

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LEEDS PARISH COUNCIL
Held on in the Village Hall on Tuesday 8th September 2009 at 7.30pm.

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

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

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Harrison.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Councillors Cutler and Bubb.

2. Declaration of Interests.

No interests were declared.

3. Public Comments.

No matters were raised.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

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

5. Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising.

6. Police Report.

The police representative gave a crime report to all present.

It was reported that authority had now been given to undertake a further operation on Lorries in Leeds. The police reported that it was likely that this would be undertaken in October/November time.

Councillor Harrison reported on the poor public attendance at the recent police security marking operation.

7. Parish Council Website.

Alan James attended the meeting and gave a report on the usage of the website.

It was reported that there would be an increase in the annual website fees to £46.00 per month.

This was accepted by members.

8. Ward Councillors Report.

Apologies were received from Borough Councillor Peter Parvin.

KCC Councillor Gary Cooke attended the meeting and gave a report to members.

9. Correspondence.

The Clerk reported on the correspondence received during the course of the month.

10. Planning Matters.

Councillor Fort spoke regarding the proposed development at Ledian farm; she informed members that as yet a formal planning application had not been submitted by the developers.

Councillor Graham reported that planning permission have been approved for the siting of the village sign. She suggested that an official unveiling of the sign should take place. Members asked the Clerk to seek the availability of the Mayor in order to progress the unveiling of the sign.

Action: Clerk to progress.

Councillor Harrison informed members that she would progress the planting of the KM Memorial Tree.

11. 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 (Graham/Finlay).

Members discussed the work undertaken by Rowlandscapes and the schedule that he currently followed.

The condition of the footpaths in Leeds were discussed by Members, it was agreed that some of these were in a poor condition. It was noted that the maintenance of the footpaths were ultimately the responsibility of KCC and therefore any problems should be reported to KCC.

Members asked the Clerk to request a copy of the Definitive Footpaths Map from KCC.

Action: Clerk to progress.

12. Leeds Playing Field.

Councillor Harrison spoke regarding the success of youth event organised by Councillor Graham and she thanked her on behalf of the Parish Council.

She passed the meeting over to Councillor Aitken to speak regarding his proposals for the Playing Field.

Councillor Aitken informed members that he had held a meeting with Hollingbourne Football Club to discuss how they should work within the Parish of Leeds to assist with the youth activities.

He stated that the Football Club was willing to undertake work on the pavilion by fitting the new kitchen and other enhancements. They were also going to mark out two junior pitches at the far end of the playing field with the hope of starting regular youth training sessions.

This was discussed by members and it was agreed that the Parish Council would be willing to actively support this initiative.

Councillor Aitken informed members that he had drafted a letter to circulate to local schools in order to try to establish an interest in the proposal to start regular youth training sessions.

Councillor Finlay offered to write a press release for the proposals.

Councillor Aitken stated that the interest for the training needed to be established and trainers needed to be sought before the training could commence.

This was discussed further, and it was agreed that Councillor Aitken would remain the contact between the Parish Council and Hollingbourne Football Club.

Members discussed the budget available for the pavilion enhancement and it was proposed by Councillor Harrison that a budget of £500 should be set aside for the work; this was seconded by Councillor Fort and agreed by all present.

Members discussed the need for a container to be sited next to the pavilion for the storage of equipment.

13. Highway Matters.

Councillor Harrison spoke regarding the need for a safe crossing outside of the school. She informed members that she had spoken with Ben Hilden from KCC regarding this matter.

KCC Councillor Gary Cooke stated that he would also liaise with Ben Hilden to give his support to this project.

Councillor Harrison reported that a request that had been received by a lady wishing to land a helicopter in the land next to the Parish Council car park for a wedding next year.

This was discussed by all present and it was unanimously agreed that there were no suitable sites available in the area for a helicopter to land. The clerk was asked to inform the lady of the decision and to let her know that there were helicopter facilities available at Leeds Castle and the Ramada Hotel.

Action: Clerk to respond.

14. Gypsy and Traveller Review.

No matters were raised.

15. Village Design Statement.

Councillor Finlay reported on the progress of the VDS.

16. Kent International Gateway.

Councillor Harrison reported on the current situation regarding KIG.

17. Further questions from public.

No matters were raised.

18. Urgent Matters.

No matters were raised.

19. Date of next Parish Council Meeting.

Tuesday 13th October 2009.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 10.00pm.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: _____