

## **KIMBLESWORTH AND PLAWSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the proceedings at the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Nettlesworth Community Centre on Thursday 10 September 2015 at 6:30pm.

**PRESENT:** Councillors A Holden, D Inman, R Harrison, J Barclay, G Kendall and M Toms

### **54 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Kingston, Walker and Wilson.

### **55 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 9 JULY 2015**

**RESOLVED:** "That the minutes of the proceedings at the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on 9 July 2015, be confirmed as a correct record".

The Chairman proceeded to sign the minutes.

### **56 MATTERS ARISING**

Church Sign – Councillor Barclay had not yet had an opportunity to discuss the matter with the Church.

Donation – Councillor Barclay reported the great success of the free meals project which had run over the summer holidays and towards which the Parish Council had made a donation of £500.00.

### **57 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Barclay and Inman declared an interest in a grant application which was to be considered under item 8, as both were involved with the Community Task Force.

### **58 ISSUES/QUESTIONS – GENERAL PUBLIC**

Local resident Mr P Johnson was in attendance to raise concerns with the Parish Council regarding the growth and spread of Himalayan Balsam, particularly in the area around Mill Lane, Plawsworth. Mr Johnson provided Members with an overview of the issue and the long term problems which could result. Mr Johnson sought assistance from the Parish Council in his attempts to have the County Council deal with the invasive species.

Following consideration it was agreed that while the Parish Council had no direct powers itself to address the issue, a letter would be written to the principal authority to try to have the matter dealt with. Councillor Harrison would also highlight the issue both with CDALC and the Small and Medium Local Council Forum. Councillor Toms would raise the matter with the Countryside Rangers.

The matter would be revisited as and when a response was received from the County Council and Mr Johnson would also be kept informed.

Local Residents Mr & Mrs Jackson were in attendance to raise concerns regarding a proposed residential development of 24 two storey dwellings at land south of Hawthorn Close, Kimblesworth. Mr & Mrs Jackson spoke on behalf of other local residents and provided the Council with an overview of the numerous issues which would result should the development be approved.

Following due consideration, the Parish Council **RESOLVED** to submit a formal letter of objection to planning application DM/15/02340/FPA (on the following grounds:-

1. The development would result in an area of land near the bungalows becoming landlocked and concerns regarding the future maintenance of that space and the loss of open space to the current residents of Hawthorn Close;
2. The Parish Council queried the wisdom of developing the site given that the site was on unstable ground;
3. Concerns regarding the impact the developing of 2 storey dwellings would have on the existing bungalows in terms of overshadowing and overbearing impact;
4. The trees in that area were originally planted in order to soak up water because of the existing water table and run off from the adjacent hill. As such the removal of those trees could have a detrimental impact;
5. Concerns raised regarding the impact and stress the proposed development would have on the sewage works – there was a history of such issues when previous new development had occurred in the area;
6. The Parish Council was concerned about the impact the development would have on the junction - the area had a narrow road and there were no driveways for any of the current bungalows. Therefore should the development be granted permission then the Parish Council wished to see the road widened;
7. There was no affordable housing element to the application;
8. The proposed development was considered to be too dense;
9. The development was not considered to be sustainable given that the public transport provision through the village had been reduced;
10. There was a distinct lack of parking provision and area for vehicles to turn at the top of the current hammerhead which the applicant proposed to fence off. Concerns were therefore raised especially in relation to access for refuse vehicles.

11. The need for development was questionable given that it took years for the properties at The Firs to be sold off. Furthermore there were numerous vacant properties within the village and many properties which hadn't been able to sell and had been on the open market for some time.

## **59 POLICE MATTERS**

There were no representatives from the Police in attendance.

## **60 CO-OPTION TO CURRENT VACANCY**

The Council gave consideration to the process it would undertake in relation to co-opting to the current vacancy.

Following due consideration it was agreed that all those who had expressed an interest in the co-option should be invited to provide a personal statement detailing why they wished to join the Council and the skills and experience they could bring to the position. The statements would then be shared with all Councillors.

At the October meeting, Members would appoint an Appointment Panel of 3 Members to then conduct brief and informal interviews with all suitable candidates.

## **61 ACCOUNTS**

Consideration was given to a request from the Community Task Group for a donation of £900.00 to cover the cooks wages with rent for one month.

Councillors Inman and Barclay declared interests and left the room while the application was being considered.

Following due consideration it was agreed that the donation of £900.00 be granted.

**RESOLVED:** "That authority be granted for payment of the following accounts:

CDALC - £208.10 – Annual Subscription  
Councillor M Toms - £50.00 – Reimbursement for purchase of plants  
Kimbleworth & Nettlesworth Community Task Force - £900.00 - Donation  
J Lawton – £525.91 - Salary  
J Lawton – £35.37 – Travel expenses  
Community Centre – £117.00 – Room Hire  
HMRC – £134.71 – Deductions from Salary".

## **62 WORKING GROUP REPORTS**

Planters – Councillor Toms had purchased plants as authorised to, up to the value of £50.00 and had now planted up all the planters. The Parish Council expressed their thanks to him for the work he had undertaken.

## **63 CDALC**

Councillor Harrison provided an update in relation to CDALC.

## **64 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

There were no County Councillors in attendance.

## **65 COMMUNITY CENTRE REPORT**

There was nothing to report.

## **66 PARISH NEWSLETTER**

It was hoped that the next edition would be published and distributed in November.

## **67 PLANNING**

Planning matters had been dealt with earlier in the meeting.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman