

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LEEDS PARISH COUNCIL
Held on in the Village Hall on Tuesday 10th February 2009 at 7.30pm.

Present: Mr Cutler
Mrs Finlay
Mrs Fort
Mrs Graham
Mrs Harrison

In attendance: Mrs Sherrie Babington – Clerk, Press and Public.

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Harrison.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Councillors Griffiths and Bubb.

2. Parish Newsletter.

It was agreed that Councillor Finlay would undertake the newsletter.

3. Declaration of Interests.

No interests were declared.

4. Public Comments.

A resident attended the meeting to raise concerns about the power cuts in the village. Councillor Fort stated that she had liaised with the electricity company regarding this matter and asked whether these could be placed underground. Councillor Graham stated that she felt that the Parish Council should write to investigate this matter further.

Action: Clerk to write to EDF.

A resident spoke regarding the plans to close the bridge near to Leeds Castle for highways work and she asked about the proposed diversion route. This was discussed and members confirmed that the diverted route was via Willington Street.

Discussion took place regarding the parking in the parish and the problems with vehicles obstructing the footpaths.

Councillor Harrison informed the meeting that at present there was no village police officer as Dave Reynolds had been moved onto a different area.

A resident informed members that trees on the boundary of her property had been marked yellow and she asked if the PC knew what the planned action was. Councillor Harrison stated that she would liaise with Highways to establish their plans regarding these.

Alan James spoke regarding the rubbish being dumped in the church yard. Councillor Harrison stated that these items were being looked into.

Councillor Fort stated that the village did need a litter pick. Councillor Harrison stated that she would liaise with MBC regarding this matter.

5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

It was resolved to accept the minutes (Graham/Finlay), these were then signed and dated by the Chairman of the meeting.

6. Matters Arising.

No matters were raised.

7. Police Report.

The crime report was given to the meeting.

8. Parish Council Website.

Alan James attended the meeting and gave a report on the usage of the website. He spoke regarding the progress of the website.

9. Ward Councillors Report.

Councillor Parvin attended the meeting and gave his report to all present.

He reported the progress of the Borough Council.

Councillor Harrison spoke regarding the Parish Councils plans to implement the recommendations from the Parish Plan and its aim to have a Village Design Statement. She asked Councillor Parvin if he would be able to assist with this in any way.

10. Speedwatch.

Nothing to report.

11. Correspondence.

Members noted the correspondence received.

Councillor Harrison reported on correspondence received from the KM regarding a donation of a commemoration tree. Members agreed that they would accept this offer and discussed where to place it. Councillor Harrison stated that she would forward the agreed details to the KM.

Action: Councillor Harrison to progress.

12. Planning Matters.

MA/08/2368 - Alibagh, Lower Street, Leeds –No objections.

Erection of a first floor side extension.

MA/08/2341 - 1 Churchhill Cottages, Upper Street, Leeds – No Objections.

An application for Listed Building Consent (Retrospective) for the erection of a single storey rear porch.

MA/08/2473 - 1 Churchhill Cottages, Upper Street, Leeds – No Objections.

Retrospective application for the erection of a single storey rear porch.

MA/07/2092 - Kent International Gateway, Land West of Junction 8, M20, Maidstone –
OBJECTIONS.

Outline planning permission for the construction of hard standing areas to form rail/road freight interchange with freight handling equipment, new railway sidings in part with acoustic enclosure, earthworks and retaining walls, buildings etc.

13. Financial Matters.

The financial statements for the Parish Council Account and Playing Field Account were presented to Councillors. These were discussed, and accepted by members (Fort/Cutler).

Councillor Harrison queried the invoice received from Maidstone Borough Council regarding the rubbish clearance within the parish. She asked the Clerk to hold payment for these invoices until she had liaised with MBC.

14. Leeds Playing Field.

The playing field was discussed by all present.

15. Highway Matters.

Councillor Harrison reported on outstanding highway issues around the parish.

16. Parish Notice Board.

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

17. Salt Bins.

It was reported that the salt bins had been replenished. Councillor Harrison sought member's approval to purchase a further salt bin for £300 to be located near to the car park. This was proposed by Councillor Finlay and seconded by Councillor Graham.

18. Street Lighting.

Nothing to report.

19. Parish Plan.

Councillor Harrison spoke regarding the Parish Plan and the Village Design Statement.

Councillor Finlay circulated a task sheet to all present for their consideration. She explained this and prioritised the recommendations of the plan.

Councillor Harrison referred to the report and members discussed the implementation of the plan.

Councillor Graham suggested that a Chips and Chat evening was held again to encourage the youth to put forward their views and progress the implementation of some recommendations. This was agreed by all present.

Action: Councillor Graham to progress the arrangements for the Chips and Chat evening.

Councillor Harrison reported on the Detling Village Design event that she had attended; she stated that she had held a meeting with Phil Turner regarding VDS's and that she had set up meetings for the village on 28th March 2009 and 9th May 2009. She sought member's approval for these to take place. Members agreed and discussed ways of publicising the meeting. It was agreed that the meeting would be held from 10am until 4pm and lunch would be provided as an incentive for residents to attend.

Action: Councillor Harrison to confirm dates with Phil Turner and progress the arrangements for the meeting.

It was agreed that a further meeting should be arranged between the Parish Council and the Parish Plan Group in the near future.

20. Kent International Gateway.

Councillor Harrison reported on the current situation regarding KIG.

21. Further questions from public.

No matters were raised.

22. Urgent Matters.

Councillor Harrison reported that Councillor Griffiths had resigned from the Parish Council.

Action: Clerk to place item on the next agenda and draw up notices to advertise the vacancy.

Councillor Graham asked members permission for the school to use the parish council's notice board near to the school. Members agreed to this request.

23. Date of next Parish Council Meeting.

Tuesday 10th March 2009.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.40pm.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: _____