

LOXLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT LOXLEY SCHOOL ON 8th December 2008 AT 7.30 P.M.

PRESENT: P. Morris, (Chairman), G Jones, M Nightingale, C Ayres, I Seccombe

IN ATTENDANCE: W. Gadd (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from P. Gregory Hood

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Councillors were reminded that they are required to disclose an interest in any item on the Agenda.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the last Meeting held on 20th October 2008 were read and approved as a correct record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.1. Village Website

G Jones reported that progress was being made with the restructuring of the village website. When it is complete, a separate meeting will be arranged for the Councillors to review the new site before it goes live on the internet.

4.2. 2 Hill Top

P. Morris reported that Mr B Ellery, a friend of Miss Rackstraw, is now trying to resolve this matter. He has discussed the problem with Warwickshire County Council Highways Department. It has been agreed that, if he installs a drainage pipe in the drive, Highways Department will join it up to the main storm drain in the road.

4.3 Neighbourhood Watch

It was agreed that a public meeting should be arranged in February to discuss the activation of a neighbourhood watch scheme in the village. Nick Stephens of Stratford Police will be asked to speak at the meeting. It was suggested that either 4th or 11th February might be appropriate and M Nightingale will contact Nick Stephens to discuss.

4.4 Parking outside the School

P. Morris advised that the parking problem was gradually improving. Double convex mirrors have now been installed to improve vision for vehicles when exiting from The Fox car park.

5. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT – NEW MODEL PUBLICATION SCHEME

M. Nightingale proposed and C Ayres seconded a resolution that the Parish Council should adopt the Freedom of Information Act – New Model Publication Scheme without modification. The resolution was passed unanimously.

6. FINANCE

The Clerk reported that on 2nd December 2008, the Parish had reconciled cash funds of £12524 held with Lloyds TSB Bank. This includes £3200 relating to the Flood Relief Grant. This sum is ‘ring-fenced’ and is to be specifically spent in accordance with the grant application.

The following payments were approved:

K Holmes	spring bulb project	£95.45
Thomas Fox Landscapes	grass mowing	£178.61
P Morris	convex mirrors	£425.64

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

7.1 Wayside Stratford Road

I. Seccombe has not yet discussed the refusal of this application with the planning department. She will contact them.

7.2 Orchard House

A planning application has been submitted for a new kitchen at Orchard House. The Parish Council have made no representations in this respect.

8. THE VILLAGE GATEWAY SCHEME

M Nightingale will contact Martin Gibbons at the Stratford Area Office of Warwickshire County Council to obtain a grant application form.

I Seccombe will contact Graham Thompson of Warwickshire County Council to arrange for the speed surveys

9. FLOOD PREVENTION

9.1 Meer Barn Farm

The Clerk advised that the Flood Defence Assistance Grant of £3200 has been received and work at Meer Barn Farm will commence shortly.

9.2 Goldicote Road

P. Morris, M Nightingale and W Gadd had a meeting with Dave Tiley, Flood Defence Office Stratford District Council, on 11th November. The problems with the existing drainage in Goldicote Road and Manor Lane were discussed. He said that a number of years ago the possibility of replacing the ordinary and off let gullies along the road with new ones with heavy duty grid covers had been discussed. Funds would have to be found by Warwickshire County Council Highways but we would be able to contribute the remainder of our grant (£1500) towards the cost. However, he thought that the first step was to have the pipes jetted and for them to be examined by camera. He is liaising with John Brown, County Highways in this respect.

P. Morris advised that Richard Dancer had cleared out the ditches adjoining Dancers' land. P. Morris will speak to Mr Darlow concerning his ditches.

10. PLAYING FIELD – SKATE BOARD RAMP

The Proposal for the installation of a skate board ramp on the playing field was discussed in detail. The Clerk expressed concern as to the financial and risk implications of the Parish Council embarking on this scheme. I Seccombe advised that in other villages which had undertaken such projects, it had been managed and supervised by separate committees rather than the parish council. G Jones questioned whether there was sufficient commitment in the village to take on the initial project management and the continuous supervision and maintenance that would be required. Ultimately, M. Nightingale proposed that, for the time being, the plans for a skate board ramp should be shelved. This proposal was passed with three Councillors in favour and one abstention.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

11.1. General

Various correspondence has been received mainly notices of meetings, advertising and other miscellany. The accumulated newsletters and reports were given out to be circulated around the Councillors and to be returned to the Clerk at the following meeting.

11.2. Specific

A Letter has been received from Stratford District Council advising of an Open Day for Parish & Town Councillors at Elizabeth House on 16th December to discuss the Stratford-on-Avon District Local Development Framework – Draft Core Strategy.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 Work Maintenance Programme

M Nightingale proposed that the Councillors should undertake an annual inspection of the various assets owned by the parish council (e.g. wooden seats, war memorial etc.) and instigate a maintenance programme as appropriate. This was agreed and P. Morris, M Nightingale and C Ayres volunteered to undertake this work in February/March.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is scheduled for 26th January 2008 at 7.30 p.m. and will be held at Loxley School. The meeting closed at 9.18 p.m.