

Kettlethorpe Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 4th January 2022 at 7.00 pm in
Kettlethorpe Village Hall

Present

Cllr Richard Elliott, Chairman,

Cllr. Richard Barnard,

Cllr. Tim O'Callaghan

Cllr. Catherine Turner

Cllr Jez Willis,

Mr. R. Gee, Clerk.

Mr R Brownlow, member of public

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr Lizzie Smith, D/Cllr Jane Ellis.

1.1 Cllr Lizzie Smith - Prior to the meeting, the Chairman and the clerk had received an e-mail from Lizzie to say that she was having difficulties juggling work, her studies, and the Parish Council duties and as a result, had found it necessary to tender her resignation from the Parish Council.

1.2 Mr Brownlow said that he had attended the meeting to ask what plans the Council had made to commemorate HM the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and suggested the idea of restoring the avenue of lime trees between St. Peter & St. Paul's Church and the Rectory. It was thought that 15 to 20 trees might be needed with some form of protection for each from any beasts in the field. It is known that West Lindsey are offering grants up to £700, but this is unlikely to cover the cost, perhaps we could appeal for sponsorship from such companies as Lister's and use the West Lindsey grant for bunting etc for the street parties [see para.3.10]. Richard thought that if Sue Oliver had any archive photographs of the former avenue, they could show what it was like and maybe help with any appeal. Jez suggested each tree should have a root ball and piped irrigation, but care must be taken to ensure that there is no disease in the ground from the fallen trees.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Local Policing issues

There were no issues in respect of Kettlethorpe, but the Crime Report listed 5 x burglaries, 10 x thefts, 5 vehicle crimes, and 2 x criminal damages in the Gainsborough Rural South district.

3.2 Jubilee Park i. Play area repairs – It was agreed that the Council should apply for a grant from the Landfill Communities fund. Knowing that public backing will be required, residents who attended the recent Christmas lights switch-on ceremony were invited to demonstrate their support by signing a petition in favour of backing the application. In all 58 signatures were received.

Referring to the Springies, Richard advised that only the 'above ground' assembly will be needed as all the buried fixings are still OK. The Chairman intended checking for the best deal with Abacus, Proludic and Sutcliffe and referring to the tarmac, Catherine recommended obtaining a quote from a certain local builder who may be able to help.

The Parish was advised following a recent RoSPA inspection, that each play area should have 2 exits, but in the case of Jubilee Park, one of the gateways has been deliberately secured to prevent children running out onto a very busy and dangerous road. After some discussion it was agreed that as the inspecting officer may not have been in full possession of the facts, it would be safer to keep the gate firmly shut.

ii. Park Trees – Jez reported that he had completed all but 3 of the trees that require trimming.

3.3 Highways

C/Cllr Butroid confirmed by e-mail that he supported the speed limit reduction for Kettlethorpe Road and other Highways issues discussed at the last meeting. He passed details to Highways and will keep his eye on them and chase them up as necessary but suggested that the investigations can take months to happen.

ii. **Solar Farms** – The issue of solar farms has now gone to national planning, but there are many objections to their provision. It was said that planners seem to take valuable agricultural land rather than using nearby barren fields. Cottam and West Burton power stations were mentioned as potential sites because of the existing power distribution.

3.8 **Parish Cemetery bench** – The re-constituted plastic seat purchased from Agri-Cycle has now been installed by Richard and the Chairman in the same location as the existing wooden bench, which has bench been cleaned up and moved adjacent to the shed in the corner of the cemetery.

3.10 **Queen’s Platinum Jubilee event** – Jez thought that the project to reinstate the avenue of limes from the Church to the Rectory was a very worthwhile venture [see para. 1.2 of these minutes] but would perhaps not suit everyone and said that street parties may have a more general appeal. There was full agreement with this viewpoint, where adjacent roads and ‘closes’ unite rather than having to shut down any main roads. Residents will have to be informed early of the plan and the Chairman felt that the best way would be with fliers and Facebook. Richard offered to take on the creation of the fliers but asked for help with ideas.

Research will be carried out about obtaining the balloons, bunting and goodie bags etc. and a decision taken whether the grant from West Lindsey is used for this purpose or put towards the cost of the avenue of limes.

3.11 **Village signs** – Still having difficulty in contacting this resident.

3.12 **Community Speed watch** – there has been no additional information from Mr Scawthon, but Tim felt that considering the current frequency of visits by the Lincs Road Safety “Speed vehicle” there is less of a need for this service now.

3.14 **Campers on restricted land** – [reference report No. WLGE_372700216]. It was hoped by the Council that a clause could be inserted, refusing building permission for the same reasons as for the previous applications for this land. An e-mail has been received stating that West Lindsey have been liaising with the landowner about the cabin sited to the rear of his property. The recent application to change the use of land to domestic garden has been granted, but this still leaves the cabin in breach of planning control. Assurance has been given by the owner that the cabin will be removed from the land shortly.

3.18 **Christmas lights** – Richard admitted that the tree lights were becoming a problem. He had experimented with a higher voltage, but they were still not as bright as he would have wished; he tried getting them to flash, and as a further problem, the tree is becoming too tall to reach the top safely. He thought that nets may be worth considering for next year, perhaps on a smaller skeleton tree with just baubles on the Christmas Tree.

He had sought advice from an electrician but still felt that he wasn’t getting anywhere, Tim suggested feeding power to the tree from a nearby resident with a meter in the line, but there would be difficulties in running the cable and if as suggested, projector lights were used, mains electricity would still be needed plus, there would be a security risk with the equipment.

The Chairman offered to speak to the Fenton Chairman in respect of their tree.

3.19 **Waste rendering** – Cllr Butroid advised that this problem has been passed to the Environment Agency. Richard confirmed that Notts CC do not allow use of this product and wondered why West Lindsey does.

CORRESPONDENCE

A list of items circulated during December was distributed to members at the month end.

5. PLANNING

5.1 None

6. FINANCE

- 6.1 Reimburse** Cllr Barnard for Switch-On expenditure – tree items - **£30.14**
- 6.2 Reimburse** Cllr Barnard – wreath, and cable ties for large Remembrance poppies – **£27.72**
- 6.3 Reimburse** Cllr O’Callaghan - Santa chocolates for children - **£60.07**
- 6.4 Prize voucher**, reimburse clerk - prize for best house Christmas decorations - **£25**
Payment of the above items was proposed, seconded and agreed, by the meeting

- 6.5 PAYE and Salary** - Payment was agreed in accordance with the proposal made at an earlier meeting this year.
- 6.6 Parish Accounts** – The balance at the bank to month ending 31 December 2021 was **£13,193.74** with an expenditure of **£8,318.40**

7. MATTERS ARISING

- 7.1 Best house Christmas lights** – The winning display as decided by D/Cllr Jane Ellis was at Lodge Farm House on the A156, the owner of which was awarded a £25 gift voucher [item 6.4].

- 7.2 Resident’s complaint** - motorbikes/quad bikes being ridden behind the houses on Kettlethorpe Rd. It was decided that this was possibly a ‘one-off’ and not worth pursuing further at the moment.

- 7.3 Annual Parish Dinner** – several venues were discussed, and menus are to be obtained. The date and location will be agreed at the next meeting.

- 7.4 Defibrillator** – The Chairman will change the defibrillator battery shortly at a cost of £110.

- 7.5 Remembrance Wreaths** – Richard asked for opinions on how long wreaths should be left on the Propeller Memorial and suggested they should be taken down at the end of January.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 8.1** The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 1st February 2022 at 7.00 pm** in Kettlethorpe Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm

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