

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LEEDS PARISH COUNCIL
Held on in the Village Hall on Tuesday 8th March 2011 at 7.30pm.

Present: Mrs Finlay
Mr Govett
Mrs Harrison

In attendance: Mrs Sherrie Babington – Clerk, MBC Councillor Peter Parvin, Police and members of the public.

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Harrison.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Councillors Lay, Aitkin, Fort, Cutler and KCC Councillor Gary Cooke.

2. Declaration of Interests.

No interests were declared.

3. Public Comments.

A member of the public attended the meeting to report that the fence had been vandalised around the container at the playing field. She also reported that there was also a lot of dog mess around the playing field.

She informed the meeting that the arrangements with Hollingbourne Football Team and Soccorelite had now fallen through and therefore the football training would continue as previously.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed. These were then proposed by Councillor Finlay, seconded by Councillor Govett and agreed by all present.

5. Matters Arising.

No matters were raised.

6. Police Report.

PCSO Richard Kirby attended the meeting. He informed members that there had been no crimes to report during the past month.

7. Parish Council Website.

Alan James gave a report on the usage of the website.

Councillor Govett asked about the possible upgrade of the website to incorporate sites such as Twitter and Face book.

This was discussed by all present, Councillor Govett spoke of the need to further engage with the public and cascade information. He spoke of the need to encourage people to interact with the Parish Council.

Alan James stated that he and Councillor Cutler were looking into an email broadcasting system for residents.

It was agreed that the Clerk would seek further information and advice from KALC with regards to Twitter and Face book.

Action: Clerk to action and report back to a future meeting.

8. MBC Borough Councillor Report.

Borough Councillor Peter Parvin gave a report to members.

He spoke regarding issues relating to MBC.

9. KCC Councillors Report.

KCC Councillor Gary Cooke gave his apologies to the meeting.

10. Correspondence.

The Clerk reported on the correspondence received during the course of the month.

11. Planning Matters.

No planning matters were reported.

12. Financial Matters.

a. Financial Statement.

The financial statements for the Parish Council Account and Playing Field Account were presented to Councillors. These were discussed, and accepted by members (Finlay/Govett).

A discussion took place regarding the street lighting and pavillion energy suppliers and it was suggested that a review should be undertaken to establish whether a cheaper energy supplier could be found.

Action: Clerk to action and report back to a future meeting.

13. Leeds Playing Field.

Councillor Harrison reported on the progress of the work at the pavilion.

She reported on arrangements for the football training at the playing field. A discussion took place regarding the training and the arrangements with Hollingbourne Football Club. It was agreed that Councillor Finlay would seek to establish the situation with regards to their future training before a final decision could be made with regards to the extending of the agreement with Hollingbourne Football Team.

Action: Councillor Finlay to progress.

Members discussed the use of the pavilion by the More Park Rangers and it was agreed that the Clerk should liaise with them to establish their fixture list for the remainder of the season.

14. Highway Matters.

The Chairman spoke regarding the proposed pedestrian crossing at the school and a meeting that she had attended with Councillor Cooke and Highways Officers. She reported that the proposals did not meet with the required criteria; however Kent Highways were still looking into this and other options that may make this viable. She stated that they would report back to a future meeting.

Councillor Govett asked about the progress of the Village Gates. It was agreed that the Clerk would liaise with Kent Highways to seek a report on the progress of this project.

Action: Clerk to action.

Councillor Govett spoke regarding the Governance of the Parish Council in general and the need for Parish Councillors to take responsibility for projects in order to advance these successfully. He spoke of the need for a Highways Committee/ Working Party. Members discussed this and agreed that Councillor Govett should be given delegated authority to set up a small working party to deal with highways matters within the Parish. This was proposed by Councillor Harrison and seconded by Councillor Finlay.

Action: Councillor Govett to progress and report back to a future meeting.

Members discussed the Street Lighting within the Parish and the Clerk was asked to email all members the inventory to enable a concise check to be undertaken of all street lights under the responsibility of the PC.

Action: Clerk to action.**15. Joint Parish Group.**

No matters were reported.

16. Local Development Framework.

Councillor Harrison reported on an informal meeting that had taken place regarding Ledian Farm and the wish to make this a retirement village. She stated that at present this was an idea and would need a formal planning application to be submitted to change the nature of the existing planning approval. Members noted this information.

17. Village Design Statement.

Councillor Finlay presented the final VDS to the Parish Council. This was discussed by all present and it was proposed by Councillor Harrison to formally adopt this as Supplementary Planning Guidance for the Parish Council, this was seconded by Councillor Govett and agreed by all present.

It was further agreed that the Parish Council would write to the Chief Executive of MBC to ask them to formally adopt the document as Supplementary Planning Guidance.

Action: Clerk to action.**18. Further questions from public.**

No matters were raised.

19. Urgent Matters.

Councillor Govett asked if the PC had any plans to become involved with the Royal Wedding Celebrations. Councillor Harrison stated that she had placed an item in the village magazine seeking ideas and volunteers; however no one had come forward.

Councillor Finlay stated that she would liaise with the school regarding this matter.

20. Date of next Parish Council Meeting.

Tuesday 12th April 2011.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.25pm.

Signed _____ **Dated** _____