

Maxey Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting held in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 28th November, 2000

Present: Cllr R. Homewood (Chairman),
Cllr Lloyd,
Cllr Newbold,
Cllr Purllant,
the Clerk,
and 3 Members of the Public.

The Chairman declared the Ordinary Meeting open at 7.30 pm.

1. Apologies for absence:

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Duffelen, Hutchison and Johns.

2. Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 24th October, 2000:

A Draft had been circulated and posted prior to this Meeting. It was proposed by the Vice-chairman, and seconded by the Chairman, that the Draft Minutes be accepted as a true record of the Proceedings; carried. The Record Copy of the Minutes was duly signed by the Chairman.

3. Planning:

3.01 Quarry Planning Application (607): the Clerk tabled letters written to Peterborough City Council (PCC) and Tarmac, which re-stated this Council's desire for a Beech-only Avenue to be established. He also tabled the responses; both PCC and Tarmac are sympathetic to the concept of an Avenue, but PCC believe that Oak, or a mix of species, is preferable to Beech from a potential survival aspect. The Meeting was agreed that a mix of species was not acceptable, and that the support of Etton Parish Council should be sought on the issue. The Clerk was instructed to take action accordingly.

3.02 14 Castle End Road - windows (607): the Clerk advised that PCC has stated that this Application still has not been formally resolved, due to work-load rather than contention.

3.03 2b High Street (606): the Clerk stated that he had requested PCC to reject the latest Proposal, and had included an analysis of the sizes of all the dwellings features in all Proposals. An acknowledgment had been received. He further advised that the Application will go the Committee on 05 dec 00; it was agreed that the Clerk should prepare a Draft Statement for the Chairman's approval, and The Clerk was instructed to take action accordingly.

3.04 1 Ladd's Lane - conservatory (606): the Clerk stated that Consent had been granted, with Conditions regarding style and materials.

3.05 7 High Street - replacement porch (retrospective) (606): the Clerk stated that Consent had been granted, with no Conditions.

3.06 18 West End Road - tree-work (606): the Clerk stated that Consent had been granted, with no Conditions.

3.07 6 Castle End Road - tree-work (606): the Clerk stated that PCC has been advised of this Council's Comment, but that no acknowledgment has yet been received.

3.08 1 Torpel Way - tree-work (606): the Clerk stated that PCC has been advised of this Council's Comment, but that no acknowledgment has yet been received.

3.09 23 West End Road - garage and first-floor extension (606): the Clerk stated that PCC has been advised of this Council's Comment, but no acknowledgment has yet been received.

3.10 Maxey Hall - tractor-shed and garage (606): the Clerk stated that Consent had been granted, with Conditions regarding style and materials, for the Garage.

3.11 14 Castle End Road - replacement windows and staircase: the Clerk state that the documents for this Application had been passed to the Chairman, who had made an Executive decision due to a deadline. The Clerk stated that the Chairman's Comment that a) an improvement in appearance should result, b) neighbours' opinions should be respected, and c) that the Plans were of an appalling standard and should have been rejected had been passed to PCC. After study of the Plans, the Comment was endorsed by the Meeting.

3.12 87 High Street - conservatory at rear: it was agreed that this Application would not be opposed, but that PCC should be requested to respect the opinions of neighbours. The Clerk was instructed to take action accordingly.

3.13 Mill Road/A15 - Milton Estates proposal: the Clerk stated that, at the Chairman's behest, the available documents had been copied to all Councillors, and had also been posted. He further stated that he had discussed the Proposal with PCC, which stated that the Site does not feature in its list of sites with development potential. The Meeting was agreed that the Proposal would be rejected due to a) the mixed nature, b) overload of local resources and facilities, c) difficulty of access to either the 'new' or the 'old' A15, d) part of the Site's use as a flood-plain, e) confusion of cross-boundary funding and responsibilities and f) administrative problems. The Clerk was instructed to take action accordingly, with copies to PCC and Cllr Franklin.

3.14 31 High Street - 2-storey rear extension: after studying the documents, the Meeting was agreed that this Application would not be opposed, but that PCC should be requested to respect the opinions of neighbours. The Clerk was instructed to take action accordingly.

3.15 Maxey Hall - replacement tractor-shed: the Meeting was agreed that this Application would not be opposed, but that PCC should be requested to respect the opinions of neighbours. The Clerk was instructed to take action accordingly.

4. Matters arising from the Previous Ordinary Meeting:

4.01 Archives (606): the Clerk stated that he had not received a response from the Northamptonshire Record Office regarding the copying of 'their' map.

4.02 Tarmac (606): the Meeting noted that Tarmac had organised the requested Site Visit, albeit at very short notice. The Clerk stated that Tarmac's posters had been put on display.

4.03 Anglia in bloom (605): Cllr Newbold stated that she had not been able to obtain a response from PCC. The Meeting was agreed that the matter should be abandoned.

4.04 Hedge on the High Street (605): the Meeting noted that the hedge has been trimmed again, with an improvement to the footway. The Meeting also noted the comments of the Householder, who stated that he would have preferred a direct approach on this issue, rather than through this Council. The Meeting also noted that there has still not been a useful response from PCC, and the Clerk was instructed to take action accordingly.

4.05 Speeding (605): the Meeting noted that the metal-posters have been installed at the Western approach to the Village. The Meeting was agreed that the posters should be moved to the Eastern approach during April 2001. Following discussion of legal-but- inappropriate speeds and manner of driving through the Village, the Meeting was agreed that PCC should be requested to address this Council on possible approaches to these problems, and the Clerk was instructed to take action accordingly.

4.06 High Street/King Street junction (605): the Clerk tabled a letter from PCC, which stated that it would not be able to become involved in such a scheme, but acknowledged this Council's ability to do so. The Clerk stated that he had issued an Invitation to Tender from a Private Contractor to undertake the Work, but had not yet received a response.

4.07 Village Sign (605): the Clerk stated that he had advised the Maker that the possible extra expense is accepted; the Maker re-affirmed his agreement to undertake the Work.

4.08 Address by the Peterborough Association of Local Councils (PALC) (605): the Clerk stated that he had advised the Association of a lack of response, but still had not received a response.

4.09 Trees at West End Road (605): the Chairman confirmed his availability for an inspection of the subject trees with the PCC Tree Officer. The Clerk was instructed to take action accordingly.

4.10 Name-plate at School Close (605): the Meeting noted that that the name-plate has been reconditioned and re-installed.

4.11 Name-plate at Etton Road (605): the Meeting noted that the name-plate is still missing. The Clerk was instructed to take action accordingly.

4.12 Footway blockage (604): the Meeting noted that the incidence of blockage is decreasing.

4.13 Meeting with our MP (604): the Clerk reported on the Proceedings of the Meeting, which covered co-operation between Parishes, the Planning System, the Audit System, Speeding, Policing, value for money on Council Tax paid, the Consultation System, the Standards Panel and Travellers.

4.14 Think Piece (604): the Meeting was agreed that the written complaint to PALC constituted a response to the Audit Commission.

4.15 Litter Bin in the Park (604): the Meeting was agreed that this matter seems to have been resolved.

4.16 Policy Executive Panel (604): the Meeting was agreed that the published Draft Agenda was satisfactory.

4.17 Peterborough Association of Local Councils (604): the Clerk reported on the Proceedings of the Meeting, which covered the effects of the Stamford 'lorry-ban', the rural 'White Paper', community safety in rural areas, policing in rural areas and the legality of PALC's relationship with other local government Bodies.

4.18 BMX mounds in Maxey Park (602): the Clerk stated that PCC documents had been circulated to all Parish Councillors. The Chairman had reviewed comments of Councillors and Residents, and had decided that this Council could not totally endorse the Proposal on the grounds of safety, viz, speeding and acrobatic cyclists being in the same area as toddlers. The Meeting endorsed the Chairman's summary of the matter. The Clerk further stated that these views had been forwarded to PCC, but that no response has been received.

5. Correspondence:

5.01 National Rural Services Survey 2000: the Meeting was agreed that the Clerk could complete this, and he was instructed to take action accordingly.

5.02 Community Action Plan Seminar: the Clerk tabled Notice of this Action with Communities in the Rural Areas-initiated event.

5.03 Car-parking permit: the Clerk stated that a Permit for use on official Parish Council business in the City is now available.

5.04 Housing Development report: the Clerk stated that this document has been placed on circulation, and drew the Meeting's attention to the paucity of 'affordable' housing.

5.05 Village Design Statement: the Clerk tabled a letter from PCC, which required to know whether or not this Council intended to initiate such a Statement. The Meeting was agreed that it does not intend to do so, and the Clerk was instructed to take action accordingly.

5.06 Fire & Rescue Service Annual Report: the Clerk stated that this document is on circulation.

5.07 Urban/rural boundaries: the Clerk tabled this PCC document, which defines Wards and Parishes within PCC's area.

5.08 Policy Executive Panel: the Clerk tabled Notice of the next Meeting, and stated that Minutes of the previous Meeting were on circulation.

6. Financial:

6.01 Current account (603): the current Statement 171 dated 30 Oct 00 shows a Credit Balance of £356.73.

6.02 Reserve account (603): the current Statement 034 dated 30 Oct 00 shows a Credit Balance of £5799.33 (inclusive of recently-added Gross Interest of £28.12).

6.03 Statement of Inc and Exp 00/01 (603): the Report dated 28 Nov 00 shows an Excess of Income over Expenditure of £798.46; the Report is on circulation.

6.04 Budget control 00/01 (603): the Report dated 28 Nov 00 shows a Budget surplus of £322.08; the Report is on circulation.

6.05 Village Hall extension: No 2 Account (603): the (still) current Statement 18 dated 18 Aug 00 shows a Credit of £11.66.

6.06 Complaints about the Audit (603): the Clerk tabled the letter sent to PALC, covering a) handling of accounts, b) time spent on the Audit, c) lack of attention to the Working Time Directive and d) lack of attention to the Minimum Wage Act. He further stated that the letter has been acknowledged.

6.07 NatWest Bank (603): the Clerk stated that all Accounts were being conducted as required.

6.08 Grasscutting (603)

6.08.01 Receipts from MG Landscapes: receipts against Invoices 18, 41 and 61 (Jul, Aug and Sep) have been received.

6.08.02 Allowance as Agent: the Clerk stated that no Allowance has yet been received despite the serving of an Invoice. The Clerk was instructed to take action accordingly.

6.08.03 October 2000 cut: cheque 000.253 for £79.00 in favour of MG Landscapes against Invoice 81 (October cut) was drawn and signed.

6.09 Audit for 1999/2000 Accounts (603): the Clerk tabled letters that showed that the Accounts will have to be recast to show this Council's involvement in the finances of the Village Hall Extension. The Clerk was instructed to take action accordingly.

6.10 Clerk's salary (595): cheque 000.254 for £158.75 in favour of the Clerk for Salary for the period 01 sep 00 to 30 Nov 00 was drawn and signed.

6.11 Clerk's expenses (566): cheque 000.252 for £80.67 in favour of the Clerk for expenses for the period 08 Mar 00 to 30 Sep 00 was drawn and signed.

6.12 Budget 2000/2001: version 1 for £2454.00 had been circulated to all Parish Councillors. The Budget was agreed. It was further agreed that the £600.00 levy on the Parish would be maintained, and the Clerk was instructed to take action accordingly.

7. Other matters at the Chairman's discretion:

7.01 Cllr Newbold stated that she has received comments regarding the persistent overnight parking of a car on the High Street. The Meeting agreed that a watching-brief would be maintained.

7.02 Cllr Newbold stated that Northborough Playgroup are currently seeking funds and requested the Meeting to consider the matter. The Meeting agreed that such a request would certainly be considered, but that a formal request giving reasons for the fundraising should be lodged with this Council, through the Clerk.

7.03 Cllr Purllant advised vigilance over the matter of the dispersion of City Travellers' sites throughout the rural areas.

7.04 The Vice-chairman - Cllr Lloyd - stated that he had received comments regarding dog-mess in Blind Lane. The Meeting was agreed that the 'Newsletter' is the most effective medium for restatement of the Law on this issue, and the Meeting accepted with thanks Cllr Newbold's offer to liaise accordingly.

7.05 Cllr Lloyd noted the presence of standing-water at the School Lane/Barn Close junction. The Clerk was instructed to take action accordingly.

8. Public Comment:

8.01 High Street/King Street junction: a request was made for more regular trimming of hedging. The Chairman explained this Council's liaison with the Landowner and PCC to improve visibility.

8.02 Mill Road/A15: opposition was expressed to the proposed mixed development for this Site; the Chairman confirmed this Council's stance of opposition to the Proposal.

9. Date, time and venue for the next Ordinary Meeting:

It was agreed that the next Ordinary Meeting would be held in the Back Room of the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 23rd January 2001.

There being no further Business,
the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance,
and declared the Meeting closed at 9.41 pm.

The above Minutes were approved by the Parish Council
at its Ordinary Meeting of the 23rd January 2001
as being a true Record of the Proceedings
and the original was duly signed by the Chairman of the Meeting
Cllr J Lloyd.