

A meeting of Canwick Parish Council was held on Monday 16th November 2009, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Montagu Road, Canwick. County/District Cllr Ron Oxby and PCSO Carol Daman-Willems were present.

Present: Councillor L.J. Pennell - Chairman
Councillor Mrs C.M. Griffin
Councillor M.T. Hales
Councillor R.C. Narborough
Councillor L. O'Melia

1. Apologies and Declarations of Interest: Cllr Mrs Griffin declared a prejudicial interest in item 9b when a public works loan for work at the Village Hall would be discussed, as she was a trustee of the Village Hall. Apologies from Cllr Carrington - Vice-Chairman and also District Cllr, District Cllr Mrs Brighton and PC Brown were all recorded.

Police Matters: PCSO Carol Daman-Willems advised that 4 cars had gone off-road along the C113 Heighington Road over the previous month but no one had been injured. One crime was reported, a property on Heighington Road had been burgled and copper pipes and tanks had been taken. There being no further points raised the Chairman thanked PCSO Carol for attending and she left the meeting at this point.

2. Clerk's Notes from the Monthly Meeting held on 19th October 2009: The notes from this meeting had been distributed to each member and were taken as read. The Chairman proposed that the notes be accepted and approved as minutes for signing and this was agreed unanimously.

3. Matters Arising:

3a. Information Packs for New Residents: No packs were issued over the past month.

3b. Web Site: Routine maintenance had been carried out over the previous month.

3c. Canwick Mobile Library Service: A report from Cllr Carrington had been circulated which updated on the actions taken to persuade the County Council to reinstate the service. In principle a decision had been taken in October but there was uncertainty about the time, day and frequency right up until the last minute when efforts were made to inform the residents on the day that the mobile library arrived in the village. At short notice, support on the day from residents' attendance at the library was considered excellent but to justify continuation it was felt that the community would have to take on the responsibility of sustained publicity to keep usage at a premium. In this regard a flyer was being prepared to all households in the village and a notice of library times had been displayed on the village notice board and website. The fixed term slot for the Library was confirmed as weekly on a Friday from 3:45 to 4:45 in the car park at the Village Hall. Additionally, an 'outreach' service will also call at the local care home on a quarter year basis. The Chairman extended thanks to all concerned, especially Cllr Carrington for his sterling efforts, and this was unanimously agreed.

4. Planning:

4a. TPO 213/4 Consent to carry out work on a preserved tree T1 Holly at Beau Vista, Hall Drive: A previous application to fell this tree had been refused and the applicant had reapplied to have the tree trimmed and reduced by 20%. Members saw no objections to the work proposed but queries were raised about the position of the tree. It was agreed to discuss the matter with the NK Tree Officer at the forthcoming meeting in the village on 19th November 2009 prior to returning formal comments.

5. Environment:

5a: Highways Issues: Cllr Hales had reported the overgrown vegetation on the new section of Grange Lane footway to the Highways Customer Services and he observed that it had been cleared that day. The amount of leaf debris on the highway between Hall Drive and School Lane and on the footway between Sibthorpe Gardens and Grange Lane was raised.

The Clerk was asked to check when these areas might be swept. Fly tipping on the unofficial lay by along Heighington Road had been reported by Cllr Hales.

5b. NKDC Tree Officer Visit to the village on 19th November 2009: The arrangements for the visit were confirmed and Cllrs Carrington, Hales, Narborough, O'Melia and the Clerk would attend and walk around the village with the Tree Officer.

5c. Playing Field Hedge Cutting: It was reported that this annual task had not been undertaken and it was agreed to monitor the situation over the next month.

6. Correspondence:

6a. LCC Minerals & Waste Core Strategy & Development Management Policies, Revised Issues & Options: A letter from the Senior Planning Officer at the County Council informed us of the 8 week consultation period from 26th October to 18th December 2009, and was noted by the Chairman for information. The document was available online at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/CoreStrategy and comments could be returned via that link; a written copy could be obtained on request - comments to be returned before 5pm on 18th December 2009.

6b. Text Reporting: The Client Operations Manager at NKDC advised that they introduced this concept in 2007, to enable people to report full litter bins principally on main roads and lay-bys. The service has worked well and they were in a position to extend the service for both dog waste and litter bins around the District. As most of the litter and dog bins are owned by Parish/Town Councils Members views and approval was sought. It was considered a good scheme and there were no objections raised. The Clerk to notify NKDC.

6c. NKDC - Planning Online: The District Council Planning Administration Manager notified us about the launch of a new web site for consultees and pointed out that Parish Councils would still receive a paper copy of the plans and application form as usual. Members were asked if they wished to register so that they could access the information and those attending agreed.

6d. Pedestrian/Cycle Path: In recalling the incident reported at the previous meeting a message had been received from the Highways Officer which advised that if the Parish Council wanted to make a formal request for a cycleway/footway facility between Canwick and Heighington, it must do so in writing. The proposal would then be assessed and considered for (RPI) Rural Priorities Initiative funding. It was agreed that a written request be submitted.

7. Four Parishes Cluster Group - Update: The Chairman reported that it had been agreed to spend the majority of the devolved funding on IT and projection equipment this year so that all four parishes would have their own set. Further display boards for Branston would also be purchased. Members were content with this arrangement.

8. Parish Plan Steering Group - Update, Parish Plan Consultation: The Chairman reported that the Parish Plan had been distributed for formal consultation to 45 key bodies, national and local organisations. It was also available to download on the website (www.canwick.org) and hard copies could be obtained on request. A notice about the consultation had been displayed on the village notice board. A letter from the County Council Highways department regarding the consultation was noted for information.

County Cllr Oxby commented about the County Council budget and a review of care facilities by the portfolio holder. The Chairman thanked Cllr Oxby for the update and he left the meeting at this point.

9. Finance:

9a. Bank Account Update: A statement (copy on the minute file) showed a balance of £8,013.93 in the deposit account and £40.76 in the current account following clearance of the payments approved in October. The situation was accepted and approved by Members.

9b. Public Works Loan: The interest declared by Cllr Mrs Griffin at the start of the meeting was noted. The Chairman reported that borrowing approval had been sanctioned by the Department of Communities and Local Government. An application had been submitted to the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) on 11th November 2009 to take up a loan for £6,000, over 20 years, paying equal instalments of principal. The loan terms will be confirmed two days before the money is transferred to the Council's bank and that is when we will be notified of the interest secured. It was proposed that the grant be paid to the Village Hall Trustees on receipt of the loan money in to the Council's bank, and this was agreed unanimously.

9c. Payments Due in November: The payments due were outlined by the Clerk. These included an invoice of £55.55 from Veolia ES for grass cutting week ending 9 October. Cllr Carrington sought reimbursement of £73.20 expenses to cover postage and stationery connected with the Parish Plan. Ordnance Survey had also notified of the renewal of the map copying licence. There was a Public Works Loan fee of £25 to cover the administration of the loan, and the anticipated payment of the £6,000 grant to the Village Hall Trustees. All of the payments were noted and approved.

9d. Transfer of Funds: A transfer of £300 to meet the expenses payable was approved.

10. Urgent Items for Information:

10/1. The problem of dog walkers not cleaning up after the dog has fouled was reported. This was particularly evident at various places along Grange Lane. The Clerk was asked to notify the Dog Warden about this nuisance.

11. Date of Next Meeting - Monthly Meeting on Monday 21st December 2009 at the Village Hall, Montagu Road, Canwick.