

SKILLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Grantham, Lincolnshire

Chairman: Graham Page Vice-Chairman: Richard Wrigley

Councillors: Neville Clark, Francis Disney, Dave Featherstone, David Raes, Anita Sheehan (Mrs)

Parish Clerk: Vicky Page (Mrs), The Old School, Colsterworth Road, Skillington, Lincs. NG33 5HF

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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Skillington Village Hall on Monday, 4th January 2016 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr G. Page (Chairman), Cllrs N. Clark, F. Disney, D. Featherstone, D. Raes and A. Sheehan

In attendance: Cllr Bob Adams (LCC & SKDC), Cllr A. Webster (from 7.45pm) and Mrs V. Page (Parish Clerk)

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr R Wrigley (away). The Chairman reminded Councillors of the obligation to provide reasons for non-attendance at meetings.
2. **Notes of the Parish Council Meeting on 2nd December 2015:** were agreed and signed into Minutes by the Chairman.
3. **Councillors' Declarations of Interest:** none
4. **Matters arising from the minutes:**
 - 4.1. 13.5/12.1 Neighbourhood Development Plan: the Chairman reported that Sarah Watson, whose role with SKDC is to support the production of Neighbourhood Plans, attended the December meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee. In addition, the Chairman is in correspondence with her on various matters concerning the Plan. The Committee will meet during the week commencing 11th Jan to discuss the outline structure of the Plan. A village meeting is planned for mid-February to report the results of the survey; report on what the plan will look like; and give an opportunity for consultation.
 - 4.2. 15.10/8.3 Bank Accounts: Cllr Clark has registered with Yorkshire Bank as a signatory to the new account; Cllrs Wrigley, Raes and Sheehan will do so as soon as possible.
 - 4.3. 15.11/9.2 Trees on The Green and Top Green: Cllr Raes has reported that the necessary tidying work has not yet been carried out due to the wet weather. It will be done as soon as possible.
 - 4.4. 15.12/9.1 2016/17 Budget and Precept: the 4th Draft of the Budget was presented and discussed. Some small amendments were agreed and the final budget will be passed at the next meeting. The Precept to remain at £4,600: proposed by Cllr Raes, seconded by Cllr Sheehan and agreed unanimously. BDG Mowing's quotation of 14th November 2015 for the 2016 season to be accepted: proposed by Cllr Disney, seconded by Cllr Clark and agreed unanimously. LALC subscription to be renewed: proposed by Cllr Featherstone, seconded by Cllr Raes and agreed unanimously.
 - 4.5. 15.12/9.2 Community Grants under S137: it was agreed that S137 payments of £150 each should be made to St James Church and Skillington Methodist Church for maintenance.
 - 4.6. 15.12/9.3 Dog Bins: the Community Cleaners report that the dog waste bin in Buckminster Lane needs emptying every week; payment only made for fortnightly emptying; Sproxton Road bin not used as much. It was agreed that a replacement larger (35L) bin should be purchased for Buckminster Lane together with an additional 25L bin. Proposed by Cllr Disney, seconded by Cllr Featherstone. The exact siting of the new 25L bin and the replaced bin from Buckminster Lane to be put to the Village Meeting in February: suggested sites were Grantham Road and Park Lane.
5. **Planning applications:**
 - 5.1. S15/2767/HSH/PL/PC1 – Church Farm, Church Street – erection of open sided garage and attached log store: *permission granted 29.12.15.*
 - 5.2. S15/0289/22 – Application of Vary Conditions 9, 11 & 13 of Permission granted on 8.6.06 to allow direct access onto Crabtree Road rather than via Skillington Road: *Parish Council's observations sent to LCC, awaiting their consideration due 31.12.15. Chased for feedback from the Enforcement Team on 18/12 and 30/12; reply received on 4/1 that use of the access should be ceased immediately; Cllr Adams reported that the Officers have noted the objections of the Parish Council and that Highways oppose the application until proper access has been installed; this matter would not normally go before Committee but would be decided by the Officers however it will go the Committee at the PC's request. It was agreed that the PC would not request the matter go before the Committee and that Cllr Adams will write a supporting letter to the Officers.*
 - 5.3. S15/3060 – Falcon Clints, Colsterworth Road – remove lower branches and reduce crown of sycamore tree: *Work Allowed 15.12.15*
 - 5.4. S15/3089 – Blacksmiths Cottage, Buckminster Lane – felling of cherry tree: *Work Allowed 14.12.15*

Signed: **Chairman**

Date

6. Cemetery:

- 6.1. Maintenance: work has still not started. The Clerk is continuing to chase Nic Barker
 6.2. Interment of Ashes: the Clerk has received notification of a forthcoming interment of ashes.

7. Payments and Accounts:

- 7.1. Bank Balances at 31st December 2015:
 7.1.1. *HSBC Community a/c: £3,605.77 (estimated – bank statement awaited)*
 7.1.2. *Melton Mowbray Business 100 Day Notice a/c £14,531.92*
 7.2. Accounts for Q3 2015/16 to 31st December 2015: were presented and will now be passed for Internal Audit.
 7.3. Payments received in December:

Date of Invoice	Name	Details	Date & Minute No of Approval	Total Amount £
3.12.15	SKDC	Maintenance of Closed Churchyard 2015	Invoice 15/006	576.00
9.12.15	HMRC	VAT Reclaim 1.11.14 to 31.10.15	UB1900	171.27

- 7.4. Invoices for payment in January: cheques were signed by Cllrs Clark and Raes:

Date of Invoice	Name	Details	Date & Minute No. of Approval	Net Amount £	VAT £	Total Amount £
31.12.15	Mrs V. Page	Clerk's Salary 1.10.1 – 31.12.15: £615.83; Expenses £77.64, plus VAT £8.93, less £38.50 (nett) from sale of unused ink cartridges.	2.5.15 Page 2098 Item 4.5	654.97	8.93	663.90
3.1.16	Colsterworth & District Parish Council	Community Cleaner: December 2015 (including emptying of 2 dog bins @ £2.50/bin/2 x month)	6.10.14 Page 2091 Item 8.6.	99.96		99.96
n/a	Skillington Parochial Church Council	S137 Grant: for maintenance of St James' Church, Skillington	2.12.15 Page 2119 Item 9.2	150.00		150.00
n/a	Skillington Methodist Church	S137 Grant: for maintenance of the Chapel in Skillington	2.12.15 Page 2119 Item 9.2	150.00		150.00

8. Clerk's Report:

- 8.1. 15.12/8.7 Buckminster Lane: Mark Fryer reports hole has been filled.
 8.2. Top Green: wreaths and flowers left on Top Green will be removed after the Christmas period.

9. Matters to be discussed at this meeting:

- 9.1. Green and Litter Bins for St James' Church and The Cemetery: the Chairman reported that the PCC had asked if the PC would organise a green bin for the Church and Churchyard. The cost for this will be £35.00 for the bin plus £25 pa for collection. The charges run from April with no reduction for joining during the year and it was agreed therefore that this would be set up to commence in April. It will not be possible to organise a green bin collection for the Cemetery but the Clerk will make enquiries about better litter bins.

- 10. District and County Councillor's Reports:** Cllr Adams reported on cost cutting measures at LCC; and on progress towards agreeing a budget at SKDC. He also reported that he has grants available from the Big Society Fund which could be used for the purchase of the new Dog Bins.

- 11. Any matters arising at the discretion of the Chairman:** no additional matters raised.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday, 1st February 2016 at 7.30pm at Skillington Village Hall

Signed: Chairman

Date