

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held 1st October 2014

Present: D Palmer (Chairman), P Taylor, M Bell, , S Linsell T Connolly, C Smith.

Apologies: C Lewis C Hagger

In attendance: Jo Downton - Clerk.

Declaration of Interests: None

Minutes: The minutes of the parish council meeting held on the 3rd September 2014 were taken as read and signed as correct.

Matters arising:

The Clerk reported that The Chair had been booked on a training course run by LRALC about possible sources of funding and grants for a number of community projects.

PAGE: The Clerk had passed on information regarding raising funds and possible grants to PAGE and continued to distribute letters asking villagers to consider joining this worthwhile organization. The newsletter was also asked to publish an appeal written by the Clerk in this respect. RCC had also been contacted asking for information regarding possible funding for playground projects and this information had been forwarded to Mr Bell and Ms Smith. The Clerk was asked to produce posters for a forthcoming meeting which Page is running.

Defibrillator: The Clerk set up the training evening for the 9th September and this was attended by fifty odd villagers. The evening was deemed a success and most found that they had left the meeting wiser and more confident. Ten residents are to be selected to go on the emergency VETS telephone list. Councilor Sarah Linsell and Mr Barry Smith are working on this matter. Sarah will also be responsible for the weekly checks and logging online to record that all is well with the system. Mr B Smith has kindly agreed to keep an eye on the Defibrillator and clean it up when necessary. The council is indebted to them both.

The Playground broken waste bin was reported to RCC. Two cars were reported to the Local police and this matter has been resolved.

War Memorial : The Clerk had spent considerable time and encountered great difficulty in securing quotations for the War memorial railings. The Chair then reported that he had spoken to S Ware regarding the donation which was being offered by the produce show to assist with the costs and was informed that this money now was no longer available.

Grass Junction Triangle : The Clerk reported that there were just two responses to the notice which the PC had placed in the newsletter regarding protecting the triangle. Both requested it should be re grassed and restored to what it once was. **Council did discuss this matter and it was proposed by D Palmer seconded by P Taylor that it be restored to grass.** The clerk was to report this to RCC and contact the newsletter.

Newsletter Color Printing : Further to Councilor Connolly request The Clerk reported that she had discussed this matter with the newsletter editor who again reported that it was far too expensive and troublesome to color print particular pictures (such as the produce show pictures). Moreover the newsletter relies on the generosity of Exton school for printing the document and it would not be acceptable to further impinge on this excellent service. It was again pointed out that this council had already voted that it was not in a position to support this request. Councilor Linsell further elaborated on the difficulty of supporting this request and pointed out just how much work/time the editor already generously gives and that this should not be abused.

Clerks Financial Report : Council was provided with some rough estimates of balances available to the council and possible future expenditure. The Clerk reported that it looked possible for the council to stretch itself financially a little and proceed to replace the next three lights recommended by EON on their list which identifies the most urgent. This would cost £4400.00 but with a grant from RCC would reduce this to £3650.00. This is more than the council had budgeted but with care could be achieved. Council was also again informed that the savings account was at it lowest and no monies added to it for some considerable time. The VAT repayment from the last financial year and with a small top up (amounting altogether to £2156.80) had been transferred to the Reserve account as previously agreed.

Replacement Lights : Council agreed to replace Three lights this year – proposed P Taylor seconded S Linsell. The Clerk was to follow this through.

The Chair: Reported that he was still waiting to hear from RCC highways about various outstanding matters.

PC Vacancy: The Clerk reported that she was still awaiting hearing from RCC.

Items requiring action only:

Donations: Council was asked to support the cost of two meeting for NHW – proposed M Bell, seconded T Connolly.

PAGE also requested support for cost of meetings – proposed P Taylor Seconded D Palmer.

£100.00. donation to CAB proposed C Smith seconded D Palmer.

The Clerk reported that a request for £300 for grass cutting in the church yard had been received. A discussion took place and it was pointed out that the Church received a good deal of financial support from villagers through extensive fundraising and considering the present financial responsibilities of the parish council (regarding replacement lights) it was difficult to then further tax the community through the precept. The Clerk was requested to contact the Church and ask for more information.

Planning Applications: Fell Apple Tree – 12 The Green Exton No Objections.
Barnsdale Lodge The Avenue, Exton – Extension – No Objections.

Authorisation of Cheques:

Melton Borough Council (ROSPA) £63.66

Clerk Expenses (Tax Free) March to September £78.00

*Barclays transfer money to Reserve £2156.80

Colemans (paper stamps etc) £55.35

EON September £57.20

R Webster Grass Cutting £48.00

EON £135.11

Items for the agenda of the next meeting of the Parish Council – 5th November 2014: Donation Church. Precept.