker, and Clerk to organise.

Clerk advised she had received a holiday request form from Carol Reeves, for one week commencing 24th September. Cllr Merry stated Sheila Merry would cover the cleaning, and Clerk requested that she get paid for covering these duties, which equate to an extra 8 hours.

Resolved: All Cllr's in favour.

Councillor Warwicker returned to the meeting.

The date of the next Parish Council meeting has been arranged for Tuesday 19 October 2004 to be held in Acresford Methodist Church Room at 6.00pm.

Meeting closed 8.40 pm