

NORTON & LENCHWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Norton & Lenchwick Parish Council Meeting held on
8th September 2009 in the Village Hall at 19h30

Present

Cllr Fletcher (Chair)

Cllr Leonard

Cllr Worthington

Cllr Middleton

Cllr Prew

Cllr Hill

Cllr Iorns

Cllr Weaving

Cllr C Holt (District Councillor)

Mrs Spence (Clerk)

Three members of the public were present. No questions were raised in the public session, the meeting commenced at 19h30.

The Chairman welcomed Rev Andrew Spurr to the meeting to discuss the future of St Egwin's Church. It was noted that the Parish Council needed to provide land for burials once the churchyard was full. Rev Spurr estimated that capacity remained for approximately 20 years. The Parish Council had purchased a parcel of land and it was agreed that investigation should commence to make it ready for use.

Drainage would be required and general landscaping of the land. It was agreed that access from the current churchyard to the new cemetery would be an advantage. The new land could not be consecrated and it would be considered a civic cemetery, which would not be bound by the regulations of the churchyard. The Parish Council would be fully responsible for the new cemetery. It was noted also that once the current churchyard was closed, the ongoing responsibility for maintenance thereof would pass over to the Parish Council.

The new cemetery could be used in conjunction with the current churchyard giving parishioners a choice of where they wished to be buried. It was agreed to budget for the development in future years' budgets.

Cllr Weaving agreed to obtain drainage quotes. Clerk to investigate requirements for civic cemeteries via Wychavon District Council.

It was noted generally that the Church was operating reasonably well financially and was organising an increased number of local events to boost income. It was hoped that the Church and Parish Council could work together on joint social ventures for the benefit of the village.

1. **Apologies** – Cllr Richards

2. **Declaration of Interest** – No declaration of interest was made
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 7th July 2009** – Chairman signed the minutes as a true and correct record.
4. **Chairman's Report** – Cllr Fletcher reported that she would like to encourage an increase in community spirit within the two villages and asked councillors to consider projects such as a Tidy Village Competition, a Flower Festival, Bonfire & Fireworks etc. Thanks was expressed to all for their ongoing support.
5. **District Councillors Report** – Cllr Holt had left the meeting at 20h00 but had informally reported prior to the meeting that he had addressed the issues of repairs required to Kings Lane. It was noted that some minor 'patches' had been repaired but that there remained a substantial amount to do. Clerk to follow up.
6. **Field Path Officer's Report** – Cllr Leonard reported that she was awaiting delivery of way mark posts.
7. **Playing Fields** – Graffiti had been a problem. Culprits had been identified and spoken to. Area had been cleaned and police informed. Animal waste continued to be a problem and was being monitored. It was agreed a further dog waste bin would not alleviate the problem.

It was noted that grit boxes had been numbered in luminous colours presumably for identification which was unsightly. Clerk to investigate.

The possibility of fencing between the play ground and Smith Wadley land was still under discussion. Clerk reported that £100 donation had been received from Smith Wadley.

8. **Lengthsman** – Invoice had been submitted to Worcester County Council for reimbursement.
9. **Street Lighting** – Clerk reported that EON could no longer remove and install lighting column required for Lloyds Close. Their business remit had changed since providing the quote. A new quote for connection only would be obtained. Prysmian Cables would remove the defunct column and install a new one at a cost of £474.20 + VAT It was agreed that this was acceptable. Clerk to arrange.
10. **Windfarm Working Party** – It was reported that correspondence and a map had been received from Dulas on behalf of ScottishPower Renewables relating to the proposed windfarm. The proposed windfarm consisted of 5 turbines based in Sherriffs and Church Lench. Map would be posted to the web-site. The planning application was expected during November 2009. ScottishPower Renewables had scheduled a drop-in information evening for Norton and Lenchwick parishioners on 21st

September 2009 between 4 and 7pm at the Village Hall, Norton.
Information would be posted to village notice boards and web-site.

Cllr Hill reported that he would be attending a windfarm working party meeting on 16th September 2009. The party were hoping to meet with senior planners from Wychavon in due course to discuss the consultation process more fully.

The Parish Council had previously agreed to visit a windfarm, it was agreed that Cllr Leonard would organise. Clerk to contact ScottishPower Renewables to identify which site would be most appropriate to current project size.

11. St Egwin's Church Graveyard – This item was covered at the start of the meeting with Rev Spurr.

12. Relocation of Chadbury Notice Board – To be discussed with the lengthsman. Clerk to investigate if planning permission required.

13. Community Project – Ideas to be forwarded to Cllr Fletcher per Chairman's Report.

14. Finance

a. To approve payments

B Spence	£214.07 (Aug + Sept Salary & Expenses)
Smartcut	£568.57 (July & Aug mowing)
P Parfitt	£127.48 (Lengthsman July)
	£ 80.56 (Play Field – July + Aug)
NPower	£ 87.16 (Power Apr-Jun 09)

b. Clerk's report of receipts

No receipts

c. External Audit

Clerk reported that the External Auditor had made several minor enquiries including the reason for the increase in the precept for the year ended 2008/09. The precept had been increased in order to further develop the playing field project before the grant from DABID had been received. Funds were however now required annually to undertake inspections and ongoing maintenance of equipment and field.

15. Planning Applications

Applications for Discussion:

a. Mr P Blackmore re Old Court, Lenchwick Lane, Lenchwick -no objections

16. Items for Future Agenda

Kings Lane, Norton

17. Correspondence – current correspondence was circulated

18. Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting would be held on Tuesday 3rd November 2009 in the Village Hall at 19h30. The meeting closed at 20h50.

Signed:

Chairman

Date
