

The Annual General Meeting of Canwick Parish Council was held at the Village Hall, Montague Road, Canwick, on Monday 17th May 2010. District Cllr Mrs M. Brighton was present.

Present: Councillor L.J. Pennell – Chairman
Councillor I.D. Carrington – Vice-Chairman, also a District Councillor
Councillor Mrs C. Griffin
Councillor M.T. Hales
Councillor L. O'Melia
Councillor R.C. Narborough

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

1. Apologies and Declarations of Interest: An apology from County/District Cllr Ron Oxby was recorded. The Chairman and Cllr Narborough declared a personal interest in the planning application at item 7a as they both reside in the vicinity of the site. Cllr Carrington also declared a personal interest in this planning application because of his role as a District Councillor for this Ward. Cllrs Carrington and Mrs Griffin declared a prejudicial interest in item 12c when a payment to the Public Works Loans Board would be discussed, as they were both trustees for the Village Hall.

2. Election of Chairman for the Ensuing Year & Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office: The retiring Chairman asked for nominations for the position of Chairman. Cllr Carrington proposed that the current Chairman continue, this was seconded by Cllr Hales, and the resolution was unanimously agreed. There were no further nominations. Cllr Pennell accepted the position of Chairman. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office to be signed at the next meeting on 21st June 2010.

3. Election of Vice-Chairman for the Ensuing Year: Nominations for the position of Vice-Chairman were invited. Cllr Mrs Griffin proposed that Cllr Carrington be asked to continue and this was seconded by Cllr Narborough, and the resolution was unanimously agreed. There were no further nominations. Cllr Carrington accepted the position of Vice-Chairman. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office to be signed at the next meeting on 21st June 2010.

4. Appointment of Members to Committees: A resolution to re-appoint members en-bloc was unanimously agreed:-

Planning: Lead Member Cllr Carrington, Cllr Mrs Griffin and Cllr Pennell

Environment: Lead Member Cllr Hales and Cllr O'Melia

Finance: Lead Member Cllr Pennell and Cllr O'Melia

Bank Signatories: revalidated Cllr Pennell, Cllr Carrington, Cllr O'Melia and Cllr Mrs Griffin

Communication: Lead Member Cllr Carrington, Cllr Narborough to assist.

Parish Plan: Cllr Carrington, Cllr Mrs Griffin, Cllr Hales and Cllr Narborough

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman Ex-Officio Members on all standing committees.

5. Clerk's Notes from the Parish Council meeting on 19th April 2010: the notes had been copied to all Members and were taken as read. Cllr Carrington asked for a correction to the disclosure of his interests declared and the amendment was agreed. A resolution that the notes be approved as minutes, subject to the correction and signed by the Chairman as a true record was unanimously agreed.

6. Matters Arising:

6a. Information Packs for New Residents: It was reported that one pack was required for a new resident. Cllr Narborough agreed to action the request.

6b. Web Site: Routine maintenance had been undertaken over the previous month. Cllr Narborough reported that an interim chairman had been appointed by the Social Club at the Village Hall and advised new contact details for amendment.

6c. Former Railings at a Property on Hall Drive: Cllr Carrington recalled concerns that had been raised regarding the work to the front boundary of this property which had been reported to the NK Enforcement Team. He noted a response from the Enforcement Officer and reported that he had been trying to contact the Officer but had been unsuccessful to date. He was attempting to obtain clarification for the reason in Planning Law behind the Enforcement Officer's explanation. In the meantime it was observed that the fence in situ was 1.2 meters and technically speaking, that was not an issue. It was resolved that Cllr Carrington would continue to pursue an explanation from the Enforcement Officer as a District Councillor and this was unanimously agreed.

6d. Protocol for Handling Complaints: Cllr Carrington referred to the receipt of a letter in March 2010 from Legal Services Lincolnshire advising of a procedure for adoption. He advised that the matter had subsequently been raised with the Standards Committee at NK and a revised letter was anticipated.

7. Planning:

7a Decision Notice, 10/0277/FUL Erection of car port and pool house at Sapele, School Lane, Canwick: The declarations of interest declared by the Chairman, Cllr Narborough and Cllr Carrington were noted. Permission had been refused for this development on 29th April 2010. The main reasons for the decision were noted on the decision notice that had been circulated in the meeting packs.

Attention was drawn to a query that had been raised with the Clerk by a resident that a member of the Parish Council had commented independently (Neighbour consultation) on this proposal but had failed to state that he was also a parish councillor. The Chairman recalled the planning application had been received by the Council in between meetings and it had been dealt with by the Planning Committee. The Committee had returned comments within the deadline (5th April 2010). The Parish Council endorsed the comments returned at the meeting on 19th April 2010. The Chairman observed that there was no statutory requirement for a parish councillor to declare an interest as a parish councillor when commenting independently as a resident, although it might be useful to do so. He also confirmed that the parish councillor had declared an interest when the planning application was raised at the Parish Council meeting. A resolution that the parish councillor properly declared an interest was unanimously agreed.

7b. Queries raised by a resident: It was reported that two queries had been raised by a resident with the Clerk concerning development at two different properties. The Clerk had raised both issues with the NK Enforcement Team and a response had been received indicating that no action was required with a note to confirm that the resident who had raised the issues had been notified direct. The exchange of correspondence had been copied in the meeting pack and was noted by the Chairman for information.

Cllr O'Melia raised a query about the drive being constructed in between the cottages and the Church on Hall Drive. The Chairman explained that the situation had evolved through a recent planning application submitted by the owner of one of the adjacent properties that had been refused by NKDC.

8. Environment:

8a. Highways Issues: The following problems were reported.

- Maintenance of the verge outside the lodge on Grange Lane and in front of the seat opposite Canwick Hall was raised in the hope that the areas could be attached to a list for cutting.
- Fly Tipping along the B.1188 had been reported to NKDC and it was confirmed that it had been cleared.
- The illuminated signs at the western end of School Lane were not working for a short period but it was observed that they were now functional.
- The footpath sign at the junction of Pelham Lane and School Lane had recently been renewed. The bus shelter on Canwick Hill (opposite Heighington Road) had been cleaned but we did not know who had undertaken the task.
- Overgrown shrubs/hedgerows at the junction of Heighington Road and Canwick Hill and Montagu Road/Heighington Road were reported and Cllr Hales volunteered to speak with the residents.
- A recent fly tipping incident along Heighington Road was recalled and Members were advised that a note had been found among the rubbish and the Investigation Team at Sleaford were looking into the matter.
- The presence of a plastic dustbin and 3-4 black sacks of rubbish at the front of a property on Canwick Hill were reported as an eyesore. A call to have it removed was requested
- Concern from a resident about careless parking along School Lane was reported. The resident had suggested that yellow lines should be sought for part of the Lane. In discussion Members felt that the situation was far from simple as many properties on School Lane had no garage or driveway and in general there was no desire for yellow lines in this traditional village. The Chairman would seek to resolve the matter

9. Correspondence:

9a. Sleaford Town Centre Regeneration Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) consultation draft: The receipt of this document for consultation was noted by the Chairman. The importance of regeneration in Sleaford was outlined. Cllr O'Melia took the paper to read.

9b. Best Kept Village Competition: Cllr Narborough reported confirmation of Canwick Village entry in to this competition.

10. Four Parishes Cluster – Update: The Chairman reported that the meeting on the 21st April 2010, had been very busy. The garden initiative was struggling, while the Memories Book was coming to fruition. Hill Holt Wood had undertaken sterling work to clear fly tipping from Hot Spots and extra people had been taken on and they were looking for projects in parishes to see if they had any work that could be undertaken such as clearing paths or clearing overgrown areas etc. The walkway alongside the playing field at Canwick was suggested but it would have to be investigated as it was privately owned. It was understood that joint meetings for police teams might evolve in the future. The cluster meetings would be used for community panel meetings where the public attend therefore saving police time attending meetings in different parishes; to be more efficient in policing and patrolling areas. Although it had been welcome in the Cliff Villages, the Four Parishes Cluster considered the current practise was invaluable.

11. Parish Plan Steering Group – Update: There was no new information.

12. Finance:

12a. Bank Account Update: The Statement for May 2010 showed the deposit account balance at £9,870.13. The savings book had been updated by the Bank and showed the receipt of the £5,000 precept for the 2010/11 financial year on 9 April 2010. The current account balance was £84.25 following the clearance of a cheque for £10. The situation was noted and approved unanimously.

12b. Payments Due in May: A statement from Veolia Environmental Services for grass cutting at a cost of £174.73 had been received. There was no invoice to cover the payment but approval to pay the account was approved in principle subject to the receipt of an invoice. The Clerk was asked to contact Veolia E.S. about the matter. An invoice to cover the premium of £422.17 for the renewal of Insurance was noted for payment under item 12e.

12c. Public Works Loan Payment: The declared interests from Cllrs Carrington and Mrs Griffin were noted. Reference was made to the Loan the Council had taken out towards improvements at the Village Hall. We had been notified that the first repayment of £264.60 was due on 2nd June 2010 and this was acknowledged.

12d. Transfer of Funds: It was agreed to transfer £1,000 to meet the expenses approved that evening.

12e. Insurance Renewal: The details of the insurance had been reviewed and it was agreed that there were no changes this year. Payment was approved as noted under item 12c.

13. Urgent items for information: No items were reported.

14. Date of Next Meeting: The next monthly meeting would take place on Monday 21 June 2010 at the Village Hall, Montagu Road, Canwick, starting at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm