

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 6th APRIL 2010
IN THE VILLAGE HALL, TWYFORD ROAD, BARROW UPON TRENT AT 7.00PM.

Present: Councillor Mrs A Heathcote - Chairman
Councillor Slater - Vice Chairman
Councillor Atkin
Councillor Mrs C Blackmore
Councillor Hewitt
Councillor J Wilcox
G Campling - Clerk
7 Members of the public
Ian Hey - Community Partnership Officer SDDC

Public Participation:

a) Members of the Public:

Ian Hey, Community Partnership Officer from South Derbyshire District Council spoke to the Council to advise on the opportunities for accessing funding in connection with the conversion of the kissing gate at Greenacres to a gate with a Radar Lock to facilitate access for people with using wheelchairs and motorised scooters. He felt that it would be best to incorporate this with a larger funding request for this area as it was just as much work to apply for a smaller amount of funding as it was a larger amount. Turnaround on an application would be between 6 - 12 weeks so if an application was to be submitted by end of April it would probably be end of June, beginning of July before it was received. The Council would not be able to install the Radar Lock and apply retrospectively for a grant and as it was originally envisaged that this would have been supplied by DCC in February/March but has now been discovered that it cannot be, this does give cause for concern and will be discussed in an item later in the meeting.

Guy Page raised a number of points regarding the erection of the new boundary fencing in the north west corner of the lagoon. He was "astounded" by its erection, and asked whether it needed planning permission and whether there were implications for the flood plain. He said that he knew that the owner of the adjacent land (to the North) had offered at his own expense to give access to the lagoon from his field. Mr Page also criticised the erection of the sign at the entrance to the lagoon, disagreeing with the requirement for groups of more than six people to contact the Clerk before using the facilities. He commented that in view of the plans to increase youth activity in that area, why the Council has erected a sign which prevents young people from using it. He said that he knew Mrs. Boyse had written to the Council on similar matters and that the Council had responded that these actions were necessary on the grounds of cost, security and maintenance. Mr Page wanted "more of an answer" as the cost of the fence must have been "astronomical" He wanted to let the Council know that a number of parishioners are very distressed that "professional middle aged people wishing to use the footpaths and areas of the village in reasonable recreation are being thwarted by an over zealous Parish Council"

Mrs Claire McQuilton - stated that as teenagers could not hire out the Village Hall for parties and now they cannot go round the lagoon, it gives the feeling that this parish is becoming a bit anti children. She had heard someone say to her that the sign should have said and no Jews or Nazis, it was not her view but it was said to her. The Chairman informed Mrs McQuilton that this was on the agenda and would be discussed by the Council at that time and informed Mr Page that when Dr Thomas arrived, at a suitable point she would suspend Standing Orders and permit Dr Thomas to address the Council.

Helen Atkin presented the Council with a draft copy of the Parish Plan on behalf of the Parish Plan Steering Committee and requested it be reviewed for approval. The Clerk was asked to include this as an agenda item for the May Meeting.

b) Police Liaison Officer, County Councillor and District Councillor

No police representative present

c) Members representations on prejudicial matters

Councillor Slater stated that although he will leave the meeting for the discussion on Allotment Rent (Item 20) he would support an increase in the allotment rent if that was what the Council decide.

Ian Hey left the meeting

PART 1 - NON EXEMPT ITEMS

094/2010 Apologies for absence

None

095/2010 Declaration of Members Interests

Name	Agenda No	Nature of Interest	Personal/ Prejudicial	Remain/Leave
Councillor Mrs C Blackmore	13	Member of the Parish Plan Steering Committee	Personal	Remain
Councillor Mrs C Blackmore	32	Related to contractor who has submitted a quote.	Prejudicial	Leave
Councillor Mrs A Heathcote	13	Member of the Parish Plan Steering Committee	Personal	Remain
Councillor K Atkin	10	Item of correspondence	Prejudicial	Leave
Councillor K Atkin	11b	Finance item - Related to contractor	Prejudicial	Leave
Councillor K Atkin	32	Related to contractor who has submitted a quote.	Prejudicial	Leave
Councillor D Hewitt	13	Member of the Parish Plan Steering Committee	Personal	Remain
Councillor D Hewitt	14	Advertiser in Parish News	Personal	Remain

Councillor D Hewitt	32	Works with one of the contractors in another capacity	Personal	Remain
Councillor K Slater	13	Member of the Parish Plan Steering Committee	Personal	Remain
Councillor K Slater	20	Allotment Holder	Prejudicial	Make representation and then leave
Councillor J Wilcox	10	Chair of Governors at Sale & Davys School	Personal	Remain

096/2010 To confirm the Non-Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd March 2010

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2nd March 2010 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman as a true record. The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting on 23rd March 2010 were also approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

097/2010 Items on Part 1 of the Agenda to be taken with the public excluded.

None

098/2010 The Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that:-

- a) **Retrospective Planning Applications** have been on the increase recently and District Councillor Peter Watson has put a very good case forward on behalf of the Council. He puts a lot of work in on everything the Council asks his assistance with and therefore the Chairman proposed that a letter of thanks should be sent to him. Agreed unanimously. The Clerk was requested to send this.
- b) **Danger Deep Water Signs** - There has been yet another episode of theft and damage to these signs. Two have been snapped off at the base of the posts and were found in the hedge, another one was bent over but not snapped off, and the fourth one is missing but it has not as yet been possible to do a search for it in that location. Arrangements have been made to have these erected in the water in the hope that "the vandals" will not be able to get at them to damage them again as people's lives are being put at risk if they are not displayed. The Chairman said that there was another point connected with the danger signs that she would like to raise in the exempt section if the Council were in agreement. This was agreed.

099/2010 The Clerk's Report

The report had been previously circulated but there were several points that the Clerk wished to bring to the attention of the Council:-

- a) **South Boundary of Greenacres** - Asked advice from the Solicitors at Matlock and he is going to investigate the matter and come back with what he discovers.
- b) **Church Lane lighting** - email from DCC to advise that this will be looked into but no mention of junction of Brookfield with A5132.
- c) **17 Chapel Lane** - the work has still not been carried out. It should have been completed by end of March.
- d) Councillor Wilcox mentioned **the Village Hall Car Park sign** as he felt that this should be on the outside so that it could be seen when approaching it from either side. The Clerk advised that this

was a sign to discourage improper use of the car park and it was not a location sign. The location sign was going to be a finger post under the new Village Hall Sign that the Village Hall Committee had indicated they would organise and fund. The Clerk was asked to make enquiries about this.

- e) Councillor Slater asked about **the front pages for the Parish News** - The Clerk advised that all the articles that had been supplied had been used and one was required for the May issue. The Clerk was asked to send out reminders to the organisations who have not yet supplied an article. The June issue was allocated for a review of the Annual Parish Meeting so the next one will be required for the July/August issue.

100/2010 Reports from representatives on outside bodies

Councillor Wilcox attended the Safer Neighbourhood meeting on 9th March 2010 at Smisby Village Hall and reported:-

Role of East Midlands Airport Police

An officer from the airport attended to give a brief overview of their role at the airport. There are officers from the three counties based there. Main responsibilities are to check on flight paths of aircraft into and out of the airport. This work can involve travelling well away from the airport campus. The officer gave a general request that anyone acting suspicious on or near a flight path that this is reported immediately. Terrorism is still high on their agenda.

Sergeant's Overview/Priorities Update

The sergeant gave information regarding crime stats for the period Nov 09 - Jan 10.

This area has had the largest fall in crime in South Derbyshire comparing this period with the same 12 months ago. The fall in crime is 20%.

Burglaries - drop of 34%

Robberies - increase of 100% (1 case)

Vehicle crime - no change

Violent crime - drop of 44%

Anti Social Behaviour - drop 15%

Despite a fall in anti social behaviour crimes this still remains a priority given the ongoing issues in Aston on Trent. Similarly despite no change in vehicle crime this will remain a priority because there have been some issues recently in Melbourne.

Partnership Update

A lot of work has been undertaken over the last three months. A crime reduction report has been undertaken. Despite additional work some residents of Aston particularly near the hospital site feel more could be done particularly as there have been threats of violence against people reporting anti social behaviour. However, the message is to report incidents immediately to the Police.

Question and Answer Surgery

1. The issue of poor parking in Melbourne was raised in addition to large vehicles attempting to go through Melbourne (using Sat Navs) along streets where there is parking on both sides. Residents urged to report parking that cause obstruction.
2. The issue of bogus callers selling aids to elderly and disabled people in Ticknall was raised. On investigation this was actually legitimate.
3. The Neighbourhood Coordinator for Aston requested information relating to detected crime. Detected crime stats are only available for the whole of the South Derbyshire area and not individual Safer Neighbourhood areas. E.g. crime figures for Feb 2010 were 342 with detection rates of 40% for assaults and 47% for burglaries.
4. Aston residents were encouraged to provide more evidence with their complaints i.e. descriptions, how many in the group, direction of travel etc.

5. The Melbourne Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator requested that descriptions be circulated to other villages by the Community Messaging Service (Ringmaster). The Police present said that this may not be possible.
6. It was reported that some crimes are not being recorded on the Community Messaging Service. This will be investigated.

Agreed Priorities

No change i.e. Car crime in Melbourne and anti social behaviour in Aston.

Funding

£4000 was available this financial year and £5000 has been spent. This was covered by an under spend in another area. £4000 available for next year and requests for funding should go to Sarah Daley Safer Neighbourhood Officer.

Any other business

CVS were in attendance and informed those present about the Derbyshire Handy Van Network who undertake Home Fire Safety Checks, Smoke alarm checking and installation, home security checks, energy efficiency advice and other practical tasks. This service is available for Derbyshire residents who are over 60 (excluding Derby City residents)

Reminder that Liberation Day for the over 65's is on 20th May 2010 at the Bret by Conference Centre. Edward Hicklin is replacing Cllr Peter Watson as Chair of this Safer Neighbourhood Group and nominations are invited for the position of Vice Chair which Edward currently occupies.

Councillor Atkin attended the Village Hall Committee Meeting which was very short and therefore not a great deal to report. Hazel Wilcox is doing a fantastic job in obtaining grants and the money remaining from the previous grant will allow them to decorate the kitchen, retiles the toilets and if there is any money left they will obtain a quote to decorate it all, plus they intend to replace the outside fire door. Bookings could be better but other than that, everything seems fine.

Councillor Slater attended the South Derbyshire Area Forum on 17th March 2010 and reported that 23 people attended, from DCC, SDDC, Parish Councils, Police and residents. The police representative gave a number of statistics regarding crime in South Derbyshire, overall crime being down 21% for the period November to January, making South Derbyshire still a low crime area. Burglary, Robbery, Vehicle crime, violent crime and anti-social behaviour incidents were all down. The police would particularly like to further reduce anti social behaviour (which still has a recorded 33 crimes per month)

The problem of hawkers knocking on doors in the evening when it was dark and potentially frightening for some people, was raised. The police commented that this is not a crime, and that they all should have licences issued by the local council. SDDC will investigate where the hawkers come from and where they were issued their licences. Safer Neighbourhood has window stickers saying no cold callers etc, and Aston commented that it had been successful there.

Deepdale Lane was raised. A vehicle had gone into the canal, about half way along, and past the newly erected barriers. There was criticism of the barriers, because the end fitment with yellow and black stripes, sticks out a little into the road forcing drivers coming from Barrow to edge more towards the middle of the road on the blind corner. He had again raised the proposal from Barrow Council that a reduction of the speed limit to 30mph would allow speed bumps to be put on the approach to the corner coming from Sinfin which would forcibly prevent vehicles from speeding round the corner. This proposal gained much support from Stenson Field Representatives and others and was noted by DCC.

The Big Choices consultation was discussed, with a closing date amended from 9th April to the end of April. This date was challenged, because in Barrow's case, there is only one meeting before the end of

April and it gives no time for proper consultation with Parishioners. There was very strong support for the closing date to be set back another month to the end of May. This is to be confirmed.

This triggered a strong complaint from many representatives regarding the inadequate time for consultation on planning matters by both SDDC and DCC, and the DCC Communications Manager promised to review the situation to see if it could be improved.

101/2010 Notification of Forthcoming meetings and appointment of representatives to attend
22nd April 2010 - The second of the meetings between Derbyshire County Council and Parish Councils at Matlock at 6.00 p.m. - last year this was attended by Councillor Mrs Heathcote and Councillor Slater. This year Councillor Slater is unable to attend and therefore the other Councillors were asked to let the Clerk know if they were able to attend.

Pre meeting of the Council for the DCC Gravel Liaison Meeting on 13th April 2010 at 7.00 p.m - all Councillors to attend

DCC Gravel Liaison Committee on 20th April 2010 at 5.00 p.m. Councillor Mrs Heathcote and Councillor Slater will attend this.

102/2010 Planning Applications and Decisions

Planning Applications

None

Appeals

None

Planning Decisions

None

103/2010 Correspondence

Councillor Atkin left the room

Information Only

DALC Circulars	Circulars previously circulated
Vic Dorrington	Email re Greenacres access
SDDC - Marc Scott	Back to Netball posters
SDDC - Planning Dept	Response to Planning App comments re Wind Turbine
SDDC - Tony Burdett	Apology for error re planning application for Wind Turbine
DCC	Posters - We are not wasters (Recycling)
Ms D Cartledge	Emails requesting details re Water Rates for No 12
Miss K Alcock	Parking Issue
DALC	Minutes of Derbyshire Association of Local Councils Executive Committee Meeting - 27 February 2010
Ms D Cartledge	Email re problems with toilet at No 12
DCC - Don Mitchell	Confirmation of extension to reply re Scoping Opinion for Potlocks Farm
Neil Atkin	Email re The Hill Planning Application

SDDC - Marc Scott	Confirmation of Summer Holiday Provision Bookings
SDDC - Jayne Jones	S136 Funding from 1 st April 2010
SDDC - Ian Bowen	Extension of Consultation period for Core Strategy

Requiring Action

Items marked with * are Covered in Agenda items 16, 18 & 26

*Mr & Mrs Walker	Letter of Complaint re the work carried out at end of Church Lane by Community Pay Back team
*Mrs L Boyse	Email with questions regarding Greenacres
*Mr R Scarfe - Chairman Parish Plan Steering Committee	Letter requesting Parish Council approval on works to take forward
Sale & Davys School	Traffic Statement
*Dr David Thomas	Email with Questions about Greenacres
Ms D Cartledge	Email re leaky shed roof at No 12
*Sale & Davys PTA	2 emails re request to use Community Park
NALC	Conference & Exhibition - Good Practice & Innovation - 02 July Bristol / 09 Sept - York
Land Registry	Registering your property + a guide for Town & Parish Councils
DCC - Area Administration	Grit Bin in Chapel Lane

All correspondence was noted and the starred items will be discussed under the relevant agenda item. It was agreed that the Traffic Statement from the school was acceptable. Councillor Wilcox will advise the school that it can be sent.

Grit Bin - The Clerk was requested to contact DCC and enquire what it considered to be "an approved place"

104/2010 Finance

a) The following invoices were approved for payment

* - Where there is more than entry to a payee, all invoices will be paid on one cheque

Payee	Details	Amount	Cheque No
Citiprint	Printing of Parish News - April Issue	£ 205.00	001809
DALC	Annual Subscription	£ 192.05	001810
DALC	Annual Subscription - Association of Burial Authorities	£ 60.00	001810
Information Commissioners Office	Renewal of Data Protection Act 1998 Fee	£ 35.00	001812
Severn Trent Water	Water Rates for the cottages & cemetery	£ 737.15	001817
Edbro Ag Serv	Supply and erection of fencing at Greenacres	£1,449.48	001811
Mrs M Weeks	Refund of extra payment of Housing Benefit re No 12	£ 20.00	001818
A1S Plumbing & Heating Services	Repairs to toilet in No 12	£ 88.13	001808

J C Signworks Limited	2 x Signs at Greenacres and 1 x Sign in Village Hall Car Park	£ 480.00	001819
SLCC	Membership Fee	£ 95.00	001814
SDDC	National Non Domestic Rates - Cemetery	£ 9.22	001815
DALC	Training event re Model Standing Orders for Chairman & Clerk on 28/4/10	£ 60.00	001810
Mr J Smith	Parish Lengthsman	£ 97.41	001813
Mrs G Campling	Clerk's wages	£ 670.84	001816
Mrs G Campling	Clerk's Expenses	£ 100.42	001816

Councillor Atkin returned to the room

b) Income received

Rent	from Cottages	£3,004.17 (rec. to 31st March)
Parish News	Advertising fee - Mrs S Walters	£ 4.00 (banked March)
SDDC	Reimbursement of Concurrent Functions	£3,630.00 (Banked 1/4/10)
SDDC	Reimbursement of funds re Parish Lengthsman Scheme	£ 774.00 (Banked 1/4/10)

c) Requests for S137 donations

An application was received from the Village Hall Committee for two grants. One to assist with cost of the caretaker and another to pay for the ground maintenance. Both of these applications were discussed and it was felt that to pay for the whole request was too high a percentage of the total amount allowed by law under the Section 137 scheme, particularly now that there are more groups being formed in the parish and grant requests may be forthcoming from them. It was felt that two visits per year would be sufficient to keep the grounds tidy and therefore it was Resolved to pay the caretakers allowance in full this year (but would be subject to review in the future) and the cost of two ground maintenance visits. A letter will be sent to the Village Hall Committee advising them of the Council's decision and that a cheque would be raised for the sum of £932.25 (Contribution to Caretaker costs £850 + Ground Maintenance of £70.00 + VAT = £82.25) at the meeting in May.

105/2010 BT Telephone Box in Twyford Road

The contract to adopt the BT Telephone Box had been received and it was Resolved to accept this in order that the Parish Plan Steering Committee could use it for an Information Kiosk. It was agreed that a cheque for £1.00 would be signed for the cost of this and the contract would be signed, The Clerk was requested to return this to BT to set the adoption in motion.

106/2010 Parish Plan

a) Report from The Chairman of the Parish Plan

The Chairman of the Parish Plan was unable to attend the meeting to give a report this month

b) Requests received from the Parish Plan Steering Committee

A letter had been received with a list of requests for approval from the Council. This was not a complete list as more will be coming later. These items were discussed and all were agreed in principle apart from one item which was regarding bollards in Moor Lane, further clarification was required about this and the Clerk was asked to request this.

c) Consideration of grant information and requirements

This was covered in the public session with Ian Hey from SDDC.

107/2010 Parish News

a) Request to advertise from a Fuel Oil Supplier - It is not a local company and the criteria is that it is kept to local companies whenever possible. If companies do not renew for the next year then consideration could be given to this request then, The Clerk was asked to advise the company that there was no room at present but that their details would be put on a waiting list in the event of any cancellations occurring.

Councillor Hewitt left the room

b) Review of the cost of the advertisements was discussed and due to the increase in the cost of printing the magazine it was Resolved to increase both advert prices by 10%. This would make the price of a colour advert £88.00 for the year and £44.00 for a black and white one.

Councillor Hewitt returned to the room

108/2010 Village Hall Car Park

Putting a gate/barrier across the entrance to deter vehicles accessing it late at night was discussed and although it has been quiet recently, it does tend to be a problem in the summer as cars do tend to race around in the early hours of the mornings. It was Resolved to keep an eye on the situation and if it does happen again this year then action will be taken. It was also Resolved to speak to the immediate neighbours of the Village Hall to gain their thoughts on the issue.

109/2010 Community Park

The request from Sale & Davys PTA to use the Community Park to hold a family fun day event in the summer of 2011 to raise funds for the school was discussed and approval was given to the use but that a date would be required in order to avoid double bookings occurring. The Clerk was requested to contact the PTA to inform them of this requirement.

110/2010 Planning

a) Response Issues - This was briefly spoken about in the Chairman's Report and the reason for putting this on the agenda was to decide how the Council wanted to deal with this. The District Council have been approached about this and have been very supportive. As agreed earlier a letter will be sent to Councillor Watson to thank him for his support.

b) The effect of retrospective planning applications and planning without appropriate permissions - It was agreed not to raise any issues about this at the present time but that if any further ones were received then it would be raised with SDDC again

c) Request to Planning Services made last year re the use of the land at the end of Twyford Road - No response has been received yet. The Clerk was requested to follow up on it.

111/2010 Greenacres

a) Purchase of lifebelts and housings - there is only one lifebelt there at present. It was agreed that advice should be sort about how many should be sited in order that the Parish Council would be complying with any laws. The Clerk was requested to contact the Fire and Rescue Service about this.

b) Consideration to the planting of boundary defence foliage in some locations as some areas are vulnerable to being breached. It was felt that some hawthorn saplings could be planted as these are reasonably cheap but form a good defence also some of the wires are coming away from the posts and need reconnecting. The main area is the north fence and middle to North East corner. Councillor Slater will have a look to assess how far apart they would need to be planted and how many would be required. The Clerk will obtain a price to refix the barbed wire strands to the posts.

c) Discussion of the installation of a Radar Gate at the entrance to facilitate access for disabled people wishing to visit the area. This was to be provided free of charge by DCC but unfortunately as there is not a public footpath leading to Greenacres it cannot be provided by DCC. Ian Hey suggested that the Council apply for a grant but this would take 6 - 8 weeks from date of application and then installation would need to be arranged, so it could be autumn before it is in place. It is not possible to install it and obtain a grant afterwards and therefore as the imminent installation had been advised to the parishioners who use it, it was Resolved to purchase the lock and arrange for it to be installed at an estimated cost of between £200 - £300 pounds, which could be claimed back from the DET Grant that was already in place. The Clerk was asked to arrange this.

d) Discussion on a draft response to some questions submitted by Mrs L Boyse

As the email received from Mrs Boyse and the email from Dr Thomas were about the same subject it was felt that it would be best to open the meeting to deal with this issue.

A resolution was passed at this point to suspend Standing Orders to discuss the fencing and sign issue at Greenacres with the public present.

The Chairman read out the questions from Mrs Boyse and Dr Thomas was asked if those were the same questions as he wanted answers to, to which he replied that they were similar. Mr Page mentioned that there was an application put in for a tennis court on the flood plain and that was refused because a tennis net would be a potential disruption to the flow in the case of flood water. He wants to know what permissions have been sought through Environmental Health and whether there is a planning requirement for a fence of that nature.

A synopsis of the responses to Mrs Boyse's questions was gone through for the benefit of the people present.

The Chairman explained all the legal implications and the advice received that had lead to the Council making the decision to install the fence and the sign.

Neither Dr Thomas, Mr Page nor Mrs McQuilton would accept the explanations provided to them by the Council.

County Councillor Harrison had arrived during these discussions and the Chairman asked him for his opinion. He advised that if the Council's insurers are advising this then it would be at your peril to go against it as it could end up with the Councillors having to sell their houses to settle a claim if anything was to go wrong. He gave the Council the name of a solicitor at County who would be able to give further advice on this matter if it was required.

The Chairman advised that the Council has a duty of care to the people in the village and other visitors to the area, which includes young people and that is why it has had to ensure that the fence is secure and until it can do anything else it has the responsibility both individually and collectively to ensure that the fence is as secure and safe as it can make it.

Dr. Thomas stated that he had asked in his email if he could see the contract between Lafarge and the Parish Council under the Freedom of Information Act. The Chairman explained that he had been given incorrect information as there was not a contract between Lafarge and the Parish Council as the land had been purchased from the Church Commissioners. Dr Thomas requested to know if there is a

contract relating to the purchase of the land and between the Church Commissioners and the Parish Council, he was advised that there was and that as he was on the Green Areas Working Group he could have a look at the copy that had already been issued to the Group.

The Chairman summarised the key points of the Council's response which was that that the Council do not have the legal right to allow an access to the lagoon at this point in time and subject to all the advice that it had been given, the Council decided to put up a fence to ensure that people did not put themselves in danger.

Discussions then took place regarding the new sign as an email to the Council from Dr Thomas required to be addressed. It stated "Dictatorial nature of the signs put up to entrance of the lagoon. Whilst I realise we live in risk averse and litigious times and as you pointed out the council has to consider public liability I feel the tone of the signs is not only dictatorial but unhelpful in promoting inclusive village life. If I was a teenager I would feel victimised. Surely we should be encouraging village youth as to what they can do rather than what they aren't allowed to do. Such negative, non inclusive attitudes only promote the potential for minor petty vandalism and littering."

The Chairman repeated that Greenacres had become a focal point in the summer time for large numbers of young people from outside the village to gather with alcohol and getting very drunk thus causing themselves to be in great danger. The Council does not want to stop people going down there, the whole point of having it is to make it an area that people can enjoy, Entrust had stated that as the purchase of the land had been via a grant from the landfill tax that this piece of land had to be available, within reason, for anyone to use. These young people do cause a lot of aggravation by running around the village and indeed one house was set on fire by them last summer. As a result of this, because it is impossible to patrol the area and the police cannot be there 24/7, advice was taken about what signage should be in place. There has been vandalism to the Danger Deep Water signs, which the Council is at a loss to understand why people want to do this type of thing as this is putting people's lives at risk. The wording on the sign was agreed by Entrust and the Council's insurers. The Chairman proceeded to read out the points on the sign in question and asked for comments on each point. The reasons these points were put on the sign was to ensure that the Council is seen by everyone, including the parents of those young people to be taking as much care as it can to discourage them from getting into danger. The Council have no objections to Barrow residents going round Greenacres with family and friends and they only have to call the Clerk once to advise that they will be using the area with a large group of people from time to time and this will be logged so if anyone comments on it then the Clerk will be able to say that she is aware of this. It was originally the hope of the Council to retain the area for use by Barrow parishioners only, but this turned out not to be possible and the area is advertised on some national bird watching websites, so it is possible that at any given time, hundreds of people could come along to watch a particular bird that has been spotted there and the Council has no way of coping with that other than putting up a sign that tells people of the dangers that exist. Dr Thomas requested to know if his family had to call the Clerk to which the Chairman responded that he could just advise the Clerk once that his family would be using the area and that they were going to take care of themselves and then it is at their own risk. The main thing that the Council is trying to stop is large numbers of people coming from outside the village and creating a problem as in the past. In the event of any issues arising having these statements on the sign gives the Council the ability to say that the people involved were warned. The statement about under 18's is not aimed at the children within the parish whose parents give them permission and take responsibility for them going there unaccompanied, it is intended for the large groups of non parishioners who come over and get drunk and cause problems.

Dr Thomas stated that a sign saying "Use this facility at your own risk" would have been better. He was advised that a sign of this nature would not stop the behaviour that has gone on down there such as the continual damage to the Danger Deep Water signs.

The Chairman reiterated that the Council wanted everyone in the village to enjoy Greenacres, but what is not wanted is people getting hurt or the Council being held responsible if they do. Mr Page stated that he fully understood that and he does not dispute any of those arguments but that it still depends on how you ask the questions.

The Chairman summarised that the main issue with the signs seems to be the point about groups of six or more, for which the reason has already been explained. Mrs McQuilton advised that she had concerns over the fishing. It was explained that the fishing is going to be restricted to one section only and will be by permit only which will be closely monitored so it was not envisaged that there would be any problems.

Mr Page requested that the minutes should record that he will be going round the lagoon with as many people as want to go on weekends and he will take total responsibility for anyone who walks with him.

Dr Thomas stated that his fourteen year old son had looked at the sign and said that this was how Hitler started saying you shan't do this and you shan't do that. The Chairman intervened by stating that comments had previously been made concerning Jews and Nazis which was quite shocking and surprising and no more references were acceptable.

Mr Page stated that he did not think that anything that had been done would stop the problems that had previously occurred but that he could understand what the Council is doing and that for legal reasons it has got to take the necessary precautions so that if there is an incident it is covered and this is quite understandable. The problem is the nature of the sign is unfortunate as it is dictatorial and negative. It would be nice if there was something near this sign explaining the nature of the lagoon, why it is there and why it is such a wonderful resource. The Chairman advised him that it is the intention of the Green Areas Group to erect numerous signs around the lagoon regarding the flora and fauna, plus benches, bird hides, bat boxes, however it has to be made into an area suitable for this because if there were fires down there, everything would be destroyed. He suggested that a map of the available public footpaths that are available in the village should be put in the Parish News. He was advised that this facility is on the website. Mrs McQuilton commented that a centre spread in the Parish News would counteract the negative feeling as it would show that there are places where people can go. The Chairman advised that one would be put into the next issue of the Parish News. Mr Page made reference to a comment in a previous Parish News that requested people to inform on their neighbours, which he did not feel was particularly nice. The Chairman advised him that she did not remember an article being used with this particular wording but that she would check on it. Dr Thomas wanted to clarify that his children could use the area and that he would not be breaking any byelaws by doing so. He was advised that if he was happy for his children to do so, then it is his responsibility.

The Chairman stated that the Council sincerely hopes that after all of this very lengthy discussion that they understand that it is not trying to stop people from doing things, but is trying to make sure that people are safe and that litigiously the Council is not going to end up in court for something it is desperately trying to stop, i.e. someone getting hurt. The open session of the meeting was then closed and Standing Orders were resumed at 9. 40p.m.

It was agreed that the proposed letter to Mrs Boyse was accepted and the Clerk was requested to send it.

112/2010 War Memorial

Quotes to clean the war memorial were obtained last year and one was considered to be acceptable and the contractor was asked if he was prepared to hold this price until the new financial year. He was in agreement with this and had supplied this to the Clerk in writing. It was agreed that the memorial was in need of a cleanup and it was therefore Resolved that the contract should be given to Ian Knapper at a cost of £725.00 + VAT. The Clerk was requested to arrange this.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders to invite Councillor Harrison to give his report. Apologies were given to Councillor Harrison for the delay this evening.

Councillor Harrison informed the Council that the previous discussion had been very interesting and if he could be of any assistance, please let him know.

Deepdale Lane - At the last meeting some dissatisfaction was raised about the new barrier installation and unbelievably a short while after this another car went into the canal. This was not because of the new fence but in spite of it and was clearly because the driver was travelling too fast. Other questions were raised about the piece at the end as it is approached from the village that is a yellow background with striped black lines as it is felt that it forces people into the middle of the road. Having looked at other similar constructions around the county and elsewhere it appears to be a common way of capping off such a fence and in the light of this he does not feel that it is likely that anyone would wish to take it down as it is there to give visibility to the fact that the fence is there. Councillor Wilcox asked why the potholes were not filled in at the same time as the fence was being erected and was advised that the people erecting the barriers would not have had tarmac with them as they were installing concrete posts. This was challenged by Councillor Atkin who informed the meeting that they did in fact have tarmac there as they re-tarmaced the road by the barrier. The Chairman advised Councillor Harrison that an email had been sent to County about the potholes and a response was awaited.

Ponding in Brookfield - The first attempt to jet the drains had not worked and he got in touch with the team responsible for this and a second visit was made. As he had not heard anymore he felt that this must have been successful. The Clerk informed him that more photos had been received and she had intended to follow it up again this week.

Swarkestone Quarry Liaison Meeting was held the other week, which was very interesting. People from Ingleby expressed concerns about the quarry extension in the direction of Ingleby and there was a positive and constructive discussion as to how their concerns could be alleviated by attenuating the period of time when the quarry operations are opposite their homes and the officer has gone away to discuss that with the quarry operator to see if they can find a way of ameliorating the pollution.

LDF Framework - He was unfortunately unable to attend the special meeting that the Council held regarding this but he understood that quite a lot of people are of the opinion that the vicissitudes associated with the LDF are the responsibility of the District Council. However the facts are that the allocation of a minimum of 12,000 additional homes in South Derbyshire with along the fringe with the City to form at least 6,400 of them with the balance in the Swadlincote area, was handed down from on high by the East Midlands Regional Assembly. This is now defunct and has been replaced by the East Midlands Leaders Board, which is comprised of the leaders of all three County Councils in the East Midlands plus one representative from each County for the District Councils and in Derbyshire that is Lewis Rose from Derbyshire Dales.

A General Election was announced today and as a result Councillor Mrs Heather Wheeler has stood down as Leader of the District Council and he has taken over as Acting Leader until the election and what happens after that will be the subject of consideration by the controlling group if she is elected to Parliament.

Councillor Harrison was thanked by the Chairman and he left the meeting at 10.03 p.m.

Standing Orders were resumed and Councillor Slater left the room.

113/2010 Allotment Review

Discussions were held on this and the current rate is £6.00 per annum.

It was felt that the price is very cheap but that the amount received by a reasonable increase would not be very beneficial to the Council's finances but would cause a problem to the school who have put a great deal of work into their allotment and have spent a fair amount of money on it. It was proposed that the rent should remain unchanged and this was unanimously agreed.

Councillor Slater returned to the room.

114/2010 Cemetery Charges - The income from the cemetery does not cover the costs to keep it tidy. It was proposed to increase all fees by £10. This was agreed unanimously.

115/2010 Mole Problems in Parish - There is a persistent problem in the village with moles and a quote has been received. It is around £35.00 per mole for the first 10 moles and then £25 per mole for the next 10 and £15 per mole after that. The costs associated with this are enormous as the territory is taken over by another mole once one has been eradicated and this could therefore be an ongoing cost. It was felt that whilst the problem is on the roadside then the problem is not as critical but if it does move into the cemetery which would cause distress then action would be to be taken. Mr Atkin offered to continue to try and keep the situation under control. This was felt to be a very kind offer and the Council thanked Mr Atkin for that.

116/2010 Big Choices

This was another consultation and was a very big one relating to waste disposal in South Derbyshire and the City of Derby. It does not clearly state what the proposals are but they have supplied a questionnaire to complete to indicate whether the parish wants them to aim for the minimum target of recycling or to aim for higher levels of recycling. It was proposed that the Clerk should complete this for the Council selecting the best option for each question which is as much recycling as is possible. The other question is whether it is locally or centrally. It was decided locally was the best option.

117/2010 Deepdale Lane

This was discussed during the County Councillors Report and therefore there is nothing further to discuss on this matter.

118/2010 New Standing Orders

DALC has supplied a new set of Model Standing Orders which consist of 82 pages and relate to Town and City Councils as well as Parish Councils. The Chairman has been through them and deleted the parts that are not relevant to them and as these have been previously circulated for review. The Chairman proposed that these now be adopted and this was agreed unanimously.

119/2010 Community Pay Back Team

The Chairman gave some background information on how the team work doing labour intensive work around the parish at no cost to the parish. They cleared back overhanging brambles that several complaints had been received about at the end of Church Lane. They did however, clear away more than was expected and when this became apparent the Chairman contacted the farmer of the land concerned and he in fact was extremely pleased with what had been done. However Mr & Mrs T Walker were not happy and a letter of complaint had been received from them. They felt that the

removal of the brambles that had formed a natural barrier between their house and the footpath to Swarkestone had now exposed them to everyone who walks this footpath. They are also of the opinion that the team damaged their fence whilst they were working there as well. A draft letter of response had been prepared and circulated to the Council for approval. A proposal was put forwards to purchase a hawthorn sapling for Mr & Mrs Walker and this was mentioned in the letter. It was agreed unanimously to purchase the sapling if that was what Mr & Mrs Walker required and it was agreed that all Councillors would recheck the letter and if the Clerk did not hear from anyone in the next 24 hours she would send the letter.

120/2010 Agenda Items for the next meeting

Items requested to be included on the agenda for the next meeting are:-

APM Review of Meeting

Burial Procedures

Consider of Adoption of Draft Parish Plan

121/2010 Date and time of the next meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting is on Tuesday 27th April 2010 at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall and the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th May 2010 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall. Planning applications will be available for consideration from 6.45pm

The Chairman closed the formal part of the meeting and opened the floor for a period of not more than five minutes per person to enable members of the public and Members of the Council to comment on any matter that has been discussed by the Council in the Non Exempt Section of the meeting today

Mrs McQuilton asked what the length of period that anyone was on a Parish Council. The Chairman explained that there is an election period every four years and it comes up again in May 2011.

RESOLVED that, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined under the paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

The Non Exempt section of the meeting was closed at 10.45p.m

Signed:

Chairman/Vice Chairman

Date: 11th May 2010

PART TWO - EXEMPT ITEMS

122/2010 Exempt minutes of the meeting held on 2nd March 2010

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2nd March 2010 had been previously circulated. No amendments were requested and the minutes were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

123/2010 Clerk's Report

Nothing to report this month

124/2010 Correspondence

Action Required

None

Councillor Mrs Blackmore and Councillor Atkin left the room

125/2010 Cottage Front Doors

Quotes for replacing the front doors and fit letterboxes and back flap were discussed and it was Resolved to accept the quote from TopMark Joinery at a cost of £3,150.00 for the ten doors, which includes a discount on his price for an individual door for having all doors done at the same time. It was felt that these should be fitted as soon as the weather was suitable for the tenants to have their doors taken off.

Councillor Mrs Blackmore and Councillor Atkin returned to the room

126/2010 Small Playing Field

The quote has still not been received for Crown Lifting of some of the trees despite several requests. It was therefore deferred.

127/2010 Parish News

Three quotes had been received for the printing contract for the next 12 months and it was Resolved to remain with the current printers as their quote was the cheapest.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.13p.m.

Signed:

Chairman/Vice Chairman

Date: 11th May 2010