



LAVENDON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk
63a High Street
Lavendon, Olney
Bucks
MK46 4HA

Tel: 01234 241941
Email: ipc.clerk@btconnect.com

Minutes of the Monthly meeting of Lavendon Parish Council held on Monday 8 April 2013.

Present: Mrs C Porter (Chair), Mr D Tomkins (Vice-Chair), Mr A Tourle, Mr T Usher,
Mrs H Patton (Clerk), Mr D Deacon and 3 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr D Brock, Cllr P Geary, Mr M Lankester (RFO)

1. The Chair welcomed those present and apologies for absence were noted from Mr Lankester, Cllr D Brock, Cllr P Geary.
2. The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of 11 March 2013 were confirmed.
3. **Declaration of Interests on Agenda items** – none.
4. **Report from Ward Councillors** – Not present.
5. **Finance Report-**
 - a. *Items submitted for payment and paid since the last meeting* were resolved.
 - b. *e.on electricity contract for pavilion* – Discussion on this item was deferred to the Finance Committee meeting on 15 April. It was agreed that the heaters at the Pavilion would be reprogrammed to be off on Mondays and Fridays. CP/Kaye Brown to action.
 - c. Year End Scrutiny of Accounts- This was also deferred to the Finance Committee meeting on 15 April.
6. **Neighbourhood Plan** – KP explained that this was a plan to look at the parish's requirements for the future (Signs, facilities etc). Funding for these activities would be available from various agencies, but many would require significant notice such as provided by a neighbourhood plan. It was agreed that we would contact Stoke Goldington Parish Council to get some information (or a copy of) the neighbourhood plan they have produced. DT to contact Cllr Ken Foxley at Stoke Goldington.
7. **Other Ongoing Issues:**
 - a. *Cemetery/extension* – KP reported that Tony Collins plans to deliver the topsoil to the cemetery extension shortly. It was agreed that HP would seek a quote for seeding of grass on this area (it was agreed to contact TC initially and report findings to all cllrs- may require a 2nd quote)

AT reported that to rebuild a dry stone wall at the cemetery and to extend the existing wall to include the cemetery extension area would be in the region of £10k; therefore it was agreed to demolish the broken walling and replace with a hedge. AT has looked at the cost for planting a hedge (2ft plants), this would be in the region of £225, depending on what variety of plants were selected. It was agreed to proceed with a planting a hedge (species to be decided at a later date).

AT also recommended that TC combine the construction of the new path with the installation of the topsoil at the cemetery extension in order to save expense on plant hire. This was agreed, HP to action.

AT reported that there was some limited evidence of rabbit activity where the moles had been; it was agreed to take no action on this for now, but to monitor the situation and review if necessary.

- b. *NAG* – DT reported that there had been a NAG meeting on 14 March. SIDS (speed indicator devices) had been discussed; how they will be distributed was still under discussion.

DT also reported an increase in farm equipment thefts in the area. KP reported a number of car number plate thefts around the village recently.

- c. *Landscaping/Playing Field* –

Dog fouling- DD reported that he has collected 4 anti dog fouling signs. It was agreed to site them as follows: 1. On railings outside the Old School. 2. On the footpath between bottom of Castle Road and Playing Field (possibly on the fence outside electric substation, if permission was granted). 3. and 4. are to be decided during a site visit by all Cllrs- HP to coordinate a date.

Landscaping- KP reported that she has been approached by a resident that they would like to plant a tree (as a memorial). It was agreed that further information on this would be required before a decision could be made. KP to action.

Doddshill- a member of the public reported that the gate to the children's play area was missing. This was noted. It was agreed that this would need to be addressed in the future.

Allotment Verge-HP reported that the water meter outside the allotments had been covered by ditch clearance spoils; it was agreed to ask an allotment user to clear this. HP to action.

- d. *Old School* – KP reported that the current occupiers would be happy to proceed with a 10 year lease. The boiler and where responsibility lay for its maintenance would need further consideration. It was noted that the lease and any correspondence should be sent direct to the tenant rather than a solicitor.
- e. *Village Hall* – DD reported that there had been a recent meeting, but he was unable to attend. Nigel Stickells was invited to report salient issues which are as follows: 1. Progress has been made on the possible additional car parking area at the back of the hall. 2. Parking for parents of nursery school etc. had been agreed with the Green Man when the VH is in use (although there are now new pub landlords that will need to be apprised!). 3. The Railway Nursery School and our Ward cllrs have made donations to the VH committee to be used towards refurbishment activity.

f. *Allotments* – KP reported that the ditch beside the allotments has now been cleared. It was noted that there were still 3 vacant plots.

g. *Pavilion* –

WREN update- DT reported that the PC are no longer eligible to apply for the WREN funding scheme as a result of changes to WREN’s rules. This resulted in having to remove the solar panel element of the application and to resubmit our application to the WREN small grant committee; It was agreed to send the petition and letters of support from villagers along with the new application. DT advised that WREN will have made a decision on our application in July, so work could start at the Pavilion at end July and throughout August (preschool will finish on 22 July). HP to contact STADDLE to ask them to be on standby for this.

Pre-School – KP reported that that PC have received a letter from the PSLA county manager to request a waive of rental fees. Before a final decision could be made on this it was agreed that HP would contact K Martynski (the Chair of the Pre-School Parent Committee) to request a full report of her discussions with the PSLA regarding finances for the Pre-School.

h. *Highways* – Olney Road culvert. KP reported that little more information has been received from MKC on planned flood attenuation works other than the Olney Road culvert; It was agreed to contact MKC to ask what is happening. KP to action.

7. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

N Stickells – Reminded the Clerk to send finance reports to accompany the minutes for the website.

D Champion – Suggested a village litter pick; Cllrs commented that this was planned; it simply required the manpower to arrange it.

8. **Matters Arising- Co-option of Councillors-** KP advised that there were 4/5 residents who had expressed an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor. As there are only 3 vacancies it was agreed that a vote would be held on 15 April before the Finance Committee meeting so that we could appoint to the 3 posts by co-option at the 13 May Parish Council meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.09pm.

Signed:Chair

Dated:

2012/13 Sheet