



Chairman: Councillor Barry Frenchman

Clerk: Mrs L Compton
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Minutes of a Meeting of Spratton Parish Council

Held on Tuesday 19th March 2013 in the Village Hall, School Road, Spratton at 7.30 pm

Members of the public and press are invited to address the Council at its Open Forum from 7.30 pm to 7.45 pm

Present:- Cllr Barry Frenchman, Chair, Cllr Liz Tee, Vice-Chair, Cllr Michael Heaton, John Hunt, Cllr Mark Pacey, Cllr Jay Tindale 6 members

164.12 PUBLIC FORUM members of the public and press are invited to address the council at its open forum (15 mins)

- a) **Farewell from County Councillor Chris Millar** – Cllr Millar thanked the excellent Clerk and Parish Council and said he felt a real affinity for the Council. He had been County Councillor as long as Barry Frenchman had been Chairman. Cllr Frenchman thanked Chris for all his hard work on behalf of the Council. The Clerk re-iterated that and said that the Youth Club (started with County Councillor Empowerment funds) was going strong.
- b) **Changes to Number of Councillors** - Cllr Frenchman reported that the number of Councillors had been reduced from 73 to 57. Cllr Millar concurred and said that the divisions had become larger and that the Brixworth division now encompassed Welford.
- c) **New County Councillor** - County Councillor Judith Shephard had sent round a letter indicating that she would be standing for election in May as County Councillor to Spratton (amongst others).
- d) **Obstructive Parking on Brixworth Road** – A parishioner reported that double parking on the pavement outside the terrace on Brixworth Road, between BRC and Sauls caused the footway to be blocked. Cllr Tee (who lives in the vicinity) confirmed that this was the case. The resident suggested that a white line was put on the pavement (as happened in other villages) to deter cars from taking up the whole pavement. After some discussion, Parish Council resolved that photos should be taken and given to Cllr Pacey (in Clerk's absence), NCC Highways should then be contacted and asked to do a site visit. **Action: Resident to provide photos then Cllr Pacey to contact NCC Highways.**
- e) **Sauls the Butchers – expansion plans** – Mr Saul outlined his expansion plans and informed Parish Council that the neighbours had been consulted and had no objections, Environmental Health had been consulted and had no issues with the levels of noise or pollution. Mr Saul went onto that the plans were essential to the viability of the business.

165.12 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Frenchman proposed acceptance of apologies from Cllrs Blowfield (Holiday), Cllr Baillie (Holiday) and Cllr McDonald Walker (Work), seconded by Cllr Tee and resolved to be approved by Parish Council

166.12 RESOLUTION TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON Tues 19th February 2013

Cllr Tee proposed the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Pacey and resolved to be approved by Parish Council.

167.12 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (if any) – For Information only

There were none.

168.12 MEMBERS' DECLARATION OF INTEREST/DISPENSATION REQUESTS for relevant items on the agenda

There were none.

169.12 RESOURCES COMMITTEE – Chair: Councillor Michael Heaton**a) Update (if any)**

- 1. Newsletter delivery fees** – Cllr Heaton reported that it had originally been agreed to pay £25 for delivery of the newsletter round the whole village (historically this had been £60), however, the delivery took longer than previously thought. Cllr Heaton proposed paying £30 per delivery, seconded by Cllr Frenchman and resolved to be approved by Parish Council
- 2. Youth Club** – The RFO confirmed that the Youth Club Committee were adhering to Parish Council financial regulations and that accounts had been recently circulated and approved.
- 3. TCV** – Cllr Heaton proposed that the cheque should be held back until the work was completed, seconded by Cllr Frenchman and resolved by Parish Council. Action: Clerk to pass cheque to project manager, Mr Cooke to pay TCV on completion of the work.
- 4. 2nd Phase of Playground** – It was reported that although the invoice had been received for the 2nd instalment and the Clerk had advised this payment should be held back until the next instalment of BIFFA funds had been received, the work had not yet started. Cllr Heaton proposed that payment should also be held back until work had commenced and that Miracle should be contacted and requested not to close the adjacent playground in the Easter Holidays (as this would be detrimental to the children), seconded by Cllr Frenchman and resolved by Parish Council. **Action: Clerk to pass cheque to Cllr Frenchman and contact Miracle.**

b) Bank Balances as at 28th February 2013 – Cllr Heaton reported £200 in Current account, £61,008.73 in Reserve account.

c) Income received for February/March 2013– to report – Parish Council noted the income as follows:-

05/03/13 – Creaton Parish Council – donation towards Office phone - £76.69

d) Payment of invoices for February/March - Parish Council resolution to approve

Cllr Heaton proposed payment of the following (subject to caveats outlined in 169.12), seconded by Cllr Frenchman and resolved to be approved by Parish Council

DATE	PAYEE	DETAILS	AMOUNT	CHQ NO	ACCOUNT
03/03/2013	BT	Office Phone	£30.68	DD	
19/03/2013	LYNNE COMPTON	March Salary 704.68, Mileage 36.99, Office 20	£761.67	2523	Office Salaries/Mileage /Office
19/03/2013	HMRC ONLY	PAYE	£48.27	2524	Salaries
19/03/2013	NCC LGPS	Clerk pension	£202.12	2525	Salaries
19/03/2013	JIM PYE	Maintenance Feb	£70.40	2526	Maintenance
19/03/2013	NORTHANTS ACRE	Subs	£35.00	2527	Subs
19/03/2013	GARY ASHTON	Youth Club Equip re-imbursement	£122.66	2528	Youth Club Reserve
19/03/2013	ASHLEY COLDWELL	NP and Newsletter deliveries	£60.00	2529	NP and Newsletter
19/03/2013	TCV	BRC Pocket Park Path repairs	£5,848.08	2530	Pocket Park Reserve
19/03/2013	SPRATTON LOCAL HIST SOC	Hire of projector for NP and planning apps	£40.00	2531	NP Reserve
19/03/2013	SUPASKIPS	Skip for BRC	£40.00	2532	Pocket Park Reserve
19/03/2013	MICHAEL HEATON	Reimbursement for refreshments etc for NP consultation	£17.00	2533	NP Reserve
19/03/2013	HOPSCOTCH PRE-SCHOOL	Grant for Equipment (receipts provided)	£140.23	2534	Hopscotch Grant
19/03/2013	MERLAND COPYSHOP	Newsletter and NP	£493.66	2535	Newsletter and NP
19/03/2013	SPRATTON VILLAGE HALL	hire of hall 19th March	£18.00	2536	Meetings
19/03/2013	MIRACLE DESIGN AND PLAY	2nd Phase of Playground - NOT TO BE SENT UNTIL BIFFA FUNDS RECEIVED	£12,896.39	2537	Playground
		TOTAL	£20,824.16		

- e) **VAT Return – Parish Council to receive and approve-** The RFO confirmed that this was incomplete due to 2 large invoices being received in the last couple of days. **Action: Clerk to complete and submit on return from annual leave.**
- f) **Public Sector Deposit Fund –** Cllr Heaton reported that (after advice from the Clerk about an article in NCALC update) if £30,000 was left in the account for 3 months it would net interest of £27.50. Parish Council resolved it was not worth the time and resources for such a small return to set up the account.

170.12 PLANNING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Chair: Councillor Liz Tee

a) Update on Planning Applications (if any)

Application No: DA/2012/0953 REVISED

Description: Extension to existing care home to create 84 new bedrooms and ancillary accommodation (revised scheme)

Location: Former Broomhill Hotel, Holdenby Road, Spratton, Northamptonshire, NN6 8LD

Respond by: 21 February 2013

Case Officer: C Phillips on 01327 302579 or email cphillips@daventrydc.gov.uk.

Parish Council: Objected on the grounds of inappropriate location and size and un-sustainability. Plus the application was contrary to a number of saved policies and the NPPF

To report: DDC considered this at Planning Committee on 14/3/13. The Parish Council and 2 other speakers did 3 minute representations objecting to the development. DDC Planning Committee voted 7 in favour, 5 against.

To discuss: **Action, if any. After due consideration and the fact that in view of Planning Committee comments plus the huge cost of fighting the decision at Judicial Review, Cllr Heaton proposed the Parish Council should take no further action, seconded by Cllr Tee, voted on and unanimously resolved to be approved by Parish Council.**

Noted: Cllr Frenchman had written to Planning Committee to complain that the decision had not been in accordance with Government Policies and that the decision had been made on emotional grounds rather than objectively.

Noted: Trees were being planted by adjacent neighbours to screen the development.

b) Applications received (previously circulated)- to consider (if any)

Application No: DA/2013/0159

Description: Demolition of existing outbuilding and construction of extension

Location: 27, Brixworth Road, Spratton, Northamptonshire, NN6 8HH

Planning Officer: Case Officer G Perks on 01327 302578 or email perks@daventrydc.gov.uk.

Respond by: 5 April 2013

After some discussion, Cllr Tee proposed supporting the application on the grounds that it helped support the rural economy by ensuring viability of the business, seconded by Cllr Frenchman voted on (by a show of hands) and unanimously resolved to be supported by Parish Council. **Noted:** if there were any complaints about additional noise (not a material planning consideration), these would be monitored and dealt with by DDC Environmental Health department. **Action: Clerk to submit response**

c) Planning application decisions received – Parish Council noted the following:-

Application No: DA/2012/0956

Description: Removal of Condition 5 of planning permission DA/1999/0426 (for two storey rear extension) relating to provision of parking area

Location: The Kings Head 23, Brixworth Road, Spratton, Northamptonshire, NN6 8HH

Respond by: 25 January 2013

Case Officer: E Buchanan on 01327 302566 or email ebuchanan@daventrydc.gov.uk.

SPC Response: Spratton Parish Council objects to the **complete** removal of Condition 5 of planning permission DA/1999/0426 but is happy for the conditions to be varied to allow for a small reduction in car parking spaces and thereby maintaining the conditions imposed on DA/1999/0426."

DDC Decision: Planning permission granted 15/2/13

Application No: DA/2012/0702

Description: Dwelling (Outline)

Location: land adj 19, High Street, Spratton, Northamptonshire, NN6 8HZ

Respond by: 12 October 2012

Case Officer: E Buchanan, 01327 302566 or email ebuchanan@daventrydc.gov.uk.

Parish Council: No observations

DDC Decision: Planning permission re-granted 18/2/13

171.12 CHURCHYARD CEMETERIES AND OPEN SPACES (CCOS) ADVISORY GROUP –

Chair: Councillor Bill Blowfield (absent)

- a) **Update** – Cllr Frenchman reported the following in Cllr Blowfield's absence:
1. **EVC - Complaints received about vases being broken and grass strimmings stuck to gravestones** – Parish Council resolved to contact contractors, Countryside Gardens to ask if they could try and be more careful in future and perhaps use a blower to blow the strimmings off the gravestones. **Action:** Clerk
 2. **Memorial Bench** – The relative of a deceased resident who had offered money towards a memorial bench had been contacted again as nothing had been heard. The relative confirmed a donation of C\$3000 (about £1900) for a memorial bench. It had been suggested that this could go in BRC but unfortunately there were already 2 benches planned for BRC being paid for out of the Heritage Lottery Fund grant. After some discussion, Cllr Hunt proposed that the bench should go in the Churchyard (subject to approval by the Church), seconded by Cllr Frenchman and unanimously resolved to be approved by Parish Council. **Action:** Clerk to contact relative and Revd. Battison. It was also suggested that if there was a balance remaining after purchase of the bench it could be donated to the new community coffee shop.
 3. **Burial in BRC** – a resident had contacted the Parish Council to say that a burial had gone un-registered 21 years ago in Brixworth Road Cemetery. The resident had also said that another relative had the original deeds to the Cemetery. After some discussion, Parish Council resolved to await the appearance of the deeds.
- b) **Burial/Memorial applications** - Parish Council noted the following:-
Blenkharn – added inscription and interment of ashes JM Cattell, B226
- c) **Village Handyman** - To consider any additional work necessary for April 2013 – there was no additional work identified.
- d) **Improving Village Matters** – To report (if any) – there were none.
- e) **Footpath across Matts Field** – to discuss – It was agreed that this was not an issue as it was passable
- f) **Playground Phase 2**- to receive an update and agree actions – Cllr Frenchman reported that this was due to be finished by Easter. Parish Council were not convinced as Easter was less than a week away and work had not yet started. There were concerns that the playground would be shut in the Easter Holidays. (See 169.12 a) 4)
- g) **BRC Pocket Park** – to receive an update and agree actions – Cllr Frenchman reported that this was going well and Dave Cooke had just sent some photos through. **Noted:** The Lottery sign which had been vandalised had now been replaced.
- h) **Ownership of hedges surrounding BRC** – to discuss – The Clerk reported that Mr Pye had expressed concern that Parish Council were paying to trim hedges they did not own. Parish Council agreed that as owners of BRC they were entitled to trim their side of the hedge
- i) **Moles** – to discuss and agree action – It was reported that Mole hills were prevalent in BRC and on the Recreation Field. After some discussion, Parish Council resolved that this was usually short-lived and that the situation would be monitored and appropriate action taken if necessary.

172.12 HIGHWAYS ADVISORY GROUP – Chair: Councillor Mark Pacey

- a) **Update (if any)**
1. **Electronic Speed Signs** – Cllr Pacey reported that he was still looking into these and would report back to Parish Council with variations and costs.
 2. **Parking on verges in Holdenby Road** – it was reported that there were still complaints about this, after some discussion Parish Council resolve that NCC Highways should be contacted and asked to do a site visit.
 3. **Verges with posts on** – It was reported that these had not yet been made more visible in the dark. **Action: Clerk to follow up.**
- b) **Speedwatch** – to receive an update and discuss if necessary – It was reported that the Police would not allow speedwatch in 20 mph areas. After some discussion, Parish Council resolved to ask for an update speed survey in the 20 mph area on Brixworth Road
- c) **Other Highways Issues (if any).**
1. **Streetlights** – The Clerk reported that the handyman would do a survey of the streetlights but felt that it was un-realistic to expect a fortnightly walk round within the time allocated. Cllr Pacey reported that the streetlight at the end of Sandhills was still out. After some discussion, Parish Council resolved that the Handyman should do a monthly survey of the streetlights and that in the Clerk's absence, Cllr Pacey would take in the report from the handyman and report to EON. **Action: Cllr Pacey**
 2. **Walls in need of repair** – it was reported that the wall on the corner of Brixworth Road and Yew Tree Lane was falling down (adjacent to the Yew Tree Lane Sign) and the wall adjacent to the sloping footpath to the Church. **Action: Clerk to report to NCC Highways and ask them to do a site visit.**

173.12 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

- a) **To receive an update and discuss** – Cllr Heaton reported that the consultations had gone well so far and the presentation had been amended for the 2nd consultation taking in account parishioners comments. The landowners of plots 6 and 8 had still not come forward with a plan but were working on it. **In addition the owner of Option D had advised that he was not proposing that his prospective development would meet the cost of a road link from his site to the Hall School, but that if his development went ahead, a facility for such a link to be provided later would be built in.** Cllr Frenchman commented that NP's were able to re-draw the village envelope, stipulate that affordable homes had to go to residents/people with a connection with the village first. In addition, one of the aims of the Plan should be to indicate what new facilities were wanted for the village e.g. Post Office and outline plans for the creation of rural employment allied to Rural transport
- b) **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)** – to receive an update and discuss – It was reported that District Council had not been able to set their CIL (basically a tax on building new houses) due to the fact that the Local Plan not yet been passed but that a proportion of CIL might be available in due course to villages. The situation would be monitored.

174.12 NEWSLETTER

To report: the Editor, Jay Tindale has resigned. To discuss way forward - Cllr Frenchman thanked Jay for all her hard work. After some discussion, Parish Council resolved that Cllr Baillie (with the Clerk's assistance) would produce the next edition of the newsletter plus a volunteer would be advertised for (possibly someone at University or 6th form with knowledge of publisher and keen to help in the community). **Action: Clerk to advertise.**

175.12 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR DISCUSSION – not already on agenda (previously circulated), to discuss and agree action/response

Parish Council considered the following, agreed action where necessary (**Bold, Italics**)

From	Subject
a) David Owen	RE: Q2690 Spratton Method Statement
b) Danny Moody	QPS consultation/ S137 Limit - 2013-2014 is £6.98 per elector
c) Ian Arnott	Audit Tender – deferred to April meeting
d) Jay Tindale	NATURAL SPRATTON - POCKET PARK MINUTES 25.2.13
e) Robert Keith	Neighbourhood Planning Services – New Consultants, Kirkwells – Free seminars were being offered. Cllr Frenchman reported that Spratton PC had been invited to do a presentation at one of the seminars. Action: Cllr Heaton or Cllr Frenchman to respond and accept invitation to speak
f) Marina Watkins	Parish Allowances – Result of consultation – Parish Councils had voted decisively against allowances being paid.
g) awards@parishmagprinters.co.uk	National Parish Magazine Awards 2013 + Printing
h) Claire FitzGerald	LCR Opinion question - resend
i) Bailey Mike	ASB Crime reports February 2013
j) sandra@twood.org.uk	SSPPG – Saxon Spires Patient Participation group – request for entries in newsletter and notification of forthcoming newsletter deadlines – Action: Clerk to invite to Annual Parish Meeting to speak
k) David Cooke	Pocket Park-Vandalism and progress photos
l) Rebecca Miller	February Members'Newsletter
m) Kirk Harrison	Webcasting of Meetings – Information and poster
n) Elaine O'Leary	Northants Web Forum press release: Northamptonshire's Best Community Website competition launched

176.12 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED For Information – (Members file circulated via email)

177.12 URGENT MATTERS FOR REPORT ONLY (Notified to the Chairman before the meeting)

Cllr Frenchman who had just attended a District Council meeting, reported the following:-

- a) **West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy** – the consultation on this plan would be held between April and May at the Saints Rugby Ground. The presentation focussing on rural areas was due to be held on Friday 26th April. Cllr Frenchman further reported that if everything goes as planned, the Joint Core Strategy would become effective with effect from Sept 2013.

- b) **Revocation of Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)** –a paper had been laid before Parliament for revocation of the RSS. This was good news as when revoked, it would mean DDC would actually have a 6-8 years land supply (rather than less than 5 under the RSS figures). Noted: The 5 year land supply was subject to change
- c) **Requirement to build houses in rural areas** – there were 1355 required in the Local Plan against 1480 planned units plus another 500 in the pipeline. This might mean that the Government Planning Inspectorate might increase the requirement. Noted: A lot of houses had been allocated to big sites in large villages.
- d) **Neighbourhood Plans in other locations** – 2 Neighbourhoods had stipulated that there were no sites suitable for development.
- e) **King’s Head Pub is shutting for 3 months and the current proprietors leaving** – Cllr Frenchman reported that he had just heard this. Parish Council agreed they would be sad to see Steve and Gayle leave but wished them well in their new pub.

178.12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tues 16th April 2013, 7.30 pm, Village Hall, School Road, Spratton

Meeting Closed: 9.20 pm

Chairman Signature.....

Dated:

2013 Meeting Dates

Weds 8th May 2013 – Annual Parish Meeting
 Tues 21st May 2013 – Annual meeting of Parish Council
 Tues 18th June 2013
 Tues 16th July 2013
 August – No meeting

Tues 17th September
 Tues 15th October
 Tues 19th November
 December - tba