

## Aslackby Parish Council Meetings

### Minutes from meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011

**Present:**

Cllr Brian Wilkinson (BW)	Cllr Brynley Heaven (BH)	Cllr Malcolm Dodds (MD),
Cllr Andrew Dodds (AD)	Cllr John Pickard (JP)	Cllr John Smith (JS)
Cllr Martin Hill (MH)		James Leach – Clerk (JL)
Press James Leach	None	

Item	Notes	Action
1	Apologises –Cllr Frances Cartwright (FC), District Cllr Andrea Webster (AW)	
2	The Chairman welcomed all present.	
3	No members of the public were present.	
4	Declarations of Interest – None	
5	Minutes of the Last Meeting – agreed and signed. Proposed by MD and seconded by JS.	
6	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>All Action Points from the last meeting have been cleared. Any matters arising from these, will be discussed in the appropriate section below.</p> <p>JP stated that the new notice board was almost completed and should be ready in the next couple of weeks.</p>	
7	<p>Planning</p> <p>No planning applications had been received. JL had spoken planning again re the temporary building at Temple Farm. They stated they had no problem with a temporary building but had informed the tenant to move it to a more appropriate position. This had now been carried out by the tenant.</p>	
8	<p>Cemetery</p> <p>JL said he had obtained copies of fees from neighbouring parishes and handed these out for discussion. Following a brief discussion it was agreed by all Councillors that Aslackby Cemetery fees should be increased in line with other parishes in the area. JL will now amend the current prices and distribute them to appropriate parties. It was also agreed to remove the residency sentence from the fee list as this had caused confusion for some people. Any queries in the future could then be addressed to BW or the Clerk. The new fees will come into effect from 01/04/2011.</p> <p>BW proposed that once the new village notice board was put in place the old one should be taken down and put up inside the cemetery gates. The main reason for this was that in recent weeks a number of complaints had been received concerning the general tidiness etc. of the Cemetery, especially around the number of decaying foliage. JL &amp; BL said they had responded to these but a decision now needed to be made as to whether the rules of the</p>	JL

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	<p>Cemetery should be displayed permanently in the notice board once it was re-sighted. Following a lengthy discussion it was decided not to display the full set of rules but that a notice should be put up stating that a copy of the rules could be obtained from the Clerk or BW.</p> <p>It had been brought to the attention of JL that the bins in the cemetery had not been emptied for a considerable time. He explained that SKDC would not empty the green bin as this was classed as trade waste and also that some persons using the cemetery had not used the green bin correctly, i.e. plastic etc. was also being put in the green bin, despite signs asking people not to, which rendered the contents "contaminated" and unsuitable for recycling. A proposal was put forward that all bins should be removed from the Cemetery and a sign put up in the notice board asking people to remove their own rubbish from the Cemetery grounds. This was agreed and the situation will be monitored once this has happened.</p>	
9	<p>Neighbourhood Watch</p> <p>Someone had attempted to remove the lead from the Church porch but had only managed to take the ridge. However they had damaged the remaining lead trying to remove it. Further security measures were now in place to try and prevent further thefts.</p> <p>JL said that due to the increased thefts of scrap metal recently not only in Aslackby but surrounding villages, residents should be encouraged to take the number plates of ANY suspicious vehicle seen in the village and especially ANY vehicle asking to collect scrap metal. JL said he may also speak to other PC's in the area encouraging them to do what Aslackby did twice yearly and collect their own scrap and way it in to raise funds for village causes.</p> <p>JS raised the idea about getting CCTV installed in the village. There are only 3 routes into the village and therefore we would only require a small number of cameras to cover all entries and exits from the village. JS will look into this further and report back to the next meeting.</p>	JS
10	<p>Highways</p> <p>BW has reported all potholes and some had been repaired but somewhere still outstanding.</p> <p>A couple of street lights were not working and these had also been reported.</p> <p>AD said the pot hole in Graby was getting bigger so BW will report this again.</p> <p>JP said that the Electricity Board had agreed to come and cut the conifers back that ran down the side of the grass verge at the factory. No date has been given for the work to start yet. He also</p>	BW

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	<p>proposed that these be removed altogether and replaced by a wooden fence. He is currently looking in to the feasibility of this.</p> <p>The two dead trees from the village green have been removed. There is one remaining outside the Manor House gate but the owner said this will be removed shortly.</p> <p>Ad said he had spoken to the farmer who owned the hedge running along the Ford bridge and had been assured this would be cut back in the next couple of days.</p> <p>JL gave an update on the grass cutting contracts. He had received confirmation from Highways that the budget for grass cutting had not been cut and would remain the same as last year. This will be reviewed at the end of 2012.</p> <p>JL said he had not put adverts in the Local Press, due to the fact that they had not come back to him with prices yet, but also because 3 separate contractor's had already contacted him about the work and all 3 had now submitted Quotations for the work. These were  Pilgrim Mowers - £1400.00 for 10 cuts  Alan Garner - £1380.00 for 10 cuts  Britten's - £1288.00 for 14 cuts</p> <p>Following discussion it was decided that the PC would go with the quote from Britten's as this offered the best value for money. BW said they were a well-known firm and JL said he had received a letter of commendation from another PC about the standard of their work. JL will get a letter out to all contractors to confirm their decision. He will also request a copy of Britten's Public Liability Insurance. The contract will start from 01<sup>st</sup> April 2011 as there was still one cut due in March from last years contract.</p> <p>JL said a resident had asked the question as to whether the Clerk would be tendering for the grass cutting work. He said that as already minuted at a previous meeting he was not interested in tendering for the work as this he felt this would be a conflict of interest with his work as Clerk to the PC.</p> <p>BW said that an invoice needed to be sent to Highways for the maintenance work the PC had done for 20010-2011 on footpath Number 4. JL said he would prepare this and get it issued.</p> <p>JL said that the conifers at the top of Kirkby underwood Road had been cut back and the bank had been cut back to its original width by the resident concerned. The road was now approx. 5 foot wider than it had been for a while. One resident had still to carry out the work but they were awaiting a decision on another matter before this was done.</p>	<p>JL</p> <p>JL</p>
10	<p>Finance</p> <p>JL stated the Precept forms had been sent off as agreed at the last meeting.</p>	

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	<p>A bill had been received from Lionel Fisher for maintaining the Cemetery grass for £90.00. This was agreed and JL will issue a cheque.</p> <p>An invoice for LALC membership had also been received for £81.60. This was agreed and JL will issue a cheque.</p> <p>The Clerks wages were due. These amounted to £436.72 including expenses. These were also agreed and JL will issue a cheque.</p> <p>JP said the audit will be due in April and therefore required the books for checking. JL said he would send these across.</p>	<p>JL</p> <p>JL</p> <p>JL</p> <p>JL</p>
11	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>JL passed round a list of correspondence. The flooding questionnaire JL had received last month had been passed to BW who had completed this and sent to the appropriate person.</p> <p>All other correspondence had been dealt with.</p>	
12	<p>SKDC Update</p> <p>No update available as no one present from SKDC.</p>	
13	<p>Lincs County Council Update</p> <p>MH gave a brief update on the position at LCC.</p> <p>They are in process of agreeing budget. They need to save 25% over the next 4 years, which equates to about £150 million. They are looking to save £50 million this year. 800 staff will be leaving and 600 have requested voluntary redundancy figures.</p> <p>They are trying to protect venerable cases such as Child Safety. Also Highways maintenance. They have agreed a slight increase to Highways maintenance to enable them to get on top of the pothole problem caused by the severe winter. They will be trying to do proper repairs to these rather than quick fixes as this will be cheaper in long run. There are no cuts on grass cutting. PCSO's will still be supported, no libraries will be closing and youth provision, such as Youth Clubs will be protected where possible. Some bus routes will be cut as they are rarely used and Call Connect can fill these cuts. These cuts have been publicised so they are awaiting feedback before a decision is made.</p> <p>Lots of Local Schools will become academies. Billingborough School has a year left to run. No decision has yet been taken on what will happen to the site once the school goes.</p> <p>Next year they will be looking for a Police Commissioner for Lincolnshire so interesting times ahead.</p> <p>Planning will be changing radically and there will be more local</p>	

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	<p>decisions rather than regional. This should provide PC's will more control but will have to be managed and until the final paper is released it is still a little unclear how this will be managed. JS said he had read the draft Policy Document and said he felt it offered greater flexibility etc. to Local PC's which he felt could only be a good thing.</p>	
14	<p>A.O.B.</p> <p>JS passed round a first draft of the next PC Newsletter and asked for any comments to be sent to him before he posted it to all residents.</p> <p>No ideas had been forthcoming about the upcoming Royal Wedding so this was deferred until the next meeting. Anyone with any ideas should contact the PC.</p> <p>The PC elections will take place on 05<sup>th</sup> May 2011 at the same time as District elections. JL will distribute the appropriate forms as soon as he receives them.</p> <p>The AGM will take place on 09<sup>th</sup> May 2011.</p>	
15	<p>Date of next meeting Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2011 – 8.00 pm Village Hall Meeting closed at 09.30pm.</p>	