

# MEARS ASHBY PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs L Ross, 2 Wilby Lane, Gt Doddington, Northants, NN29 7TP  
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## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup> May 2009 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM

**Present: Mrs M Barker, Mrs K Payne, Mr A Payne, Mr E Potter, Mrs J Reid, Mrs C Napier  
Cllr J Bass and I member of the public & Mrs L Ross (Clerk)**

- 1. Appointment of Chairman:** Nominations were received for Mrs Barker and Mrs Payne. Mrs Barker advised that she would like to retire from the position of Chairman. Mrs Napier therefore proposed that Mrs Payne be elected as Chairman this was seconded by Mrs Reid and all were in favour. Mrs Payne was duly elected as Chairman.
- 2. Appointment of Vice Chairman:** Mrs Barker was proposed as Vice Chairman by letter from Mr Watts, who was unable to attend the meeting, this was seconded by Mr Payne and all were in favour. Mrs Barker was duly elected as Vice Chairman.
- 3. Apologies:** Mr Watts
- 4. Approval of absence:** Approved
- 5. Declarations of Interest:** None
- 6. Minutes of previous meetings:** The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 09 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman
- 7. Matters Arising:**
  - Duchess End** - Site visit March 5<sup>th</sup> - apparently there is very little that can be done as it is rather too expensive or not possible. The promised report has not been received, the Clerk is to follow this up.
  - Verge and bulb planting** - The verges are now all planted and it is planned to plant the bulbs together with stabilising plants for Pell's Hill in the autumn. Mrs Reid is to obtain quotations for the supply of bulbs as recommended by the Wildlife Trust. The Mears Ashby Society has offered to help with the planting.
  - Plot adj 2 North Street** - Abandoned Building Site, this is now in the hands of the Receivers, and they are responsible for making the site secure. A neighbour is concerned about the exposed wall. Cllr Bass is to obtain the name of the Receivers and advise if the information can be passed on to the neighbour.
  - Insurance re Mears Ashby Society** - providing the Society is acting as our agents they are covered.
  - Web Site** - Approval of Agreement between MAPC and Isams Computer Services concerning the website, this was proposed by Mrs Payne and seconded by Mrs Barker and the papers were duly signed.
  - Paddock Lane** - no information has been received regarding the improvements to Paddock Lane. The Clerk is to contact Oliver Sibley and Mark Gatland.

### **8. Planning:**

#### **Current Applications:**

- 1. WP/2008/0060/OEIA - Pending**  
(Pulse Park) Land north of Wellingborough Adjacent to and west of the railway, south of Furnace Lane, and north of The Slips east of Great Harrowden Hall  
Mr Heneage Stevenson Northants LLP (A Division of Bee Bee Developments Ltd)
- 2. WP/2008/0150/OEIA - Appeal dates 2<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> June 09**  
this is an identical application/proposal to planning application **WP/2007/0750/OEIA** Outline proposal for 3000 dwellings, retail and commercial facilities  
Land off the A509 Niort Way and A510 Northern Way and south of Gt Harrowden  
Heneage Stevenson Northants LLP
- 3. WP/2009/0045/F - Withdrawn 30/04/09**  
Proposed offices, staff rest room and ancillary storage  
Mears Ashby Nurseries Ltd, 90 Glebe Road, Mears Ashby  
DDS
- 4. TCON/2008/0009/TCON - Appeal refused preservation order confirmed 15/04/09**  
Hearing of objections to Borough Council (17 North Street  
Mears Ashby) Tree Preservation Order  
Left Bank, 17 North Street, Mears Ashby  
Mr David Pierpoint

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## **New Applications:**

- 1. WP/2009/0118/F** – Extension to existing grain store to house a grain dryer and Provide additional storage space.  
Grain Store, Glebe Road, Mears Ashby  
Mr Philip Bletsoe-Brown

There were no objections to this application

## **9. Highway Matters:**

Vehicle Activated Sign Project – On the next visit the sign will face the other way as requested. A full report is compiled from the information received on the two visits.

Top 10 Priorities - Update – **to be circulated**

NCC – 7.5t Amenity Weight Restrictions – County Awareness Campaign – It was agreed that the Parish Council should apply to be included on this scheme.

Container in Glebe Road – if still in situ by the next meeting, steps will be taken to arrange for it to be removed.

Beckworth Emporium – sign is obstructing the view in Glebe Road when exiting the site. The Clerk to speak to David Brown

## **10. Correspondence:**

1. ICO (Information Commissioner's Office) Re Freedom of Information DVD – **to be circulated**
2. NCC Village Agents Mapping – **to be circulated**
3. MGWSP – Farmers contact details
4. NCC – Emergency Seminars – 7<sup>th</sup> July 09 Council Offices Daventry 6.30pm
5. NCC 'Moonbeam' Exercise Report – **to be circulated**
6. East Midlands Regional Assembly – **to be circulated**
7. Mears Ashby Society Minutes 21<sup>st</sup> March – **to be circulated**
8. WBC - Graffiti Removal – **to be circulated**
9. Equality and Human Rights Commission – Information re Equality Bill – **to be circulated**
10. Mears Ashby Sports Club – Mile Fun Run Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September 09
11. Carillon WSP – A45 roadworks – Information
12. NCALC – Information - **to be circulated**
13. Wellingborough Partnership – Annual Conference 28<sup>th</sup> June Tithe Barn 5.30pm
14. ACRE - Village Viewpoint – Spring Newsletter – **to be circulated**
15. Clerks and Councils – May Newsletter – **to be circulated**
16. Planning aid – re S106 Agreements – Training event 20<sup>th</sup> May, Kings Park conference Centre
17. NCALC – Swine Flu – Emergency Planning

## **11. Safety Report:**

Crime Report update - **to be circulated**

PCST Panel Meeting - April 9<sup>th</sup> 3 priorities were set. The next meeting is July 2<sup>nd</sup> Mears Ashby Village Hall

Northants Police - Newsletter April 09 – **to be circulated**

## **12. Summary of Meetings attended by Parish Councillors:**

Transport & Highways – The Way Forward – 23<sup>rd</sup> April - **details to be circulated**

A43 Stakeholders Meetings have now finished until there are some proposals

Local Councils Spring Conference – Mrs Payne attended

Transport and Highways presentation – Mr Zafran Khan advised that the way the County is being looked after is changing. Any queries to go to Mark Gatland/Oliver Sibley and Helen Howard -

**Information to be circulated**

## **13. Financial Matters:**

The meeting resolved to pay the following accounts:

NALC membership/ Audit and LCR subs	£ 275.46 cheque no 000255
E R Davies re Isams Computer Services	£ 150.00 cheque no 000256
Manor Landscapes	£ 558.90 (vat 72.90) cheque no 000257
Eon Re Street lighting	£ 249.29 (vat 11.87) cheque no 000258
Broker Network Ltd - Came & Company – Annual Insurance	£ 700.58 cheque no 000259

## **Receipts:**

Precept £600.00

Balance in the Bank after the above accounts have been included/deducted - £14298.18

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## **Approval of the accounts and annual governance statement**

The Accounts and Annual Governance Statement were presented for the year April 2008 – March 2009 and were approved, proposed by Mrs Barker and seconded by Mr Payne, and all were in favour

## **Approval of the Standing Orders, Financial Controls & Risk Assessment**

These had been reviewed by the Councillors and approved, Proposed by Mrs Reid and seconded by Mrs Payne.

Mr Potter and Mr Payne felt they could not propose, second or approve the Risk Assessment as they felt that it is an unnecessary requirement as a risk assessment is not needed, and wished to have their views minuted.

## **Confirm the appointment of the Responsible Financial Officer and Internal Controls Officer for the year 2009-2010**

The Clerk, Mrs Ross was confirmed as the Responsible Officer and Mr Potter was confirmed as the Internal Controls Officer, Mrs Barker proposed and Mrs Payne seconded and all were in favour.

**Audit Report** – The internal auditor had audited the accounts on May 8<sup>th</sup> and signed off the accounts. The auditor recommended that the VAT amount should be shown in brackets on the agendas and minutes in future.

It was also recommended that the legal powers for payment be minuted, this is not a legal requirement but good practice.

It was also advised that there should be a procedure for handling both internal and external complaints. It was agreed that the Clerk would check out NCALC for information on this subject.

The report will be forwarded from the auditor in due course.

## **14. Matters of Concern:**

**Litter Pick** – This was carried on April 25<sup>th</sup> by The Mears Ashby Society and the Parish Council a total of 26 bags of rubbish were collected. The tyres in Wilby road and the gas containers in Glebe road had been reported and have now been removed.

**Parking in Vicarage Lane** – A complaint has been received regarding parking in Vicarage Lane where driveways have been blocked. The Parish Council is sympathetic to the complaint but have no powers in this situation. Suggest a notice 'Drive in constant use'. The Clerk is to report the complaint to Highways.

**Borough Councillors Ward Grant for 2009/2010** – £350.00 will be available for this coming year for any suitable project.

**Cllr Bass** reported than some 40 acres of ancient woodland has been felled in Sywell which is being investigated by Wellingborough Council.

**Tinkers Crescent** – ivy is growing into the road, Mrs Reid to speak to the householder concerned

**Highfield Road potholes** – these must meet the criteria for repair. The Clerk to contact Highways.

**Bus Shelter in Highfield Road** – this is looking very untidy is perhaps a suitable project for upgrading.

Cllr Bass proposed a thanks to Mrs Barker for her 26 years of service to Mears Ashby Parish Council particularly as Chairman for 18 years, this was seconded by all those present.

<b>15. Future Meeting Dates</b>	– Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July 2009	- Parish Council Meeting
	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2009	- Parish Council Meeting
	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2009	- Parish Council Meeting
	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2010	- Budget Meeting
	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2010	- Parish Council Meeting
	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2010	- Parish Council Meeting
	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2010	- Annual Parish Meeting
	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> May 2010	- Annual Parish Council Meeting

Signed.....

Date.....