

**The Monthly meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Village Hall Montagu Road, Canwick on Monday 20th July 2009 at 7.30pm.** District/County Cllr Ron Oxby was present.

Councillors: Councillor L.J. Pennell - Chairman  
Councillor I.D. Carrington – Vice-Chairman and also a District Councillor  
Councillor M.T. Hales  
Councillor Mrs C.M. Griffin  
Councillor R.C. Narborough

The Chairman opened the meeting with a welcome to those present.

**1. Apologies and Declarations of Interest:** Apologies from District Cllr Mrs Brighton, PC Brown and PCSO Carol Daman-Willems were recorded. Cllrs Carrington and Mrs Griffin declared a prejudicial interest in item 10e, when an application for a Public Works Loan for work on the Village Hall would be discussed, as they were both trustees on the Village Hall.

**2. Parish Council Vacancy:** A reminder letter had been received from the NKDC Electoral Services about the vacancy. A reply had been sent confirming that no nominations had been received to date. It was agreed to refresh the notices on display.

**3. Clerk's Notes from the Monthly Meeting held on 15th June 2009:** The notes from this meeting had been distributed to each Member and were taken as read. It was proposed by the Chairman that the notes be accepted as minutes for signing and this was unanimously agreed.

#### **4. Matters Arising:**

**4a. Information Packs for New Residents:** One pack had been given to a new resident and a further pack was anticipated in the near future.

**4b. Web Site:** Routine maintenance had been undertaken over the previous month.

**4c. Cycletrack – Street Lights:** Members were updated on events involving a County Council Officer and the owner of the woodland who lives north of the City of Lincoln. Subsequently work to cut the growth away from the street lighting on that route had been undertaken and a satisfactory outcome had been achieved.

#### **5. Planning:**

**5a. N/17/0422/09 erection of single storey side extension with first floor accommodation in roof at 1 Sibthorpe Gardens:** Members were advised that due to the timescale for the return of comments to NKDC, the application had been reviewed by the Planning Committee. The Committee had been content with the proposals and agreed no comments be returned to the NKDC. The action taken was endorsed by Members.

**5b. Decision Notice – N/17/0275/09 first floor extension over existing ground floor flat roof area at Danesbury, Sibthorpe Gardens:** Permission had been granted for the development on 12th June 2009. The notice had been copied to all Members and the conditions imposed were considered sensible.

**6. Environment:** Cllr Hales recalled various issues that had been raised at the previous meeting and confirmed that he had reported the matters to the Highways Officer but he had received no feed back to date. Concern was again raised about the remains of a column for a 30mph sign at the entrance to School Lane from Canwick Hill. It was agreed that the situation should be sorted as it had been ongoing for sometime, the highways officer had made no headway into what was essentially a real safety issue. The column had deteriorated and had subsequently fallen onto the verge leaving a stump that had been covered with yellow tape. Members hoped that the electrical connection to the

column had been disconnected. The Clerk was asked to report the matter again to the County Council as a matter of urgency. A finger post showing the route of a public footpath at the junction of Pelham Lane and School Lane had again been damaged by a high sided vehicle and was currently turned in the wrong direction, a replacement was requested.

## **7. Correspondence:**

**7a. LCC – Scam Talks:** The Trading Standards Service notified the availability of material/presentation to raise awareness of scams by speaking to a wide variety of social groups that might be vulnerable as targets, particularly the older generation. Cllr Narborough indicated a willingness to contact the department with a view to inviting them to attend a coffee morning at Canwick village at sometime in the future.

**7b. NKDC Seven Weekly Street Cleaning:** The Client Operations Manager informed of dates we can expect to see the mechanical sweeper in the village, these include 7th August, 5th October, 23rd November 2009, 11th January and 1st March 2010.

**7c. Lincolnshire Best Kept Village & Small Towns Competition 2009:** The County Co-ordinator at Community Lincs advised the first round of judging was complete. Unfortunately Canwick village had been eliminated in the first round. The Judges comments were noted in an award of 105 points out of 120 and were well received. It was agreed to publish the results on the notice board for residents to view.

**7d. NKDC Community Partnership – Partnership Plan 2009-20011:** This document was noted for information.

**7e. NKDC Register of Interests Forms, Review/Update:** The NKDC Member Services Manager raised the requirement for members to review their interest forms on an ongoing basis to take account of any changes that might have occurred. Cllr Carrington noted this obligation following his election onto North Kesteven District Council and an arrangement to update his details was acknowledged. It was agreed to supply each Member with a copy of their existing form so that they could check the details and update if necessary.

**7f. LCC – Really Useful Stuff Handbook (RUS):**The Community Development Team at LCC notified the availability of this manual either in paper format or on a memory stick, and to download from the website. This was noted by Members for information.

**7g. LCC – Free Tree Scheme:** Conservation Services notified the availability of trees/hedging for Parish Councils and Community Groups and asked for requests to be returned by 30th September 2009. Cllr Hales took the details to give to the Playing Field Committee.

**7h. Lincolnshire Police Chief Constable – Review of my First Year in Post:** A leaflet had been received and was noted for information. Copies had been given to each member and it was agreed to place the leaflet in the Village Hall foyer for residents to view.

**7i. EMDA News:** The latest edition of this magazine was noted for information.

**8. Four Parishes Cluster Group – Update:** The Chairman summarised the business that had taken place at the meeting held at Branston Pavilion, Moor Lane on 8th July 2009, remarking that it was good to get out to the different venues and thanked Branston PC for hosting the meeting. Routine business had been covered amicably but there was much dissatisfaction about the library service. It was considered that there was no synchronization. The situation in Washingborough village was cited as an example because they have a static library whose hours have been cut from 25 per week to 10 hours per week, supplemented by a visiting mobile library for 2 hours; while some villages had no library provision including Canwick village. County Councillor Oxby reported that overall there had been a 10% reduction in Lincolnshire, but North Kesteven District had come out worse with a 29% cut. It was felt that some rural communities were missing out on a valuable asset and that it was disproportionate.

**9. Parish Plan Steering Group:** The Steering Committee were looking in to the practicalities of printing prior to the document being distributed for consultation.

## **10. Finance:**

**10a. Bank Account Update:** A statement was circulated showing a balance of £9,413.93 in the deposit account and £84.21 in the current account following the clearance of un-presented cheques and this was acknowledged and approved.

**10b. Payments Due in July:** An invoice from Veolia Environmental Services for grass cutting and Heighington Parish Council covering ¼ year payments for the use of office facilities, photocopying and dog warden services were noted and payment was approved.

Due to the Council being in recess over August, it was agreed to delegate authority to the Clerk to deal with routine payments following liaison with the Chairman.

**10c. Transfer of Funds:** A transfer of £400 between accounts to meet the expenses payable was approved.

**10d. 2008/09 Audit:** Members were advised that the internal audit had been completed satisfactorily and the Annual Return and supporting papers had been sent to Clement Keys for scrutiny (external audit).

**10e. Public Works Loan:** The prejudicial interests declared by Cllrs Carrington and Mrs Griffin were acknowledged. Before leaving the meeting they were afforded the opportunity to address Members as individuals. Cllr Carrington recalled previous discussions about the possible need for the Council to borrow funds towards renovation work at the Village Hall to bring the venue into full compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act and to improve dramatically its energy efficiency to allow more intensive and equitable use of the community facility. To allow the Hall to be improved as soon as possible the project had been split into three phases. Phase 1 includes the installation of a platform lift to allow disabled access to the toilets from the main function room and club room areas. Phase 2 covers the installation of a dedicated compliant toilet for disabled persons and remodelling of the internal entrance. Phase 3 combines the provision of an external ramped access at the front of the building to replace the existing disabled access at the rear and remodelling the external entrance. Competitive quotations had been obtained and a pledge to match fund phase one had been received from Canwick Social Club. Negotiations were advanced with external funders for the remainder of the scheme. In seeking funding one of the obstacles sought was a demonstration of real funding from within the community. Cllrs Carrington & Mrs Griffin then left the meeting.

The Chairman recalled the borrowing scheme illustrations and costs obtained from the Public Works Loans Office earlier in the year. The Clerk reported that little had changed in the interim. It was proposed by the Chairman that the Parish Council seeks permission to borrow £6,000, payable in equal instalments of principle (EIP), over a 20year period, from the Public Works Loans Board. This was seconded by Cllr Hales and unanimously agreed.

Cllrs Ian Carrington and Mrs Griffin rejoined to the meeting at this point.

## **11. Urgent Items for Information:**

**11a.** Cllr Carrington recalled that he had taken old paperwork to screen in accordance with the official guidance and was pleased to report that he had completed the task. He had scanned 6-7 boxes and condensed archive papers into 2 small boxes, sensitive items had been shredded. Access to the storage area in the village was to be arranged.

**12. Date of next meeting:** The next monthly meeting would take place on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2009, at the Village Hall, Montagu Road, Canwick starting at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm.

Dated: 14<sup>th</sup> September 2009