

# Knapton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd Dec, 2008 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

**Present:** Alan Young (in the chair), Clyde Venvell, Sally Dodd, Karen Herbert-Okey, Peter Kaye, Bea Gatfield, and 4 members of the public.

District Councillor: Graham Jones

## 1. Apologies:

Norman Dodd, Wyndham Northam

## 2. Register of Interests:

Clyde Venvell (Griffon Area Partnership), Norman & Sally Dodd (MADRA), Karen Herbert-Okey (Homewatch and Police Liaison), Peter Kaye (Planning Liaison and Pigneys Wood), Bea Gatfield (Planning proposal).

## 3. Minutes of Last Meeting:

It was proposed by Clyde Venvell and seconded by Peter Kaye that the minutes of the last meeting be adopted. This was carried.

## 4. Matters arising:

### Church yard

The Vicar had recently sent a letter to the Council regarding the recent donation of money to help with the upkeep of the church yard. This was now being followed by a meeting in order for him to put his case to the whole council. After outlining the case the council posed questions and had some discussion. One proposal was not seconded, and the Chairman asked the Council to think this through over the Christmas period and asked the Clerk to place on the agenda for the next meeting in January 2009. Meanwhile the Chairman took an action to contact NALC.

**Action:** Chair/Parish Clerk

### MADRA hedge

Karen Herbert Okey and Sally Dodd presented their finding regarding the upkeep of the hedges bordering MADRA. The Clerk requested assistance with framing a letter to MADRA regarding the upkeep/maintenance of the hedge bordering the gardens of the houses in School Close.

**Action:** Chair/Parish Clerk

## **Resignation**

The Clerk reported that he a letter had been sent to KPC by Bea Gatfield tending her resignation now that she was in full time work. The Chairman thanked Bea for her input during her tenure on the Council, in particular the work she undertook in assisting in the Youth Club set up – this was now slated to open on the 7 January 2009. The Chairman said that Bea will be sadly missed.

**Action:** Parish Clerk

## **Freedom of Information act (FOI)**

The Clerk outlined the latest proposals from government. It was suggested that this be circulated and a sub-committee of the Clerk plus Vice Chair would report back in due course. However the council did agree in principle to the model of the above act without any changes.

**Action:** The Clerk/Vice Chair

## **5. Financial Report:**

The Clerk reported that the balances in the deposit and current accounts with Lloyds TSB as at Dec 2008 were £3,327.76 and £2,734 respectively.

Please note that the deposit account total includes the sum of £80.37 which was a tax refund for KPC negotiated by the Clerk.

Tricia Doidge submitted a bill for the sum of £54 for the production of Knapton News. Once again we thank Tricia for her efforts in producing this outstanding newsletter.

The Clerks remuneration was agreed.

It was proposed by Sally Dodd and seconded by Peter Kaye that these invoices and the financial statement be accepted. This was carried.

## **6. Planning:**

Nil.

## **7. Correspondence:**

### **Street naming:**

The Council had received a letter asking if the Council wished to retain the option of naming and numbering the areas under our control. After discussion it proposed by Peter Kaye and seconded by Sally Dodd that the Council retain this option. This was carried.

**Action:** Parish Clerk

## **8. Village Matters:**

## **Grant Funding**

This was discussed briefly; with Peter Kaye saying that he was meeting with someone shortly he might be able to assist the Council with any future application. This was held over.

**Action:** Vice Chairman

## **Boundary Commission**

The Clerk had circulated several reports on this subject and had crafted an email to be sent to the PM and also to Hazel Blears. After discussion it proposed by Clyte Venvell and seconded by Peter Kaye that KPC adopt the status-quo option. This was carried unanimously.

## **Reports: Councillor Jones**

Paston Collage is high on the agenda at the moment. It will mean an increase from about 700 to 1,000 students. The site is close to the Victory Sports Centre. An application has been submitted and will shortly be considered. The site has been designated in the Local Development Framework and I believe that it will be a very positive development not just for the town but also for all the surrounding villages such as those in my ward of Gaunt.

The rodent service is now operating with a fee for the service having been agreed with a contractor.

There is a new flexi bus operating from this week – most households will have received a leaflet.

The Griffon Area Partnership are supporting a fun venture in North Walsham called the Hippo trail. Participants can organise sponsorship for their own Hippo which will be placed in the town [like the Norwich elephant trail] and there will be an evening of auctioning the Hippo's with all proceeds going to the relevant charity.

Victory Housing has asked whether The Griffon Area Partnership would consider setting up a Credit Union and this is being seriously considered.

The Boundary Commission is rolling on – there has been a court action, and there will be a lobbying of parliament on the 10<sup>th</sup>. It is possible that a county wide referendum will be organised by the District Councils.

Waste disposal [recyclable] in the county is sent to sites in the UK and is therefore avoiding the downturn in the economy.

The council's web page is being improved and is already a much better product.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9.10 pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Alan Young (Chairman Knapton Parish Council)