

AILSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES FOR THE MEETING HELD ON 19TH JANUARY 2009 IN THE
METHODIST CHAPEL SCHOOLROOM AT 7.30PM.

Present: Mrs J Pickett (Chair), Mrs E Stalley, Mr C Brown.

Clerk: Mrs M Brown.

Members of the public: None.

Questions from the floor: None.

1 Apologies: Mrs G Knibbs, Mrs J Steward, Mr J Armstrong, Councillor J Holdich and Councillor D Lamb.

2 Minutes from last meeting: Proposed by Mr C Brown, seconded by Mrs E Stalley and signed as correct by the Chair.

3 Matters arising: None.

4 Councillor Vacancy: A letter of resignation has been received from Mr G Rideout. Due to work commitments he is no longer able to serve as a Parish Councillor. The Clerk will contact Peterborough City Council and advertise the vacant position on the Parish notice board.

5 Officers reports:

5.1 Recreation ground:

5.1a: A letter had been received from Herald Contract Services suggesting that the grass be topped before the start of next season. It was agreed to ask them to carry this out towards the end of February.

5.1b: After inspecting trees in the Recreation Ground the Parish Council decided that as no major work has been carried out on the trees for several years, a quote of £960 from Mr P Sharpe be accepted, to improve the trees condition by removing damaged and dead wood and raising the crowns where necessary. Clerk to contact Mr Sharpe in order for the work to be carried out.

5.1c: The hedges round the Recreation Ground and Allotments have been cut. Werrington Farms will be asked to include work on the hedges to the west and south of the field in their quote next year. It was agreed that Mrs Stalley should purchase hedging to fill in the gaps around the Recreation Ground.

5.1d: After looking at the illustration of a piece of play equipment sent by Louise Wilcox and discussing this at some length, Councillors still felt that the items were not quite what had been asked for. The Clerk will contact Louise again.

5.2 Planning:

5.2a: 08/00741/FUL-Demolition of existing single storey shop, construction of new shop with two bed flat above and part demolition of rear house extension and construction of additional storey at 107C and 109 Peterborough Road, nothing heard.

5.2b: 08/01348/CTR – Consultation on Conservation Area Trees Notification. Remove to ground level 3 Sycamore trees and thin crown by 20% and raise crown of 1 Sycamore tree at 31 Helpston Road, permission granted.

5.2c: 08/01403/CTR – Consultation on Conservation Area Trees Notification. Reduce crown of Sycamore tree at Stylaprint, Station Road, permission granted.

5.2d: Normangate development – There are only 8 houses left to be sold.

5.2e: Planning Obligations Implementation Scheme. The evening session was cancelled and a new date is to be arranged.

5.3: School: Nothing to report.

5.4: Village Hall. Nothing has been heard about the Trusteeship and no information has been received regarding new rates for lettings.

5.5: Parish Land and Allotments:

5.5a: Clerk to contact Jim Daley about Ailsworth Conservation Area Draft Character Appraisal and Management Plan.

5.5b: Councillors have noted that the dyke at the rear of properties in Maffit Road has a lot of rubbish etc in it. Clerk to contact the Environment Agency.

5.5c: A letter has been received from My Allotment Plot, asking to advertise its company by erecting a sign on the Allotments. It was felt that as this is only a small site it would be better to deliver information to individual allotment holders. Clerk to write to My Allotment Plot.

5.6: Footpaths and Rights of Way: An increase in the amount of dog fouling on the Recreation Ground and on footpaths in both villages has been noted. The Council is very concerned that the village environment is being spoiled by a few inconsiderate dog owners. **“An offence is committed if an owner fails to clean up their dog faeces immediately. The maximum fine is £1000; however a fixed penalty scheme is in force with a fine of £50.”** [Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996]. The Clerk will contact the Dog warden.

6 Finance:

6.1: Account Status: Current account £4,913.69
Deposit account £15,777.20

Councillors received a copy of the quarterly accounts.

6.2: Income: None.

6.3: Payments: Maffit Construction £100 +VAT paid 16.12.08 for repairs to the bus shelter.

6.4: Expenses: It was agreed to pay

6.4a: Clerks pay £190.78+£17 home office costs due 1st February and 1st March 2009

6.4b: Burial Fees £1,036.65. It was agreed to pay this after 1st April.

6.4c: Werrington Farms £76.50 +VAT for hedge cutting.

6.4d: Envelopes £2.92

It was also agreed to pay Anglian Water and Paul Sharpe for tree work if these bills came before the next Parish Council meeting.

Proposed Mrs E Stalley, seconded Mr C Brown.

6.5. Precept: The Parish Council has asked for a total precept of £12,184.00 to cover the budget for 2009/2010. This is 4.5% less than last year.

7. Review: It was agreed to review Financial Regulations/Risk Assessment Policy and Assets before the annual audit.

8. Parish Liaison: The next meeting will be held on January 28th at 6.30pm. Parish Councillors are also invited to attend the All Party planning meeting on January 29th at 6pm.

9. Correspondence:

Letter June Cawsey

Cambs ACRE – Winter magazine (circulation folder)

Canalbs Ltd – letter (circulation folder)

Communities in Control – A consultation (circulation folder)

Neighbourhood Watch – letter and annual conference invitation (circulation folder)

Rural events in January – by e-mail

Clerks and Councils Direct – January magazine and 2009 Yearbook (circulation folder)

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

There will be no Parish Council meeting in February.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 9th March 2009 at 7.30pm

