



Kettlethorpe Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 5th April 2022 at 7.00 pm in
Kettlethorpe Village Hall

Present

Cllr Richard Elliott, Chairman,

Cllr. Richard Barnard.

Cllr. Catherine Turner,

Mr Ron Gee, Clerk

Guests: District Councillor Jane Ellis.

Mr Paul Bussoopun

1 APOLOGIES

Cllr Tim O'Callaghan, Cllr Jez Willis

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the March meeting had been circulated to all members and were proposed, seconded, and approved by all Councillors.

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Local Policing issues

The March Police Report for Gainsborough Rural South listed 6 x burglaries, 5 x thefts, 4 vehicle crimes, and 0 x criminal damages, but one item related to this Parish, in which an unsuccessful attempt was made to steal a Manitou from farm buildings, although several power tools were taken.

3.2 Jubilee Park

New Springies and soft pour tarmac - This work is in hand with Easigrass of Laughterton at a cost of £1,050, including VAT.

3.3 Highways – The problems regarding the provision of footpaths / cycle paths, speed limits and the necessary works to Kettlethorpe Road were discussed in detail at the December 2021 meeting and reviewed in January, with D/Cllr Ellis forwarding the information to County /Cllr Butroid at the time. Jane was asked if she had any news but answered that nothing further had been received from LCC and suggested that this could take up to a year to include in the works programme..

Mention was made of the need to cut back the verges on Kettlethorpe Road to expose the tarmac hidden beneath the grass, and in effect, widen the road by several feet. County Cllr Butroid had asked the local Highways division in December what the intentions are about the preparation work, for the resurfacing, i.e., will it include 'siding back'. Mr Joe Phillip, Highways Division Manager, advised that we should be able to tie it in with the Surface Dressing programme due to start w/c 5th April, dependent upon the weather, but if it can't, he said, we can raise something adhoc, to ensure that this is on our 'siding' programme for the Spring.

Richard pointed out that on a different topic, the hedges at the first bend on Kettlethorpe Road are projecting into the road again, causing vehicles to move dangerously towards the wrong side. Jane suggested that the best option would be to take a photograph and forward it to Cllr Butroid.

3.4 Solar Farms – The Chairman had attended a recent meeting in March, at which Sir Edward Leigh was also present to discuss solar farms. Comments had been made by the audience about the possible loss of arable land and how much actual electricity will be produced. The Summer figures could be quite high, but less so in Winter with poor light and settled snow. The impression was given that WLDC were not in favour of this scheme, possibly because it bypasses local planning.

3.5 Queen's Platinum Jubilee - Local events

i.a Home Farm Close.

Catherine represented the Council recently at a meeting in the Friendship held to make plans to celebrate the forthcoming Jubilee, but it seemed that this was mainly for residents of Home Farm

Close and nearby properties. They hoped that small prizes could be made available to them for children's competitions such as fancy dress.

i.b. Kettlethorpe

Mrs Brownlow of Kettlethorpe had circulated a flier inviting residents of Fenton, Laughterton and Kettlethorpe to a local gathering to take place on 5th June in the Village Hall and The Old Rectory garden that will include a buffet lunch followed by a picnic garden event with food, live disco music, and patriotic tunes

ic. Laughterton

A suitable representative is to be contacted by the Chairman to host each small 'unit' in the village, for example, Tim was suggested for Marsh Lane / Newark Road and Tony Scawthon for close, Swynford Sallie Bank and so on. The hosts are to be asked to advise of a start time for the function..

i.d. Park Flagpole

Richard suggested erecting a flag pole in Jubilee Park at a point between the present tree and the bus shelter, where it can serve to fly a flag for the Queen's Jubilee. He offered to check costs, and Cllr Ellis said that there is £400 per Parish available in the West Lindsey Initiative Fund and offered e-mail the details.

Referring to the *Christmas switch-on*, this flag pole could also be used to mount a stand-alone light tree that does not require anyone to work at dangerous heights when erecting the lights.

i.e Bunting

The clerk was to check on the price of bunting, and to purchase several strings as suggested the meeting, possibly from Amazon.

i.f Church Walk

Quotes had been obtained by Jez for the Walk which included trees, irrigation, belting and spiral at a cost of approximately £2,250 + VAT. It was discovered that large tree guards in metal may be prohibitive at £4,200 incl: VAT and as was said previously, perhaps Lister's could be approached to donate wood for guards as a sponsorship gesture.

- Aspen
to
skeleton
by
guards
- 3.18 Christmas lights** – After his demonstration last month, of a better way to light the Christmas tree Richard offered to find the cost of a timer and a net of lights which he estimated at about £200.
- 3.19 Parish Grass cutting** – Rick Marsh of All Round Gardens has completed the first cut of the season, but it appeared that one patch of verge grass had been overlooked, which he offered to cut on his next visit. (*See Finance 6.1 for payment*).
- 3.20 Domain e-mail addresses** – *See March minutes item 7.1 for suggestions*. As commented by Richard, none of the suppliers of this service are cheap, but based on recommendations, a local company F5 Computing appears to offer the best, possibly the most economical solution. Seven Councillor addresses will be required, plus one for the clerk. Users of the system will need the Microsoft 365 and Windows Defender on their home computer / laptop.
Mr David Clayton of F5 Computing is to be invited to address the meeting of the Council after the May AGM on the benefits of using his system.
- 3.21 New Code of Conduct** – The proformas signed by Councillors at the last meeting must be returned to WLDC as soon as possible, plus those from members who were not at the last meeting have been received.
- 3.22 New Parish Clerk** – It is hoped the new clerk can take up office at the beginning of September, allowing time for the incumbent to deal with 'closure' work during the Parish Council holiday month of August and to prepare the handover of paperwork and computer information.
Catherine suggested that a job description must be created, which she offered to bring to the next meeting. It was thought advisable that an interview panel should consist of no more than 3 members, possibly the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Catherine herself, with questions formulated under HR rules. The Chairman offered to put the applicants in the picture as to the job description, style of interview, and the proposed date of takeover.
- 3.23 New Councillors** – Four applications have been received. Mr Paul Bussoopun of Home Farm Close has been invited to join the Council, having already attended two meetings as a guest, and the clerk, Mr. Ron Gee has accepted the invitation to become the second new Councillor upon his retirement as

clerk, having first confirmed with WLDC that he is eligible. The other two applicants are to be advised of the Council's decision and are to be asked if they would be willing to consider nomination, in the event at the next vacancy.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

A list was distributed to all members shortly after the month end.

5. PLANNING

Nil

6. FINANCE

6.1 All Round Gardens – 1st cut of the season – Invoice No 128 - **£230** (*No VAT*) The length of verge missed on the approach to Home Farm Close will be dealt with shortly

6.2 PAYE and Salary – to end March. Payment of these items was agreed for the year in accordance with an earlier proposal.

6.3 Parish Accounts – The balance to year ending 31 March 2022 was **£11,340.19** with an expenditure of **£10,172.27** (bank charges levied £8 per month since December). After confirming this with the accounts sheet and the statements from HSBC, the Chairman and the clerk were invited to sign the monthly Parish Accounts.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

7.1 None

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This will take place at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 3rd May 2022 and will be the Annual Parish Meeting immediately followed by the AGM.

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm