



Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council Liaison Meeting held at the Council Chamber -
Town Hall
on 23 September 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor David Over (Chairman)
Denis Batty, Glinton Parish Council
Colin Brown, Ailsworth Parish Council
Andy Goodsell, Eye Parish Council
Martin Greaves, Werrington Neighbourhood Council
David Hedges, Werrington Neighbourhood Council
Andy Totten, Bainton & Ashton Parish Council
John Bartlett, Thorney Parish Council
David Buddle, Thorney Parish Council
Jayne Mann, Castor Parish Council
Tim Pearson, Wansford Parish Council
Geoff Smith, Werrington Neighbourhood Council
Richard Tindall, Northborough Parish Council
June Woollard, Barnack Parish Council

WARD COUNCILLORS PRESENT:

Cllr David Harrington, Newborough ward

OFFICERS PRESENT:

Alex Daynes, Senior Governance Officer
Mike Heath, Commercial Services Director
Julie Rivett, Programme Delivery Manager
Matthew Hogan, Acting Housing Strategy and Enabling Officer
Leonie McCarthy, Neighbourhood Manager
Emma Black, Head of Legal Litigation
Nick Goodman, GPP

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Nick Lodge (Southorpe) and Henry Clark (Peakirk).

2. Minutes of the Meeting Held on 6 July 2009

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 July were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

3. Rural Housing Strategy and Site Allocations

A presentation and report was submitted to the members of PCL regarding the establishment of a Rural Housing Strategy. The strategy carried on work from the Rural Vision and Strategy that had previously been produced.

PCL learned of the key themes and areas of focus within the Strategy and were advised that rural communities had been invited to further comment on the site allocations options

document by 30th October 2009. Every parish council has received details but please contact nick@gpp-peterborough.org.uk for further information.

Following questions, the following comments were given:

- A further request for a planning officer to attend PCL will be made.
- A period of consultation on the proposed sites for development will take place in March/April 2010 including those in urban parishes.
- Information on Village Design Statements and whether they are still valid concerning the site allocations will be provided outside the meeting.
- Planning aids are available for Parishes to enable greater understanding of the planning process.

4. Fix It Van

A report was submitted to PCL following a recommendation from the Scrutiny Commission for Rural Communities to consult Parishes on the need for a continued Fix It Van service.

The rural Parish Councillors present expressed their desire to see the Fix It Van continue and commended the service that was provided. Members discussed services that the Fix It Van could provide in addition to its current provision.

Members agreed to endorse the continuation of the Fix It Van Service.

5. Neighbourhood Councils

A report was presented to the meeting as an introduction to the new Peterborough City Council Neighbourhood Councils. Members were advised that the Neighbourhood Manager for each area had been selected and all three would be in post by November 2009.

The responses to the four questions raised by Adrian Chapman at the last meeting would be collated outside the meeting.

Questions were raised and responses given including:

- Meetings will be held in the neighbourhood under discussion.
- The role of Parish Councils will remain the same.
- Some Council decisions will be devolved to a local level.
- The Neighbourhood Councils will consist of elected Councillors and will therefore be accountable to the public.
- Chairmen of each committee are appointed by the Leader of the Council and chosen from the local Ward Councillors.
- Not all issues will go to the Neighbourhood Council as many would be dealt with by the Neighbourhood manager.
- Parish Councillors can be co-opted onto the Neighbourhood Councils but would not have voting rights.
- The Councils are to resolve local issues and would not be political driven.

6. Parish Question Time

Parish Councillors asked the following questions:

Q. The village of Thorney is not on the Travel Choice interactive map but it is part of Peterborough. Why is it not on the map?

A. The initial funding for Travel Choice was to cover the urban area only. Travelchoice schemes are being rolled out further this year. The support officer to confirm this outside the meeting.

The chairman requested that any questions for the next meeting are sent to the support officer for the meeting in advance so that responses can be provided at the meeting.

7. Parish Council Liaison Work programme

The Chairman advised that the agenda of the PCL and Scrutiny Commission should support each other but PCL should contain issues identified by Parish Councillors too.

Recommended items for the next meeting was to receive information on Village Design Statements and speed limits.

An item was recommended for the January meeting was to receive information on the value of Neighbourhood or Parish Plans.

It was further recommended to receive a review of Neighbourhood Councils two to three times a year.

CHAIRMAN
6.30 - 7.45 pm