

Present: Councillors: B Haycock (Chairman)
K Fenwick
M Hulbert
I Dyckhoff
D Cambray

Clerk: G Coombs

1. APOLOGIES

An Apology was received from Cllr Kendall. This was accepted.

Cllr Haycock noted that there was some information in Update regarding apologies and would like to discuss the item at the next meeting.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Item 4.3 last line add "...as there was no quorum."

Item 7.1 "unappassable" changed to "not passable". (The Council requested the Clerk to check the spelling unappassable.)

Item 7.9 3rd sentence should be "hole" not "whole".

After these amendments were made the Council adopted these minutes.

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Home Farm

The Council are monitoring.

3.2 Minute Book

The binding and archiving still needs to be actioned.

3.3 Bridleway Signs Brackley Lane, Withimer Lane RA46, RA4 and RA27

These have been reported.

3.4 Seat on the Green

Cllr Fenwick has identified two possible benches and received quotes:

- 1500mm at £839.00 plus VAT
- 1800mm at £925.00 plus VAT

The Council would like a bench similar to the present bench and proposed the 1500mm bench. Cllr Haycock agreed.

Cllr Fenwick will additionally order the concrete and surface paving kit and the tamper resistant cover caps at £34.00 and £14.00 respectively. The Council agreed to this.

3.5 Footpath – Brackley Lane to White Cottage

No reply has been received to date, the Clerk has been asked to obtain a reply before the next meeting.

3.6 Housing Association

The Housing Association came for a walk round Abthorpe and Cllr Fenwick joined them, several items were pointed out and the Housing Association agreed to take action:

- Trees at Cadogan Place.
- Tarmac surface at Garages in Stanhill Row
- The hole in the ground at the Garages in Brackley Lane
- Aware of ditch and issues with it.

3.7 Site of Old Pump (North Entrance to Church)

This is a project in progress. Green/Blue bricks are required and a water pedestal/spout similar to the existing one on the Green.

3.8 Registration of The Green

The Clerk has contacted NCC and is awaiting a reply. (The Council believed the grass area in front of 2 and 3 The Green should be included also.)

3.9 Affordable Housing Needs

A letter has been received from Orchard – Broomfield Housing introducing themselves and stating the work that is being carried out in Council homes. This was put into circulation.

3.10 Mini Farm

Two letters have been received from SNC regarding this site. The first one acknowledges our letter and states they are going to investigate. The second dated 28th January 2009 state that they have visited the site. One of the caravans is a replacement for a caravan that had been there for at least 20 years and the other 5520 were clearly in breach of planning control. The occupier has been given 56 days to either apply for planning permission or comply.

The Council requested the Clerk to write to Patrick Burke, Planning Enforcement Team leader and advise that although there had been a caravan on site it was semi-derelict and never habitable and was used purely as a tea shed. Having put a new caravan on site one would question how long it would be before this becomes a residential plot and planning permission for a house is required.

4.0 FINANCE

4.1 Financial Balances

Business Investment Account as 31 st December 2008:	£10,929.52	
Treasurer Account as at 31 st December 2008	£2,505.53	
Outstanding Cheques:		
	BT	£1.00 Chq 274
	SNVB	£33.60 Chq 275
	Eon UK Energy Services Ltd	£74.31 Chq 277
	Eon	£95.50 Chq 278
	Abthorpe Parochial Church Council	£50.00 Chq 279
	Northamptonshire Victim Support	£50.00 Chq 280
	Northamptonshire and Warwickshire Air Ambulance	<u>£50.00</u> Chq 281
		£354.41
	Balance	£2,151.12
	Paid in	<u>£500.00</u>
	Total Balance	<u>£2,651.12</u>

4.2 Payments

There were no invoices put forward for payment.

4.3 Section 137 Payment

Towcester Area Door to Door £50.00 Chq 182

Cllr Hulbert declared an interest and withdrew from any discussion and decision. Cllr Haycock proposed this payment and Cllr Cambray seconded. The Council approved the above donation.

5. PLANNING

5.1 Application

5.2 Update

5.2.1 S/2008/0541/TR Removal of Public Payphone, Kiosk 857335, The Green, Abthorpe, Towcester
This has been actioned and Abthorpe Parish Council is now the proud owners of a red telephone kiosk. The phone box needs to be included on the Asset Register and The Clerk was asked to find out about insurance.

5.2.2 S/2008/1628/P Two storey rear extension, two storey side extension and porch extension. Hayes Farmhouse, Abthorpe Road, Silverstone

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 TADD Reimbursement of subscription for 2008.

Thanks have been received from Mrs Rush, Mr Foster and Mrs Hulbert (Councillor).

6.2 Queen's Royal Garden Party

An email has been received from Danny Moody (NCALC) regarding the Royal Garden Party on Tuesday 21st July asking for nominations. Cllr Haycock nominated Cllr Fenwick who has served on the Council for more than 20 years and has been actively involved in village life. The Council agreed with this and asked the Clerk to respond.

6.3 Winter Gritting

In light of the snowfall from Wednesday 4th February for approximately a week, County Councillor Ben Smith sent an email asking about MGWSP winter gritting for this period. The Clerk replied asking what gritting. As far as the Clerk was aware our roads had not been gritted for the whole period of the snow.

6.4 Neighbourhood Watch

Linda Pace, Secretary Northamptonshire Branch, has forwarded a letter from Mrs Isabel Lefever, Chairman Western Area NHW Support Team. This letter requests that Council support the NHW. The Council agreed to have a discussion at the Annual Parish Meeting. Cllr Fenwick agreed to speak to Mr. Tomalin who receives some information. In the past the co-ordinators have found too much information is put through to everyone that is not pertinent to our area.

6.5 Village of the Year

The Council discussed and agreed that the village would not be entering this year.

6.6 SNVB

This information was put into circulation.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Personal Details

Cllr Hulbert raised her concern regarding identity theft and how information is taken from the internet.

7.2 Noticeboard

This has now been cleaned and looks lovely.

7.3 Canon Smith Leaving

The Council requested the Clerk to write a letter to Canon Smith thanking her for her work within the parish and wish her luck for the future.

7.4 Clerk

The Clerk is retiring at the end of March. We are in need of a Clerk. The present Clerk agreed to continue but would not be able to continue after the 31st August 2009. The Council agreed to make every effort to find a new Clerk as soon as possible.

7.5 Street Light

The Street light outside 2 Wappenham Road is out. The Clerk has been requested to report this.

7.6 Brackley Lane

The Clerk has been requested to ask for the top of Brackley Lane to have the type 1 filled in and tarmac the rest of the lane.

There being not other business the meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

*Please note: The next regular **Parish Council Meeting** is to be held on Monday 6th April 2008 in the Old School, Abthorpe.*

Dates of Future Meetings:

Monday 11th May 2009

Annual General Meeting Monday 11th May 2009

Annual Parish Meeting Monday 18th May 2009