

NASH MILLS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the full Council Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 8TH July 2013 at Nash Mills Village Hall, Hemel Hempstead

Councillors present: - Cllr. Mrs Foster
 Cllr. Doole
 Cllr. Mrs Doole
 Cllr. Ms Bayley
 Cllr. Collins
 Cllr. Mrs Gough

Also present: Linda Sutton, clerk.
 PCSO Agallili, PCSO Pennington.

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME.

Cllr. Mrs Foster welcomed everybody to the meeting. She invited PCSO Agallili to read out the most recent crime report for Nash Mills. He said that of the five crime incidents two were burglaries and three were minor incidents. He described a few of the incidents, Mill Close, offenders entered the property by breaking the patio door. The offender stole a laptop and some jewellery, a further incident in Linsey Close, an attempt made to enter a property and being unsuccessful, offenders caused damaged to the lock.

Another incident reported involved fuel being syphoned from a vehicle in Chaffinches Green.

LF asked PCSO Agallili whether the site of the George Pub had attracted any problems and he explained that it had not. He said normally during the lighter nights the crime rate normally increases as it had elsewhere within Hemel Hempstead.

LB asked PCSO Agallili whether he had been informed of the incident on the morning of the 8th June involving a man and a crow bar. He said he was unaware of this but would investigate and let the clerk know whether a call had been logged. **LS**

HG asked him whether he was aware of the over grown foliage on Bunkers Lane and how dangerous this was for traffic. He advised that it would be best to call Hertfordshire County Council. The clerk will report the condition of the hedges. **LS**

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

DJ and JM both sent their apologies, which were duly noted. LB declared she was a resident of High Barns within the area of the Chalk mines.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No public attended the meeting.

4. SIGNING OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

LF signed the approved June's draft minutes after the clerk added that GD had left the June meeting at 8.30pm. The draft minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council were also signed and approved by the council.

LF read out the current action list.

The damaged wall in Meadow Road item is ongoing as it appears that the resident is ignoring correspondence sent to him by DBC.

LB/GD

GD advised that he is due to contact Fiona Webster, DBC for an update concerning the Memorial Gardens.

GD

TC reported that he had been unable to contact Cllr. McKay however he had recently spoken to a representative from Tesco. They wanted to know the exact amount of funding that was needed to implement the car parking scheme, and also whether other stores in the parade were being approached.

LB commented that as Tesco are part of a multinational chain and that the other businesses at The Denes were small independent stores it seemed unfair for them to have to raise funds.

LF advised the clerk contact AM and invite him to attend the September meeting. She also suggested that any new emails sent concerning the car parking scheme were forwarded to AM so that he is kept up to date.

LS

LF commented that if HCC asks NMPC for a substantial amount of funding then it may be necessary to hold a meeting during August to discuss and perhaps involve local residents for their opinions.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

GD advised that he had attended a Finance meeting where the new community infrastructure levy (CIL) had been discussed. GD explained that the new levy would appear to take the power out of planning officers hands He said it should largely replace s106. However, s106 will still be used in larger projects.

GD suggested that if the Parish Council had a Parish Plan in place it would be very useful; it would highlight areas of concern within the parish.

HG gave a brief report on recent planning issues. She advised that the new development behind Teal Way was progressing and that the developers had secured the site. She also reported that the planned road closure on King Fisher Drive had not been needed, the water works would be a further estimated 8 – 12 weeks before completion.

TC asked whether Cora Watson, DBC had sent an update on recent developments at an address in Belswains Lane. The clerk will check and email all an update.

LS

6. BREAK FOR REFRESHMENTS (15 minutes)

7. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME DISCUSSION

a) Website – LB advised that she had tried to send DJ an email but that it had bounced back. The clerk will investigate and report back.

LS

TC asked the parish council whether they thought the new website was a success and whether there were many visitors to the site. LF suggested that it was a ‘box that needed to be ticked’ and that it appeared to be a worthwhile addition.

b) Chalk mines – GD reported that he had recently attended a steering group. It had been stated that further works to the chalk mines were needed. It had been highlighted that a lot more voids had since been discovered, funds were on the verge of drying up. The bottom line was that DBC had made a presentation to HCA asking for further funding unless this was forthcoming then BAM would have to close down the site on the 15th July. This was now with Eric Pickles, Secretary of State.

LB asked whether this could all have been avoided and whether sufficient planning had gone into the budget.

GD advised that it had been difficult to determine the size of the works needed and that DBC had set aside a contingency fund, this was now being used up.

He advised that insurance companies had not been particularly helpful and would only pay out if a house had fallen into a void. BAM had reported at the last public meeting that the works had been done in order of the highest risk.

LB said it was a very emotional time for the residents and she felt that more planning should have been implemented over the 7 year period. GD said it was pointless apportioning blame and that a cash injection was needed.

c) AHS playing fields – GD gave a further update he explained that Mark Stephens, Abbot's Hill's bursar had now resigned. Peter Storey had been appointed an interim bursar for the foreseeable future. GD suggested that NMPC may have to accept the risk of moving the play equipment at this time.

The clerk advised that she would be contacting Wicksteed Leisure for the annual inspection.

LS

d) Issues raised by warden's report. LS reported that proposed works to the pedestrian crossing and Georgewood steps would be raised again to DBC.

LS

It was suggested that a report be added to the parish magazine asking local residents where they thought extra grit bins could be sited.

LS

e) Matters raised by Cllrs. It was also suggested that a report be added to the parish magazine asking local residents whether they intended to set up Resident Associations. GD suggested that NMPC could help towards start-up costs.

LS

LF suggested that a budget could be set aside by NMPC to cover these costs.

f) Memorial Gardens – this item had been discussed earlier.

LF advised that she had raised concerns to Dave Bowman, Ringways, earlier on in the year concerning possible road closures within Hemel Hempstead.

She suggested that the plan for suggested diversion routes should be added to the agenda.

LS

LB asked for a copy of NMPC boundary map. The clerk will email one over.

LS

LF closed the meeting.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting will be on Monday 9th September 2013.

9th September 2013

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CHAIRMAN

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SIGNED ON