

SKILLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Grantham, Lincolnshire

Chairman: Graham Page Vice-Chairman: Richard Wrigley

Councillors: Neville Clark, Francis Disney, Stuart Millington, Anita Sheehan.

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

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Notes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at Skillington Village Hall on Monday, 5th December 2016 at 7.30pm.

Please note that these are draft Minutes and are subject to ratification at the next meeting of the Council.

Present: Cllr G. Page (Chairman), Cllrs N. Clark, F. Disney, S. Millington, A. Sheehan and R Wrigley

In attendance: Cllr Bob Adams (LCC & SKDC) and Mrs V. Page (Parish Clerk)

1. **Apologies for absence:** none
2. **Notes of the Parish Council Meeting on 7th November 2016:** 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 Plan – the responses to the comments made during the Pre-Submission Consultation have been drafted and a response awaited from Bob Keith, the consultant, before reporting back to those who commented and the formal submission to SKDC. Approximately thirty responses were received. A few minor alterations will be made to the draft. Once SKDC receive the draft there will be a further consultation period of six weeks before the draft is submitted to the Examiner.
 - 4.2. 16.10/11.4 Casual Vacancy on Parish Council: notices for volunteers have been posted but no candidates have come forward. The Chairman stressed the need to find a volunteer. In the meantime, the Council will consist of six Councillors.
 - 4.3. 16.10/11.2 Hedge on corner of Grantham Road: this has been cut back a small amount but is still obscuring the street light.
 - 4.4. 16.11/8.4 Quotations for Grass Cutting in 2017: quotations received from BDG & Rick Webster were considered. It was agreed that the quotation from BDG, which was the lowest overall, should be accepted. Proposed by Cllr Wrigley, seconded by Cllr Millington and agreed unanimously. BDG to be asked to ensure that the paths and gravestones in the Churchyard are swept clean, particularly after the first few cuts of the season.
 - 4.5. 16.11/9.1 Proposal to extend Council Tax referendum principles to parish councils: Cllr Adams reported that it was the considered opinion of SKDC that this legislation is aimed at the high precept parish councils only.
5. **Planning applications:** none
6. **Cemetery:**
 - 6.1. Maintenance:
 - 6.1.1. Ground maintenance undertaken during 2016: Clerk is still trying to get Nic Barker to complete his work, replace memorials moved, stabilise where required, and issue his invoice.
 - 6.1.2. Shrub pruning and clearance by Councillors: Cllr Millington has cleared ivy and climbers growing over shed and Chairman has burned the resulting waste; a query has been raised as to whether the roof of the shed is asbestos. Cllr Adams to advise who to contact at SKDC.
 - 6.1.3. A quotation from Paul Mumby for further ground maintenance on the Chapel side during Winter 2016/17 was discussed. It was agreed that the figures for turving of the area containing graves and re-seeding the remaining area should be accepted. Proposed by Cllr Disney, seconded by Cllr Clark and agreed unanimously.
 - 6.2. Reservation of new plot: a burial plot on Chapel side adjacent to the path has been purchased. This will be used as double ashes plot with the first interment to take place during December.
7. **Payments and Accounts:**
 - 7.1. Bank Balances at 30th November:
 - 7.1.1. Yorkshire Bank a/c: £9,610.39 (uncleared cheque £130.00)
 - 7.1.2. HSBC Community a/c: £0
 - 7.1.3. Melton Mowbray Business 100 Day Notice a/c £13,756.63
 - 7.2. Payments received in November:

Signed: Chairman

Date

Date of Invoice	Name	Details	Notes	Total Amount £
1.11.16	I.M. & R.E. Bowen	Paddock Rental: Nov16 – Jan17	Agreement dated 22.1.15	125.00
3.11.16	SKDC	Grant for Community Cleaner		561.60
3.11.16	G.H. Linnell Stonemasons	Memorial in Cemetery	Invoice 200627	160.00
23.11.16	Groundwork UK	Second Grant	Neighbourhood Plan	5,304.00
21.11.16	HMRC	VAT repayment	1.11.15 to 30.9.16	153.32

7.3. Invoices for payment December

Date of Invoice	Name	Details	Date & Minute No. of Approval	Net Amount £	VAT £	Total Amount £
5.11.16	BDG Mowing	Mowing 25/10: Village – 52.00; Churchyard - £36.00; also cutting Cemetery Hedge £120.00	4.1.16 Page 2120 Item 4.4	208.00		208.00
30.11.16	Colsterworth & District Parish Council	Community Cleaner: November 2016 (including emptying of 4 dog bins @ £2.50/bin/2 x month	6.10.14 Page 2091 Item 8.6.	115.46		115.46

8. Clerk's Report:

- 8.1. 16.9/9.1 Change of signatories to Yorkshire Bank and MMBS accounts: confirmation has been received that David Raes has been removed as a signatory and Cllr Millington added.
- 8.2. 16.10/9.1 The Paddock Grazing Licence: the new two-year Licence commencing February 2017 has been signed and returned.
- 8.3. 16.10/9.2 Relocation of Dog Waste Bin: to be done shortly
- 8.4. Highways Issues: work on road drainage in Colsterworth Road in both directions towards Cringle Brook and the surface drain and footpath near bus shelter has been completed
- 8.5. Fly Tipping in Crabtree Road was reported by Cllr Adams and dealt with very promptly
- 8.6. Reclaim from SKDC for grass cutting the Closed Churchyard at St James Church: SKDC was invoiced and prompt payment received.
- 8.7. The Clerk informed the Council of her intention to retire at the end of June 2017.

9. Matters to be discussed at this meeting:

- 9.1. 2017/18 Budget: *THIS ITEM WAS BROUGHT FORWARD AND DISCUSSED BEFORE ITEM 6.* The first draft of the Budget was discussed and adjustments considered. Cllr Adams reported that LCC would probably be claiming extra towards Care in the Community. Cllr Adams also recommending including sums for Contingency in the Precept request.

10. District and County Councillor's Reports: Cllr Adams briefed the Council on matters concerning LCC and SKDC.**11. Any matters arising at the discretion of the Chairman:**

- 11.1. Street Lighting: it was noted that the street lights in Fishwell Close and Back Lane are now going off at midnight. The Clerk reported that the lights in Fishwell Close are the responsibility of LCC whilst the majority of lights in Skillington are maintained by SKDC.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday, 9th January 2017 at 7.30pm at Skillington Village Hall

Signed: Chairman

Date