

SCALDWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Statutory Meeting of the Parish Council
held on Wednesday 16th March 2011
in Scaldwell Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Mrs P Long (Chairman)
Mrs M Vinton (Vice-Chairman)
Mr M Alcock
Mrs A Coward
Mrs J Randell

In attendance: Mr J Harris (Clerk)
Thirteen villagers

11/019 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Mr F Wiig; also from Mr C Millar (County Councillor).

11/020 Declaration of Interest

None.

11/021 Open forum on proposed improvements to the playing field entrance, together with feedback from the consultation

Following the consultation in the newsletter, feedback was received from neighbours and discussion had taken place with the Scaldwell Playing Field Community Group. A discussion took place and general feedback on the proposed improvements was all positive.

11/022 Comments or questions from parishioners on any other matters

Access to footpath across field at end of East End – concerns regarding the stiles were again raised. Villagers were reminded to direct concerns to the Rights of Way officer at Northants CC. Contact details will be put again in the next newsletter.

Dog bin – positive comments were received following the installation of the new dog bin on Holcot Lane and thanks given to Mr M Alcock for installing the bin.

11/023 To approve and sign the Minutes of the Statutory Meeting of the Parish Council held on 5th January 2011

The minutes were approved and signed.

11/024 Matters arising from the Minutes (for information only)

These were covered in the various agenda items.

11/025 Planning Applications

For consideration:

- a) **Update on planning application for Installation of new play equipment; Scaldwell Playing Field, East End, Scaldwell**

This planning application has been submitted by the Parish Council.

For information:

- b) **DA/2010/0924 Construction of garage and garden room. The Smithy, Old Road,**

Scaldwell. DDC approved 24/12/10

- c) **DA/2010/0964 Remove trees subject of a Tree Preservation Order. 3 Douglas Meadows, Scaldwell.** DDC approved 7/1/11
- d) **DA/2010/0971 Revisions of approved house type including new roof light; ground floor window inside elevation; raising eaves height at front (retrospective). 2 School Lane, Scaldwell.** DDC approved 13/1/11
- e) **DA/2010/1037 Two storey and single storey extension to front, two storey extension to rear, raising of roof with insertion of dormer windows and proposed new garage. The Paddocks, School Lane, Scaldwell.** DDC approved 4/2/11
- f) **DA/2011/0001 Remove trees in a Conservation Area. The Paddocks, School Lane, Scaldwell.** The following response was previously sent to DDC:

Scaldwell Parish Council objects to this application because the trees are healthy and they create necessary screening for neighbouring properties, particularly as there is a proposed development to the house (DA/2010/1037). However, the council would approve of the trees being cut back and appropriately managed so the growth is brought under control.

DDC approved revised proposal to remove one conifer and prune remaining 8/2/11

It was noted that a revised planning application for the proposed Harrington Wind Farm is expected in April or May 2011.

11/026 Playing Field

a) Weekly inspection reports

Mrs P Long agreed to do the inspections up to the next meeting.

b) Update from Scaldwell Playing Field Community Group

The new equipment and playing field should be certified and open for use before the end of March. A grant application to fund Phase 2 will be submitted by 1st May.

c) Playing Field Entrance - to approve a design for improvements to the entrance following the consultation and open forum

The proposals outlined in the consultation were approved by the Parish Council.

d) To consideration nominating the playing field for the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge

It was agreed to nominate the playing field for the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge.

e) To consider improvements to fencing around the playing field and possible removal of barbed wire

The playing field will be inspected next week so the advise of the inspector will be considered. However it was agreed to remove the barbed wire across the main part of the field (Action – Mr M Alcock). The landowner of the field off East End will also be contacted about this by the playing field group.

11/027 Highways

i. Report on highways issues raised since the last meeting

Various pot holes on Mill Lane and the main road have been reported. Contact details for Street Doctor will be put in the next newsletter.

The hole on the verge at the culvert on Mill Lane will be reported. (Action – Clerk)

ii. Update on Community Speedwatch programme for Scaldwell

No volunteers have come forward to offer to take over running this scheme; it will therefore not

be possible to continue the scheme in Scaldwell this year. The Chairman thanked Mr P Purcell for his efforts in running Community Speedwatch in recent years. He will report back to the council with possible solutions to reduce traffic speed through the village.

11/028 Financial matters - general

a) Monthly accounts to 1 February 2011

The monthly accounts were circulated to Councillors before the meeting together with a bank reconciliation.

b) Money received:

- i. Northamptonshire County Council – 2010 grass mowing grant - £311.92**
Received 24/1/11. It was noted that due to NCC cuts this grant will be reduced in 2011 to three cuts during the year (£280.73).
- ii. HMRC – Reclaimed VAT 1/2/10 to 31/1/11 £4943.49** Received 2/3/11

c) To review the Council’s Financial Regulations

These were reviewed and it was agreed that they didn’t need changing.

d) To review the effectiveness of the Council’s Internal Audit and Internal Control

Both the effectiveness of the Internal Audit and Internal Control were reviewed. It was agreed to continue using NCALCs Internal Audit scheme and to ask Mr F Wiig if he will continue as the Internal Control.

e) To consider quotes for grass cutting for 2011 season

Three quotes were obtained. It was agreed to change contractors to Forever Green as they are offering better value for money and will include strimming and weed killing within their contract. (Action - Clerk to check and confirm this with the company and to contract the other contractors.)

11/029 Financial Matters - the following payments were approved

E.ON	Street lighting electricity charge	£186.40	Paid 16/1/11	Chq 638
E.ON	Street lighting maintenance	£69.21	Paid 16/1/11	Chq 639
Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	Playing field equipment	£30,303.25	Paid 16/1/11	Chq 640
Abbott Signs	Sign for green to village hall/playing field	£568.80	Paid 16/1/11	Chq 641
Daventry District Council	Planning application fee for playing field equipment	£85.00	Paid 6/3/11	Chq 644
NCALC	Audit training on 20/1/11	£29.00	Paid 25/2/11	Chq 643
AON Limited	Insurance of new play equipment	£198.77	Paid 25/2/11	Chq 642
J Harris	Updated salary from 1 st April 2011	£205.98		Monthly standing order

J Harris	SLCC membership	£72.00	Paid 16/3/11	Chq 647
J Harris	Clerk's expenses 1/11/10 to 6/3/11	£18.97	Paid 16/3/11	Chq 646
Smith of Derby Ltd	Annual Service to Church Clock	£226.80	Paid 16/3/11	Chq 645

11/030 Training: feedback from

- i. NCALC Audit training** – the Clerk reported on this.
- ii. DDC Code of Conduct training** – Mrs J Randell reported on this.

11/031 Risk Assessment

- i. Risk assessment report on the Parish Council's assets**
The bi-annual report was presented to council. No issues were raised.
- ii. Review of the Council's Risk Assessment policy and procedures**
This was reviewed and updated.

11/032 Insurance

- i. Review of the Parish Council's insurance requirements**
This has been reviewed and updated regularly (new playing field equipment and level of Fidelity Guarantee) and will continue to be updated when new playing field equipment is installed.
- ii. Review of quotes for 2011/12 insurance**
Three quotes have been received. It was agreed to change insurers to Came & Company unless the current insurer comes back with a lower quote. The alternative quotes are lower and offer better value for money.

11/033 Assets Register – to approve the updated and revised Assets Register for assets held on 31 March 2011

This was approved and has been updated in accordance with the new regulations.

11/034 To approve location of sign on green to village hall/playing field

It was agreed this should be near the phone box. (Action - M Alcock to install)

11/035 To consider action to protect the triangle of grass at the end of East End

Mrs M Vinton agreed to look into raising the height of the triangle to help protect it. The cost and effectiveness of Grasscrete will be looked into (Action – Clerk).

11/036 Correspondence:

- a) Daventry DC – consultation of proposed Dog Control Orders** Responses due by 21st March. Clerk to respond approving of proposals.
- b) West Northamptonshire JPU – consultation on Joint Core Strategy** Responses due by 31st March. No response to be sent.
- c) Correspondence for information only** (list available on request)

11/037 Councillors' reports

Church Clock – Mr D Keir and Mr P Purcell have offered to help look after the clock as Mr W Draper is no longer able to continue.

11/038 Vacancy for a Councillor

Mrs A Coward has decided to resign as a Councillor following this meeting. The vacancy will be advertised in accordance with the correct procedures and Daventry District Council's Returning Officer informed (Action – Clerk). The Chairman thanked Mrs Coward for all her work as a Councillor.

11/039 Items for the next agenda

Co-option of Councillor (if no by-election is held).
Protection of triangle of grass at end of East End.

11/040 Items for newsletter

Contact details for NCC Rights of Way & Street Doctor.
Vacancy for Councillor.
Date of annual meetings.

11/041 Date of Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

Annual Meeting of the Parish Council at 7pm on Wednesday 25th May 2011.
Annual Parish Meeting at 8pm on Wednesday 25th May 2011.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.