

**Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting Held at
Toft Hotel on 23 February 2011 at 1930 hrs**

Present: Mrs Hartley, (Chairman), Mr McWilliams, Mr Stock, County Councillor Martin Trollop-Bellew, District Councillor Mrs Channel, Mr Childs (Clerk) and 3 members of the public.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Mrs Adams and Mr Darroch.

Declarations of Acceptance of Office/Interests Register. No conflicts of interest were expressed on the agenda items.

Minutes of the last Meeting. The minutes of the last meeting on 17 November 2010 were accepted as a true copy.

Matters Arising. All outstanding matters arising would be covered in the standing agenda.

Planning Applications.

Mrs Renner – Bridge House – The Clerk would seek an update from the enforcement officers who have written to Mrs Renner asking her to remove one of the mobile homes. The second may be retained by Mrs Renner for domestic storage purposes.

Mr L Giaracuni – Erection of domestic garage – Rejected by SKDC and appeal turned down.

Mr N Smith – Sunnyside Cottage – Retention of Workshop. Application withdrawn by applicant.

Mr & Mrs Robinson – Detached outbuilding at Toft Lodge. Approved by PC.

Parish Property.

Jasmine Cottage. The meeting heard that Mr Darroch had written to Mr Gilbey, the secretary of Agriculture Land Tribunals, to ask who the Parish Council could contact, either in writing or by personal representation, to advise on a course of action to resolve the current situation. The response stated that in order to maintain their position of independence and fairness, recommendations were not permitted. Once again, the meeting discussed the background to the problem and the point was made that the Tenant meets the legal criteria of the Tenancy Agreement. Moreover, from all advice and research previously undertaken, there is no legal basis to request the Tenant to quit the premises. In the absence of all Councillors, the final response to the Tenant was deferred until the next full meeting.

Playing Field. Following the free playground equipment inspection by Record RSS, the costing had been received at a total of £609. It was agreed that the Clerk could order new seats as recommended and minor works services would be done locally. It was noted that the safety surfaces under the swings were slippery in wet conditions and some cleaning may be necessary. The condition of the felt on the hut would be monitored.

Action: Clerk

Highways.

Parish Walkabout Update. As a result of concerns at the last meeting on several Highways issues, a letter had been sent to County Offices at Sleaford. The reply from Brian Thompson, Divisional Highways Manager was read out to the meeting. In sum, drainage improvements on Back Lane will be carried out and a date at the end of March 2011 has been advertised; the 30mph signs on the A6121 cannot be moved under current policies and costings for additional advisory signs are still awaited; the reactive sign at WOTH cross-roads has been repaired; funding for the footway in Toft has been stopped although negotiations are asked to continue and if funds become available in the future a priority bid will be made. The Clerk was to investigate if costings and specifications were available for the footway. Action: Clerk

Dead Trees by Fairways. Despite maps being issued, it was still unclear who owned the land adjacent to Fairways where dead trees present a problem. Mr Stock presented the Land Registry map of his property showing that his land stops at the top of the bank (it is likely that this will be the same for all other properties along The Fairways) and Highways state they only own the land adjacent to the A6121. The Clerk would advise the electricity company of the routing of cables through the trees if appropriate. Action: Clerk

Manthorpe.

Some potholes remain at the Wilsthorpe Road junction.

Parish Link Speed Indicating Device Update. The Clerk reported that there had been no further progress on the proposal. Consistency of local Police Officers was a problem with frequent postings of incumbents.

Finance Summary. The Clerk provided an update as follows:

Barclays Current Account	£1274.51
Barclays Savings Account	£8049.20
Halifax Investment Account	£6411.00 @ 2.3% maturing 12 Apr 12.
Halifax Investment Account	£7531.96 @ 1.25 maturing 12 Oct 11
Halifax Deposit Account	£100.53

Cheques to be signed. Three cheques were signed.

General Items.

Parish Web Site Update. The proposal to provide a link and reference number for planning applications in the Parish had been carried out. However, the proposal to place a “Sales and Wants” page on the site has not been implemented. Instead, a link to national schemes providing this service was displayed.

Parish Council Elections. Parish Council Elections, if necessary, will be held on Thursday 5 May 2011 in conjunction with District Council Elections and the Referendum on the Alternative Voting proposal. Procedures for candidates seeking election for the Parish Council have been placed on the Parish web site.

The Royal Wedding. It was proposed that the Parish hold some form of celebration on the occasion of the forthcoming Royal Wedding in April. It was agreed to canvass opinion of residents within the Parish by email. Action: Mr McWilliams.

Correspondence. The following correspondence was actioned:

1. Highways Response to PC letter.- copied by email and noted above.
2. Playing Field report and quotation by Record RSS.- Actioned above.
3. Parish Council Elections. – Actioned above.
4. Review of Mobile Library Stops. – Noted.
5. Thank you letter from Royal British Legion – Noted.
6. Letter from Andy Hawes re- Parish Council donations - Noted.
7. 2011 Census to be carried out in March. – Details to be advertised.

AOB. The following was discussed under AOB:

Mr Martin Trollope-Bellew advised that there would be no increase in Council Tax in the forthcoming financial year. A large number of redundancies, to include senior management levels, would be necessary and most would be achieved through volunteers. The priority on the Highways Budget will be to maintain existing routes at the detriment of improvements.

DONM. The date of the next meeting, to include the Annual Meeting and AGM will be on 11 May 2011 at 7.00 p.m. at the Toft Hotel.

Chairman.....

Clerk.....

Date.....