

Minutes of the Laceby Parish Council's Annual Parish Meeting held at the Stanford Centre Cooper Lane, Laceby on Tuesday 16th April 2013 at 7.30 p.m.

10860 Present: Councillors:- M. Greenbeck in the Chair. D. Marshall. P. Schofield. Mrs S. Turner. Mrs. C. Mumby. Mrs. B. Metcalf. K. Brocklesby.

Also Present: One Member of the public and Debbie Weatherill – Clerk. Mr. D. Read – Stanford Trust Representative.

10861 Apologies: Councillor Mrs. R. James and Mr. Gamon.

10862 Chairman's Report

Councillor Greenbeck welcomed those present and stated that it was surprising what the Parish Council had actually done during the last year; and went on to list a few of these items:-

St Francis Grove Play Area – new hedging which unfortunately had been vandalised and would have to be replaced in part. A new silver birch tree with seating around it to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee along with a plaque. Cleaning of the play area which was done free of charge (should have cost around £2,000.00) due to problems with the surface which hopefully have now been resolved.

The dangerous slope from the Victoria Park area had been reported several times to NELC by both the Chairman and the Clerk and still they had not done anything about this. The Laceby Parish Council may however put in some planting to the area to enhance it.

Cemetery – a new pathway has now been put into the new section of the Cemetery and the green storage box painted. A gate has been provided at the rear end of the Cemetery for use by the grounds man and part of that fencing renewed by NELC which saved the Parish Council £3,500.00. New gravel was also purchased and spread around the Cenotaph area.

Employment – new contracts of employment were made between the three members of staff and several hours were spent sorting this out.

Grimsby Road Parking Issues – the Laceby Parish Council met with residents and officers of NELC to try and resolve the issues; and it has been agreed that consultation letters would be sent out to residents in the area by NELC. The Parish Council are awaiting a decision by NELC regarding this matter.

Finances – the Parish Council is financially sound with healthy reserves in place.

Barton Street, Laceby – the Parish Council met with officers of the NELC's Planning department to express their concerns regarding the stretch of Barton Street close to the entrance to the golf club and the entrance itself off this stretch of road. The Parish Council raised concerns and in light of the recent tragic accident close to this area, NELC are now looking at the speed limit in the area.

The Chairman at this point stated on behalf of the Parish Council that their thoughts go out to the family concerned in the recent accident.

Looking Forward, the Parish Council are considering:-

Providing a new kissing gate and field gate to the old allotment site which we have turned into a nature area. This would be provided with the Grant received from the Wold Councillors from the NELC Wold Fund.

Village Signs – possibly progressing new signs for the village with information having been sent for.

Councillor Mumby suggested that the Parish Council possibly go to Mr Pickston the local signwriter for a quotation too. Councillor Marshall stated that the Parish Council had looked at providing these signs some years ago but had thought them very expensive.

Notice board – the Chairman along with the clerk felt that a new noticeboard was desperately needed. Councillor Marshall stated that the Parish Council had to be careful with their money and not waste it in the present economic climate.

Grange Farm Plaque – North East Lincolnshire Council were asked if the Parish Council could arrange to have this mounted at the entrance to Grange Avenue and to date the Parish Council has not received a reply.

Haargensen Memorial – it has been agreed that the Memorial should be opened again this year on the 10th August 2013.

Skate Park/Sports Facilities – the Chairman informed those present that he had spoken with Councillor Shaw of NELC who had given him assurances that he would be prepared to hand over the Butt Lane site to the Parish Council. Councillor Greenbeck stated that he did not want the Parish Council to get into a “Great Coates” situation, but went on to say that if something isn’t done then the bowling green would possibly go.

Councillor Marshall stated that Councillor Shaw had given him assurances that the bowling green was not to be affected.

Councillor Brocklesby suggested that the grass cutting could be done by the bowlers themselves and that there were various ways around this.

Payment of the money to NELC, approximately £1,500.00 was mentioned and it was thought that this may be for a season ticket to use all of the bowling greens in the area.

Councillor Schofield stated that this would be problematic for the Parish Council in respect of money collection, and a major task to run a facility like that at Butt Lane.

Precept – the Chairman informed those present that the precept had not gone up and was in fact a little less per household due to the amount of new homes having been built.

Councillor Greenbeck completed his report by thanking all Councillors for their input and help, the members of staff and Debbie the Clerk.

He stated that it had been a good year for the Parish Council and that a lot of progress had been made.

10863 Stanford Trust Report – Mr D. Read

Management – Mr P Anderson has stepped down as a co-opted Trustee after over 40 years service. Mrs. Val Brumfield has been co-opted to replace him. She has a unique connection with the Laceby School having been a pupil, a parent of a pupil, a teacher at the school and now serving as Chair of the Governors.

Finances – The Trust continues to receive income from its endowments and investments as well as land rents. Rents are still static and income from these assets is only rising very slowly. Interest on investments continues to provide the majority of the Trusts income. The Trust received a further payment this year in connection with the proposed electricity cable to be laid across Trust land from a proposed Wind Farm off the Lincolnshire Coast.

Grants to Stanford School – The Trust continues to enhance the general education for the pupils at Stanford School over and above that provided by the local authority, and it does that with grants for major incentives.

This year's major project which the Trust has agreed to fund is for the installation of a large computer operated display screen for the school hall together with a full sound system for voice and recorded music/speech either connected to a computer or stand alone.

Grants to Pupils – Instead of the usual "penny" (actually 5p) given on the School Anniversary "Penny Day". All pupils and staff received a commemorative medal especially coined by the Royal Mint to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee of her accession to the throne in 1962. All pupils leaving the school and going on to Secondary school were presented with either a dictionary or a bible at the school's leaving ceremony funded by the Trust.

Grants for Further/Higher Education - The Trust continues to make grants to young people who live in 5 villages of benefit who are leaving school and either starting appropriate apprenticeships or going on to Further or Higher Education. In this last year, the number of applications markedly increased and 20 applications were received this year. Eighteen of the applicants received full grants. The Trustees were pleased to note three applications from young people taking up apprenticeships this year.

Grants to Stanford Charity – In line with Trust deed, the trustees again transferred to the charity, the full sum of money (£250.00) as allowed by the Charity Commissioners. This sum is separately administered by the Trustees from the Parish Council and St Margaret's Church.

Other Activities – The Trustees together with the Governors are still investigating the possibility of the School becoming an Academy with the Trust as joint sponsors. Now we have three members of the Trust who are also Governors, lines of communication are much easier. It is the intention of the Trust to ensure the name Stanford stays in the schools name should it become an academy in the future.

D. Read – Parish Council Representative on the Stanford Trust.

10864 Stanford School Report – Mr D. Read

School Management Developments – Mrs K Cooper retired as Head teacher after 16 years service to the School and community.

The Deputy Head Mr M. Wrigley was promoted to Head Teacher and Mrs. L. Hackfath has been offered and accepted the post of Deputy Head Teacher and took up her post today, 16th April 2013.

The Governing Body is still chaired by Mrs V. Brumfield a very experienced ex head teacher, with Mr J McCathy a parent Governor as Vice Chairman.

School Educational Achievements – The School in its self-assessment program continues to provide a “Satisfactory” level of education for all its pupils verified by the Local Authority Adviser. The Governors believe that the school is almost up to the “Good Standard”.

In the recent Ofsted Inspection some aspects now covered, received a Good Standard report. However, the inspector noted that although this had to be based on the results over the past three years, the last years result showed very significant improvement. Consequently, the school would not be subject to external management being imposed on it.

Councillor Marshal raised concerns again with Mr Read regarding the parking of the ice cream van at the entrance to the Stanford Centre car park and informed him that there had been no support from the school to move the van. He also made mention of his concerns regarding the size of tree branches in the grounds of the School and the flooding of the School playground; whereby children were having to be carried over the water which was pooling there.

Mr Read stated he would look into these matters and try and find out a timeline for having the playground redone with a new drain in it.

10865 Stanford Charity Report – Councillor D. Marshall

Councillor Marshall informed those present that 26 vouchers to the value of £10.00 were given out at Christmas and that £20/£30 was kept in hand to help anyone with transport difficulties should there be any applications.

Councillor Marshall further stated that it had been his 24th year of helping with this Charity’s voucher system.

10866 Brooks Charity Report – Councillor Mrs. S. Turner

Councillor Turner stated that this was a little known Charity with very strict criteria for grant funding. There was at present £4,151.41 in the bank account.

10867 Community Centre Report – Councillor P. Schofield

Councillor Schofield stated that the Saturday shop was the main earner for the Centre’s funding, and that this year not a great deal had been undertaken regarding the structure of the centre but that there were several major projects in the pipeline. Present bank balance being a healthy £16,092.28.

10868 Police Report

Regrettably the PCSO was on rest day for this meeting and no report was provided.

10869 Footpath/ Tree Wardens Reports – Councillors Marshall & Greenbeck

Public Rights of Way footpaths – Councillor Marshall informed those present that there had been a diversion order for footpath 101 which would improve things. The Parish Council had been presented with Walker’s are Welcome information via officers of NELC and that there was a lot to look at there.

Trees in Village – Councillor Marshall stated that there was a concern regarding a tree in the Churchyard and the Churchyard wall being affected by trees roots. This was being Investigated at the present time.

Public Questions – none.

Councillor Turner thanked Councillor Greenbeck for his work as Chairman and Councillor Marshall for his work for the Parish Council as Vice Chairman.

The Clerk, Debbie Weatherill, wanted at this point to thank Councillors Marshall and Schofield for their help with the allotment tenancy agreements, new tenants and gate keys; which had meant fewer trips out to Laceby to sort out matters relating to the allotments by the Clerk.

The meeting was then closed by the Chairman at 8.45 p.m.

SIGNED..... 7th May 2013

Chairman