

SOUTHOE & MIDLOE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of MEETING

Held on WEDNESDAY, 6th February 2013

In SOUTHOE VILLAGE HALL at 7.30pm

PRESENT: - Councillors, Mr. A. Marnes (Chair), Mr. D. Saw, Mrs. S. Gadsby, Mrs H. Ramply, Mrs. M. Farmery, County Councillor Mr. R. West, District Councillor Mr. T. Clough, the Clerk and 4 members of the public.

All present took part in a one minute silence in memory of Mr. Allan Parsons who had sadly passed away on 3rd Feb after many years of fighting his illness. All present acknowledged that Mr Parsons was a current serving Parish Councillor, and former Chairman of this parish council and an active member of our community over many of years.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr. M. Rawson had sent apologies for absence, these were accepted.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9th January 2013

These had been circulated to all Councillors, it was proposed by Mrs. H. Ramply that the minutes were correct, seconded by Mrs. S. Gadsby and unanimously agreed by those present, Chair signed the minutes.

3. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk had confirmed with the District Council that the quote be accepted for the grass cutting of the Recreation Ground for 2013.

The Clerk had enquired regarding the Council's insurers and received clarification of if a marquee be used on the Recreation Ground for a private event what the liability aspect is, and copy of response to be kept for any future reference.

There had been a letter received from the District Council stating that the Parish Council would be receiving financial assistance from the District Council given the recent changes to the calculations of council tax.

Other Items to be discussed from the last meeting to be covered during the agenda.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs. H. Ramply's declaration in relation to the wind turbine application was noted, there were no further declarations received by those present.

Chairman closed the meeting for the next item

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Cllr. T. Clough updated all present that of the four reasons the District Council had turned down the wind farm application, three of these have now been resolved to the Council's satisfaction, therefore the one reason that remains is the proximity of the turbines to the right of way. Cllr. R. West reported that he was saddened to hear that Cllr. Boddington was no longer continuing as Chair of the A1 Safety Group, and that there had unfortunately still not been a meeting with the bus service company. Cllr. R. West noted that he would be pursuing this meeting and added that the new Police Crime Commissioner has suggested some changes to how Neighbourhood Watch is run.

A member of public raised disappointment that the District Council planning committee had not given more reasons for refusal to the wind farm application.

Chairman reopened the meeting.

6. ALLOTMENT PROVISION

A member of the public communications were noted, and the Council were mindful that the previous response timescale from Savills of the end of January had now passed so a reminder to be sent, Clerk to action.

7. POLICING ISSUES/NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

It was reported that recently the police had been diverting traffic through the village on the night of the recent fatal accident on the A1, it was detailed that this causes a lot of village disruption. This matter had already been reported

Signed for and on behalf of Southoe & Midloe Parish Council.....

Date: - 6th March 2013

Page 1 of 3

and is being pursued with the relevant highways Officers and traffic department, it was agreed that further letters be sent to highlight the problems.

8. A1 MATTERS

There have been no recent group meetings, but a proposal of a new Chair has been put forward it was noted.

9. FINANCE

The following invoices were presented:

Barnicoat Ltd clerking service £238.57

It was proposed by Mrs. H. Ramply that the cheque be paid, seconded by Mr. D. Saw, unanimously agreed and resolved that the above cheque be signed.

There had been a notification that direct debit payment of £93.61 for the Village Hall electricity is due shortly and it was noted that a recent cheque had been rejected, to date not information had been received regarding if a charge would be applied.

The Clerk will action the changing of the bank signatories and notify the District Council that there is a Councillor vacancy.

10. PLAYING FIELD

It was raised that the entrance from Town Orchard is becoming very muddy, there was a suggestion of having paving blocks but on the grass, so that the grass is then allowed to go in between them, so Clerk to look into. There was some concern raised regarding the gate and locking issues, Mr. A. Marnes to look at this.

11. VILLAGE HALL

There is a forthcoming quiz night on 8th March, Mrs. S. Gadbsy added that a number of bills had been paid recently including insurance, water, window locks, draught excluders and an electrician has been giving them advice on heaters as well as doing work to the fuse box. There had been some recent guidance issued on snow, and in relation to the Village Hall car park area it had been suggested that a public sign should be installed to waive liability, this will be looked into.

12. CHURCH MATTERS & BURIAL GROUND

It was noted that opinions from all parishioners will be sought regarding the proposed reorganisation of the boundaries, with the clock now being inside the church awaiting for better weather before it is installed and reported that snagging items are being done.

13. PLANNING

There were no items to be discussed.

14. CORRESPONDENCE / EMAILS

A copy of the items received between meetings was circulated, items noted included Cambs. County Council footpath network meeting noted and information from the Hunts. Strategic Board.

At this point of the meeting Mrs. H. Ramply took leave from the meeting.

15. WIND FARM

There had been a letter from TCI received regarding the date of the enquiry and noted that information to be presented had to be logged by 19th February. It was agreed that a statement to be prepared and that Mr. D. Saw would be the Parish Council representative so Clerk to ensure appropriately registered to speak. There was some concern raised that the information within the application relating to highways had changed with the route in the village that is proposed to be used, clarification was felt is needed to be sought on this.

Other than the letter from TCI informing the Council of the forthcoming enquiry, there had been no communications from them, the District Council nor the Action Group.

It was noted that the Parish Council copy of the wind turbine application had been given to the Action Group, but if needed by the Parish Council they could be asked to be returned.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. A. Marnes reported that he is working with Mr. M. Rawson on the yellow line parking matter raised at the last meeting.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This was agreed to be on Wednesday 6th March 2013.

The meeting was closed at 8.30pm