

# Kettlethorpe Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022 at 7.00 pm in  
Kettlethorpe Village Hall

Present

Cllr Richard Elliott, Chairman,  
Cllr. Richard Barnard,  
Cllr. Catherine Turner,  
Cllr Jez Willis,  
Mr Ron Gee, Clerk

Guest: Mr Paul Bussoopun  
District Councillor Jane Ellis

## 1. APOLOGIES

Cllr Tim O'Callaghan

## 2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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

## 3. MATTERS ARISING

### 3.1 Local Policing issues

The Police Crime Report for January listed 4 x burglaries, 4 x thefts, 3 vehicle crimes, and 3 x criminal damages in the Gainsborough Rural South District, but there were no reports affecting this Parish.

### 3.2 Jubilee Park

i. *New Springies* – A grant is to be organised from the Community Action Fund (also known as the Landfill Fund) which next meets in March. Quotes have been received from Abacus and Sutcliffe's to replace the 'above ground' assembly of the Springies, as the buried fixings are in good order.

ii. *Soft pour tarmac* – an answer is awaited from a local builder who hopefully can deal with this problem

iii. *Trees* – trimming work is almost completed

### 3.3 Highways

i. *Footpath / cycle path* – There was some concern that it is almost 2 years since the request for a footpath and cycle path from Laughterton to Newton on Trent and Torksey Lock had been referred to LCC Highways and yet nothing had been heard since.

ii. *Other footpaths / speed limits* - Questions were also asked about other Highway items for which C/Cllr Butroid had recently offered his support i.e., the proposed Laughterton to Fenton 30 mph speed limit and footpath, plus the proposed limit for Kettlethorpe Lane, {leading to Kettlethorpe}.

*In answer to items i. and ii. above, District Councillor Ellis said that she had sent an e-mail to County Councillor Richard Butroid, seeking a progress report.*

iii. *Solar Farms* – D/Cllr Ellis pointed out that a community consultation event has been taking place at several locations nearby to ascertain public opinion on proposals for a new solar and energy park at Gate Burton and there are only a few days left. *See Parish Notice Board.* Richard said that this proposal is massive, and it is almost a criminal activity to take all this valuable, arable land out of use, when there is plenty of barren ground available, but the farmers appear to be only too happy to accept the money on the pretext that sheep can graze underneath the panels. Solar farms do not produce the electricity when it is really needed i.e., dark mornings and dark nights in Winter months. Cllr Ellis said that it is vital that everyone should check the information and put their point of view forward at a consultation.

iv. *Roadworks Kettlethorpe Road* – these repairs were carried out recently and have been quite badly done, with potholes left unrepaired on the bends and as raised by Richard, the verge edges have not been taken back. Cllr Ellis remarked that the work was done by a new team and promised to take this up with LCC Cllr Butroid.

**3.10 Queen's Platinum Jubilee event – i. Street parties** - It was suggested that a series of small street parties could take place on Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup> around lunch time throughout the Parish, which could help to bring neighbours and communities together. These parties would be held in adjacent roads, grouped collectively, to create 'safe' areas, ruling out the need for any official road closures. A volunteer Co-ordinator for each neighbourhood group will be needed to liaise with the Parish Council and work with neighbours to put together an enjoyable event for all.

Richard had created a flier in the form of a letter to residents giving this information and asked the clerk to provide the numbers required for each road in the Parish. The Chairman suggested inserting a postscript to ask if anyone would be interested in becoming Parish Clerk, as Ron is retiring soon, (see Item 7.4), or to perhaps consider helping their local community by becoming a Parish Councillor, as we are currently two members light.

Enquiries are still taking place for the bulk purchase of the best value party items, cups, bunting flags etc. for which Cllr Ellis offered to advise if WLDC would be organising anything.

**ii. Avenue of limes** – It was thought that the field in question is owned by Wilf Arden and Jez suggested that to complete the avenue, fifteen, 8ft to 12 ft trees will be required and was to attempt to get quotes shortly.

Sue Oliver did not possess any old photographs of how the walkway originally appeared, although as suggested, if we could organise an artist's impression instead, it might help in getting more sponsors, as Roger Brownlow is known to have already got several local companies interested. Catherine felt that this project should be instigated soon after the Platinum Jubilee weekend to serve as a memorial for the future.

**3.11 Village signs** – The Chairman has still not been able to contact the resident concerned and it was suggested that the item should be removed from the agenda until the resident contacts the Council

**3.12 Community Speed watch** – No report has been received from Mr Scawthon. It was understood that there are 6 volunteers, but as commented by members, more numbers will be needed, i.e., for cover in the event of holidays or sickness. It was mentioned that certain nearby villages that had enthusiastically started up with this scheme are never seen "on duty" now. The general feeling of the meeting was that the Lincs Road Safety vehicle, which visited Newark Road today, (02 February 2022) gives a better overall service. Remove item from agenda.

**3.13 Annual Parish Dinner** – it was agreed to hold this year's event at the Ferryboat at Church Laneham on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February for approximately 12 people at 7.00 pm. The Chairman offered to book the tables and request copies of the menu.

### **3.18 Christmas lights**

**i. Christmas Lights' Improvement** - Richard had spoken with a neighbour who had suggested using a 9- or 12-volt alarm battery to run an inverter providing mains power to operate the Christmas lights at 230 volts that would obviously be a lot brighter than batteries. He volunteered to investigate this idea and suggested that as the tree has grown so tall, a net of lights would be the safest and best method for next Christmas

**ii. Fenton lights** – The Chairman had spoken to a Fenton Council member about how they powered their Christmas lights, but he was unable to help.

## **4. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

## **5. PLANNING**

**5.1** Planning Application No. **144293** - for change of use of existing buildings from stables, workshop and stores to veterinary use and storage, Lodge Pines, Marsh Lane Laughterton LN1 2JX. *After some discussion it was decided by the meeting that no objections would be raised.*

## **6. FINANCE**

**6.1 Defib: charge pack and electrode pads.** Reimburse Chairman **£110 + £22 VAT**  
*Payment was proposed, seconded and agreed, by the meeting*

**6.2 PAYE and Salary** - Payment was agreed in accordance with the proposal made at an earlier meeting this year.

**6.3 Parish Accounts** – The balance at the bank to month ending 31 January 2022 was **£12,582.17** with an expenditure of **£8,930.08**

**7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

**7.1 Parish grass cutting** – quotations are being sought using past records and recommendations from LALC clerks.

**7.2 Land heritage – *Tree planting enquiry*** - The Chairman had been in touch with a local farmer who advised that the land in question belonged to a gentleman from South Clifton. After checking with him to see about passing on his phone No., the Chairman was advised that Land Heritage had already been in touch with him.

**7.3 Kettlethorpe Rd** - Part of the village had recently suffered power outages caused by people cutting the tops of conifers very close to overhead power cables in the field near to Propeller Island. Several people have commented to councillors about their concerns with the amateur methods being adopted, but the Parish Council have no control over such matters as the resultant power cuts, or the subsequent main road traffic problems.

**7.4 Clerk** – The clerk mentioned that he had considered retiring from the Council soon and asked if enquiries could be made towards finding a suitable replacement

The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 at 7.00 pm** in Kettlethorpe Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.40 pm

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