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LINTON PARISH COUNCIL

Bromsash Gorsley and Linton

**Minutes Of The Meeting Held On September 8th 2008
In Linton Village Hall at 7:30 pm**

Present:

- Cllr Jean Foley, Chairman
- Cllr Ken Downham, Vice-Chairman
- Cllr Andrew Gardner
- Cllr Jackie Gough
- Cllr Margaret Pearce
- Cllr Max Gough
- Cllr Laura Cluley

Annette Steele (Clerk)

3 Parishioners & Community Support Officers Lisa Austin & James Cook attended.

Minute Item	Action
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4.1	
4.2	The Clerk
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5.1	
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that the works will not be carried out before the start of the new school term, but will endeavour to have the works completed as soon as possible.

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Community Support Officer

- 6.1 CSO Lisa Austin said that the theft of oil is still an ongoing problem and diesel is also being taken from cars and lorries.

There have been ram raids on garages and outbuildings with high quality garden equipment taken. The public are urged to be vigilant and to report any suspicious activity to the Police.

There have been thefts of horses and it is believed that they are being stolen to order. If anyone is seen taking photographs their details should be reported to the Police.

- 6.2 Cllr Andrew Garner reported a serious problem with parking outside Linton Village Hall on Sunday, September 7th. Photographs of the problems caused were passed to the Police. The Clerk was asked to contact Linton Village Hall and the Church to ask if they can take appropriate action regarding parking when large events take place and to contact the Police if more information and assistance is required.

The Clerk

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Linton Quarry

- 7.1 **Tree Maintenance**-A quote has been received from Forestry Operations for the remaining tree surgery required at Linton Quarry. The Clerk has received authorisation from Natural England for the work to be carried out & the Parish Council will be reimbursed on completion of the work.

- 7.2 **Champions Project**-The Clerk is to meet with Jessica Donaldson (Earth Heritage Trust), Kelda White (Natural England) and Alan Davis (Forestry Operations) at Linton Quarry on September 30th in order to discuss scrub clearance work. Once agreement has been reached as to the work required, Natural England will advise if their budget will cover the proposed work.

The Clerk

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Allotments

- 8.1 **Maintenance**-The Clerk has obtained a quote from Complete Weed Control for controlling the grass and weeds around the perimeter of the rabbit-proof fencing. Proposed by Cllr Jean Foley and seconded by Cllr Margaret Pearce, IT WAS AGREED to accept the quote. The Clerk was asked to place a notice on the allotment notice board advising allotment holders and asking them to contact the Clerk beforehand if they have any concerns. The Clerk advised that the area would need to be carefully strimmed before the spraying could take place. The Clerk will contact the spraying company in order to get a date for the work to be carried out.

The Clerk

- 8.2 **Procedure re vacant allotments**-Proposed by Cllr Andrew Gardner, seconded by Cllr Margaret Pearce and with 7 to 1 in favour, IT WAS AGREED that the following ruling be adopted:

As from Sept 8th 2008 new allotment holders will only be allowed one allotment each. If a waiting list exists then priority will be given to parishioners who **do not** have an allotment. If there are no parishioners on the waiting list then people from outside the parish will be entitled to apply for an allotment.

Existing allotment holders who have more than one allotment are not affected by this ruling although they will not be allowed to take on additional allotments in the future. There are 2 people on the waiting list; both are from outside the parish.

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Accounts, Treasurer's Report and Authorisation of Payment of Accounts

- 9.1 The external audit has been completed by Mazars with no amendments. Notices have been displayed on the Parish Notice boards for the statutory 14 days.

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- 9.2 £850.00 has been transferred from Alliance & Leicester to Lloyds TSB to cover this month's payments.
- 9.3 Proposed by Cllr Margaret Pearce, seconded by Cllr Jackie Gough and approved unanimously, IT WAS AGREED to pay the following invoices and the cheques were duly signed.

AP496	Allotment water pipe work	275.94
AP497	Grass-cutting July 2008	100.00
AP498	Audit Fee 2007/8	158.62
AP499	Clerk's Salary for August 2008	285.00
AP500	Clerk's Expenses for August 2008	25.83
AP501	Annual grant to Gorsley Goffs School	50.00

- 9.4 The following income has been received since the last meeting:

Alliance & Leicester Community Instant Reserve Interest of £32.25 Sept

Lloyds TSB BIA Interest of 4p

Allotment Fees £30.00

Sale of logs-Linton Quarry £50.00

- 9.5 The audited accounts for 2007/8 can now be viewed on the Parish website.

- 9.6 Cllr Andrew Gardener agreed to become a signatory. The Clerk will advise him of the procedure.

The Clerk

10 Working Party Reports

10.1 FOOTPATHS

- 10.1.1 The Footpaths Officer has provided the Clerk with an up-to-date Footpaths report.

- 10.1.2 The Clerk has received clarification of the rules regarding stiles and gates from CHDC: The Rights of Way Improvement Plan seeks to replace stiles with gates wherever possible to increase the numbers of people able to access the countryside. Stiles pose problems to people with mobility difficulties, particularly older people, and the provision of gates will make their walks in the countryside more enjoyable. Consequently, the Council takes the opportunity whenever it can to seek the replacement of an existing stile with a gate, and wherever a new fence line is erected, the Council, as highway authority, will only authorise a gate (or a gap) as a means of crossing the new boundary. This process will take many years to have a major impact on the 2,200+ miles of public rights of way in the county. There will be occasions, for example, where a path runs between 2 roads that crosses say 5 stiles, and we are able, following negotiation with the landowner(s), to replace, e.g. two broken stiles with 2 new stock-proof high quality pedestrian gates. This will give an incremental improvement to the route, and people who may have found 5 stiles too onerous, may now find 3 more acceptable. There is no intention to create a rights of way network that is 100% accessible to wheelchair users. However, wheelchair access is important, and for example, we are currently working on the Ross Buggy Route in conjunction with other parties including the local Ramblers' Association. The first phase of this route opened during this year's Walking Festival, and involved replacement of steps with a ramp, and similar, small, changes that now provide a relatively large benefit in the town of Ross. The Council is seeking to target stile replacements in areas where demand for improvement has been expressed. For example in Mathon and Cradley, two circular walking routes have been set up under the label 'Miles Without Stiles'. This has involved a lot of negotiation with many landowners, and although the routes are relatively short, they do now provide walks without stiles. Funding was also found for the publication of these walks in leaflets. If any Parish identifies any particular route as being suitable for special attention, then the Council will investigate the feasibility of landowners agreeing to replacement of stiles. If a stile

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is in good condition, then the Council cannot compel a landowner to install a gate in its place. Because of the limitations on the resources available to us, we have to be realistic about what can be achieved. However, we are, at present, able to offer to supply and install a gate to replace a stile anywhere in the county. Any landowner can approach us with a request. If we get requests from the public to see if a particular stile, or stiles, could be replaced, then the Area Rights of Way Warden will investigate and talk to the relevant landowners. Success with each stile is by no means guaranteed, and many farmers can be very concerned about livestock control, particularly in fields adjacent to roads. However, our experience with the types of gate we supply has been very good, and many farmers are very happy with them.

10.2 PLANNING

- 10.2.1 P236-DCSE2008/1510/F-Revised Plans-Three storey rear (North West) extension, new detached double garage. Yew Tree Cottage, Linton. HR9 7RS. The following comments were made: The Parish Council noted that the roof line of the extension is shown lowered on the new plan. However members still had some concerns about the size of the extension and the suitability of the design. Also please ensure the extra drainage required and land stability is taken into account.
- 10.2.2 P239-DCSE2008/2047/F-Proposed first floor extension and new garage. Wrens Nest, Linton HR9 7RX. Council has no objections.

11 Chairman's Announcements

- 11.1 The Chairman read out a letter from the Linton & District History Society explaining that the archive CD could not be placed on the Parish website. It was always the intention that the archive should be available to researchers and interested members of the public, but some material was donated or loaned to the History Society on the understanding that this access would be controlled and not in the open public domain. The Clerk will put a note on the website advising of the availability of the CD and that enquiries can be made either via the Parish Clerk or to the Society Chairman.
- 11.2 Flicks in the sticks-Happy Go Lucky (Cert 15) Gorsley village hall on September 11th at 7:30pm.

Cllr Jean
Foley/The Clerk

12 Correspondence

- 12.1 The following correspondence was tabled.

D2385	13/08/2008	Mobile library consultation	CHDC
D2386	19/08/2008	Letter of resignation from Cllr Phil Page	
D2387	19/08/2008	Recycling wheelie bins to be provided by CHDC-Autumn 2009	CHDC
D2388	19/08/2008	Coach trip to National Archives-Kew Sept 18th 2008	CHDC
D2389	19/08/2008	Herefordshire Partnership Newsletter-Summer 08	The Herefordshire Partnership
D2390	19/08/2008	Meeting to discuss Post Office Closure-Sept 3rd 2008	CHDC
D2390	19/08/2008	Halc Seminar on Affordable Housing-Sept 25th 2008 (Left Bank-Hfd)	CHDC
D2391	19/08/2008	Quote re tree work-Linton Quarry	Forestry Operations
D2392	20/08/2008	Confirmation of renewal-Data Protection Act 1998	ICO
D2393	15/05/2008	Contractor licence for the use of Ordnance Survey Data	CHDC
D2394	22/08/2008	Vacancy notices re Cllr Phil Page	CHDC
D2395	22/08/2008	Lorrywatch news	Glouc CC
D2396	29/08/2008	G&K PC Minutes-July 3rd 2008	G&KPC
D2397	29/08/2008	G&K PC Agenda-Sept 4th 2008	G&KPC
D2398	01/09/2008	HVA News-August 2008	HVA
D2399	01/09/2008	Clerks & Councils Direct	
D2400	03/09/2008	Newsline Magazine	
D2401	06/09/2008	Community First Invitation AGM-Oct 1st 08, Minutes AGM 07, Agenda	Community First

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- 13 Councillors' Submissions, including Village Events**
- 13.1 Cllr Ken Downham asked if CHDC were liable for injury caused to pedestrians by protruding brambles where overgrown hedges were only cut back up to a height of 4 feet. Is there a reason why hedges aren't cut back to a height where they can't cause injury or obstruction? The Clerk was asked to contact CHDC.
- 13.2 Flicks in the sticks-Thursdays Sept 11th at 7:30pm in Gorsley Village Hall-Happy-Go-Lucky (Cert 15) An infectious joyous comedy about a London primary school teacher.
- 14 Public Submissions**
- 14.1 Parishioner Gwynn Rowley asked if action would be taken by the Parish Council with regards to parking on double white lines outside Gorsley Goffs School.
Cllr Max Gough said that parents are encouraged to drop their children off in the drop-off zone, but he would raise Mr Rowley's concerns at the next Governors meeting.
- 15 Items for Consideration at the Next Meeting**
- 15.1 Co-option of new Councillor
Street signs
Risk Assessment
Draft Budget 2009/10
- 16 Date of the Next Meeting**
- 16.1 The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday October 13th at 7:30 pm in Gorsley Village Hall.
- The Meeting Finished At 9:20 p.m.**
- 17 Employment Matters**
- 17.1 This item was postponed until the next meeting.