

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting
held in the Back Room of the Village Hall
at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 26th November, 2002

Present: Cllr Purllant - Chairman;
Cllr Hickling,
Cllr Perkins,
Cllr Poole,
the Clerk,

and one Member of the Public.

The Chairman declared the Ordinary Meeting open at 7.32 pm.

1. Apologies for absence:

Apologies had been received from Cllr Franklin and Andy Bagworth.

2. Co-options:

It was proposed by Cllr Hickling, and seconded by Cllr Poole, that Dawn Johnson and Andrew Bagworth be co-opted onto Maxey Parish Council (MPC). Cllr Johnson then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the Clerk. The Clerk stated that Cllr Johnson had earlier passed a completed Register of Interests to him.

3. Minutes of the previous Ordinary Meeting:

A Draft had been copied to all Councillors and had been displayed prior to this Meeting. The Meeting was agreed that the Minutes shall be adopted as presented and the Record Copy was signed by the Chairman.

4. Planning:

4.01 Local Plan (733): the Clerk tabled the latest timetable for the Inquiry and Peterborough City Council's (PCC) request for the definitive Written Statement. The Meeting was agreed that neither a formal nor an informal appearance shall be requested. The content of the Statement was discussed - concern and frustration of local major and minor roads being clogged with commuter-traffic from South Lincolnshire - and the Clerk was instructed to compile a Statement and forward it to PCC.

Regarding Milton Estates' proposal for a 'township' in the north-east corner of the Parish, the Clerk reported on a conversation with PCC to the effect that this idea has been withdrawn

4.02 7 Tucker's Nook - extension to side and rear (733): the Clerk stated that permission has been granted with Conditions relating to materials and a restriction on location of windows.

4.03 Market Deeping by-pass - 15.m monopole (732): the Clerk reported on a conversation with a Reporter from the 'Evening Telegraph' (ET), who sought MPC's views on the health implications of this Application. The Clerk told the Reporter that he - the Clerk - was not the Spokesman for MPC, but the Reporter's interest waned when he was told that the Mast is due to be sited in open-country.

4.04 3 High Street - extensions and conversions (733): nothing further to report.

4.05 Castle End Road - conversion of barn (731): the Clerk stated that permission has been granted for this Application, with 21 Conditions relating to materials, detail-design, access, visibility, contamination, boundaries, landscaping, archaeology and flood-prevention.

4.06 6 The Retreat - extension over garage (731): the Clerk stated that permission has been granted with Conditions relating to materials and a restriction on location of windows.

4.07 1 School Lane - replacement windows (retrospective) (731): the Clerk stated that permission has been granted with no Conditions.

4.08 22 West End Road - lift crown of Poplar (731): the Clerk stated that Comment was forwarded to PCC, was acknowledged, and that permission has been granted with no Conditions.

4.09 25 West End Road - tree-work to sycamore and cherry: Cllr Hickling declared an Interest in this matter as joint Applicant and took no part in the decision-making process. Following study of the documents, the Meeting was agreed that the Application shall not be opposed, but PCC shall be requested to take account of views of Objectors. The Clerk was instructed to forward this Comment to PCC.

4.10 Blue Bell pub, High Street - replace windows with French-doors: Cllr Johnson declared an Interest in this matter as a neighbour and took no part in the decision-making process. Following study of the documents, the Meeting was agreed that the Application shall not be opposed, but PCC shall be requested to take account of views of Objectors. The Clerk was instructed to forward this Comment to PCC.

5. Matters arising from the previous Ordinary Meeting:

5.01 Narrowing of the High Street (731): the Clerk tabled his letter to PCC regarding reversal of priority, and the reply, in which PCC confirmed that the existing priority shall be maintained. The Meeting was agreed that, whilst it remained deeply unhappy about the situation, further consideration of this issue shall await the application of the additional 'cross-hatching'. The Clerk was instructed to advise PCC accordingly.

5.02 Speeding on the High Street (731): the Clerk tabled his letter to PCC regarding the retrospective nature of the extension of the 30.mph zone, and the lack of lighting to the signs and bollards. In reply, PCC expressed its deep concern regarding the lack of illumination, and apologised for the manner in which the 30.mph extension has been handled.

5.03 High Street/King Street junction (731): the Clerk tabled his letter to PCC regarding the lack of large signs and white-lining. In reply, PCC stated that new large signs have been installed - but not yellow-backed due to the narrowness of the verges, and further stated that the white-lining is in the control of a Contractor. PCC stated that small, yellow-backed signs could be installed. The Meeting was agreed that, as no-one present had noticed the new signs, the yellow-backed signs should be installed, and the Clerk was instructed to request PCC to action this.

5.04 Village Sign (731): the Meeting noted that Work has not been started.

5.05 Vehicle-speeds in the garage/nursery area:

5.05.01 West End Road/Tucker's Nook junction (730): Cllr Hickling stated that he is concerned that 'couriers' serving the Garage do not appear to be the most staid of drivers. The Meeting was agreed that the Clerk shall approach the couriers identified by Cllr Hickling and request that

their drivers be reminded to exercise rather more consideration to others.

5.05.02 West End Road (730): the Clerk stated that he had advised PCC that MPC understands that any 'traffic-calming' considerations must be treated as a new Project.

5.06 New model standing-orders (730): the Clerk stated that he has not pursued this matter.

5.07 Bus-shelter (730): the Meeting noted that the structure has been re-roofed.

5.08 Local Liaison Committee (LLC) (730): the Clerk stated that he had written to Tarmac and requested that LLC documents be sent directly to the Representatives (the Chairman and Cllr Hickling).

5.09 White-lines (729): nothing new to report.

5.10 Footpaths (729): the Clerk was instructed to ask PCC for reimbursement of the £60 spent in clearing 'The Jitty'.

5.11 Footways (729): the Clerk reported on a conversation with PCC, to the effect that any minor repairs effected now to footways in the village will lead to a reduced likelihood of large-scale refurbishment. The Meeting was agreed that this matter shall not be immediately pursued.

5.12 Name-plate - east-end of West End Road (729): the Meeting noted that there has been no progress in this matter, and the Clerk was instructed to ask PCC for reasons for the delay.

5.13 Name-plate - south-end of Castle End Road (729): the Meeting noted that there has been no progress in this matter, and the Clerk was instructed to ask PCC for reasons for the delay.

5.14 Alms Houses, Helpston (728): having not identified anyone interested, the Meeting instructed the Clerk to forward this finding to the Trustees.

5.15 Tree and hedgerow planting scheme 2002 (728): the Clerk state that he has advised PCC of the decision not to participate in the scheme, and confirmed Mr Homewood's agreement to continue to act as Tree-warden.

5.16 Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI) (728): MPC acknowledged the duty placed upon it by the FOI to adopt and maintain a publication scheme. MPC resolved to adopt the 'Model Publication Scheme for Local Councils (Core Classes only)'. The Meeting was agreed that MPC shall continue to display all Agendas and Minutes in a public place, and documents relating to Internal Procedures, Code of Conduct, Periodic Electoral Reviews, Employment Practice, Planning responses and Audit and Accounts shall be available for inspection at all Meetings of MPC. The Meeting was further agreed that all the foregoing documents together with all other papers and vouchers relating to MPC affairs (subject to constraints imposed by the Human Rights Act and the Data Protection Act) shall be available for inspection upon application to the Clerk. Any copy requested shall be charged at 5p per A4 sheet. The Meeting was further agreed that the Scheme and Charges shall be reviewed every November.

5.17 Local Association's 'Bulletin' (728): the Clerk stated that the Cambridgeshire Association of Local Councils has been advised of the requirement of one copy of its 'Bulletin'.

5.18 Guide to local facilities (728): the Clerk stated that the Action with Communities in Rural England has been advised of the decision not to be included in its Guide.

5.19 In-house training (728): the Meeting was agreed that this offer shall not be pursued at the moment.

5.20 Dog-mess (726): the Clerk tabled a draft of the item for the 'Newsletter', which was accepted by the Meeting.

5.21 Resettlement of travellers (726): the Clerk tabled a reply from Cllr Franklin, who stated that he will ever have the interests of Maxey residents to the fore regarding matters concerning Travellers.

5.22 MPC details (723): the Clerk stated that he had forwarded current details of MPC and its Meetings to the 'Newsletter'.

5.23 Copier (723): the Clerk tabled costings of copying at 2.04 p/copy from the 'Canon FC.224.S' machine, against 6.83 p/copy from the cheapest commercial copying-outlet. The net cost of the 'Canon' would be £211.91, and the payback period would be about 5 years. It was proposed by Cllr Poole, and seconded by Cllr Hickling, that the 'Canon Fc.224S' shall be acquired. Carried.

5.24 Rural Transport Audit (728): the Clerk tabled details of a Workshop to progress the findings of the Audit; no-one present could attend.

5.25 Grasscutting (730): the Chairman expressed concern regarding the quality of recent cuts of 'amenity-grass'. The Clerk stated that the Contract with the current Contractor has now expired. The Meeting was agreed that alternative Contractors and Quotations shall be sought, and the Clerk was instructed accordingly.

6. Correspondence:

6.01 The following items were discussed at the Meeting:

6.01.01 Car-parking: the Clerk advised of the availability of a Pass for people needing to park in the City Centre on MPC business.

6.01.02 Legal guidance from National Association of Local Councils: the Clerk tabled advice regarding Race relations, freedom of information, parochial fees and vehicular access.

6.01.03 Ethical standards: the Clerk tabled recent guidance regarding special points for personal consideration for those involved in Planning matters.

6.01.04 City Council/Parish Council consultation: the Clerk tabled a request for items for the Agenda, but none was forthcoming.

6.01.05 Cabinet question-and-answer session: the Clerk tabled Notice of two sessions, and stated that posters have been displayed as requested.

6.01.06 Electoral Roll (ER): the Clerk tabled PCC's interpretation of new national rules regarding use of the ER, whereby the 'full' ER can be used only for purposes connected with elections. Each Councillor was given an application form to receive a copy of the 'full' ER, is so desired.

6.02 Other items not necessitating a response have been received, have been circulated around all Councillors and may be raised at the Meeting under item 8.

7. Financial:

7.01 Current account (727): the (still) current Statement 191 dated 30 jul 02 shows a Credit Balance of £1015.16;

7.02 Reserve account (727): the (still) current Statement 043 dated 30 jul 02 shows a Credit Balance of £7017.76, inclusive of £4.91 Interest for the period apr 02 - jun 02.

7.03 Statement of Inc and Exp 02/02 (727): the Report dated 26 nov 02 shows an Excess of Exp over Inc of £445.67; the Report is on circulation.

7.04 Budget control (727): the Report dated 26 nov 02 shows a Budget surplus of £796.50; the Report is on circulation;

7.05 Audit 2001/02 (727): the Clerk stated that the Annual Return had been rejected as a handwritten name should have been a signature, and further stated that the corrected Return has been sent to the External Auditor.

7.06 Budget 2002/3 (727): the Clerk confirmed that version 4 with notes for a Budget for 2002/3 for £7214.17 had previously been circulated - and later copied to - all Councillors. The Meeting was agreed that a Working Party (WP) shall be convened by the Chairman to discuss this matter, with special regard to the Clerk's salary.

7.07 Grasscutting:

7.07.01 Sep 02 cut (727): receipt 59 has been received.

7.07.02 The Jitty (727): receipt 65 has been received.

7.07.03 Oct 02 cut: cheque 000.299 for £83.24 in favour of MG Landscapes against Invoice Number 88 for the October cut was drawn and signed.

7.08 Maxey and Deeping Gate War Memorial (726): the cheque has been sent, but the requested receipt has not yet been received. The Clerk stated that the lady who had originally alerted MPC to the state of the Memorial has been advised of the refurbishment.

7.09 Elections 2002 (726): receipt 012.311002.030024 has been obtained.

7.10 NatWest Bank: a notice confirms that free banking is still applied to MPC affairs.

7.11 Precept 2003/4: the Clerk stated that he expected that PCC would need to know the MPC Precept before the next Ordinary Meeting. The Meeting was agreed that the WP (see 7.06) shall discuss this matter.

7.12 Clerk's salary (715):

7.12.01 cheque 000.291 for £140.00 in favour of the Clerk for salary for the period 01 jun 02 to 31 aug 02 had been drawn and signed outside of this Meeting.

7.12.02 cheque 000.298 for £140.00 in favour of the Clerk for salary for the period 01 sep 02 to 30 nov 02 had been drawn and signed outside of this Meeting.

8. Other matters at the Chairman's discretion:

8.01 Public order: Cllr Hickling suggested that the 'local bobby' should be asked to be present at the next Ordinary Meeting to give an update on

the local crime situation. The Meeting agreed that this suggestion shall be adopted, and the Clerk was instructed to act accordingly.

8.02 Blind Lane Site (729): the Clerk stated that he had sent a copy of all correspondence to Cllr Franklin as requested.

9. Public Comment:

There was no Member of the Public present.

10. Date, time and venue for the next Meeting:

It was agreed that the next Ordinary Meeting shall be held in the Back Room of the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 28th January 2003.

There being no further Business,
the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance,
and declared the Meeting closed at 9.21 pm.

The above Minutes were approved by the Parish Council
at its Ordinary Meeting of the 28th January, 2003
as being a true Record of the Proceedings
and the original was duly signed by the Chairman of the Meeting
Cllr J Hickling.