

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council Liaison Committee held on
26 October 2011 at the
Town Hall, Peterborough

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cllr John Holdich (Chairman)
Robert Randall, Glinton Parish Council
Gerald Kirt, Glinton Parish Council
Denis Batty, Glinton Parish Council
Jayne Mann, Castor Parish Council
David Hedges, Werrington Neighbourhood Council
Martin Greaves, Werrington Neighbourhood Council
Brenda Fearon, Orton Waterville Parish Council
David Ellis, Glinton Parish Council
Kate Day, Hampton Parish Council
David Buddle, Thorney Parish Council
Pat Murphy, Thorney Parish Council
Colin Brown, Ailsworth Parish Council
Marion Sharpe, Hampton Parish Council
Andrew Kenedler, Hampton Parish Council
Andrew Totten, Bainton & Ashton Parish Council
Richard Clarke, Wansford Parish Council
David Robinson, Newborough Parish Council
John Dadge, Northborough Parish Council
Martin Witherington, Thornhaugh Parish Council
Patricia Stuart-Mogg, Sutton Parish Council

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Cllr Diane Lamb, Glinton & Wittering Ward Councillor

OFFICERS PRESENT:

Nick Harding, Group Manager – Development Management Planning Services
Darren Sharpe, Natural & Historic Environment Manager
Julie Rivett, Neighbourhood Manager – North & West

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr David Over, Barnack Ward Councillor
Leonie McCarthy, Neighbourhoods Manager – Citywide
Joe Dobson, Helpston Parish Council
Geoff Smith, Werrington Neighbourhood Council
Andy Goodsell, Eye Parish Council
Brenda Stanojevic, Eye Parish Council
Cllr Darren Fower, Werrington South Ward Councillor
Michael Chambers, Orton Waterville Parish Council
Paul Bianchi, Orton Longueville Parish Council

2. Minutes of the Previous Meetings held on 2 February 2011

The minutes were not put forward for approval by the Chair and will be put forward at the next meeting.

3. Summary of the Government's Draft National Planning Policy Guidance & Neighbourhood Plans proposed by the Localism Bill

The Group Manager of Development management Planning Services presented to the PCL the draft national planning policy framework proposed by the localism bill. The presentation looked at the governments proposals to condense existing national Planning Policy Guidance into a single policy document with a presumption in favour of sustainable development. The presentation also took into account the Neighbourhood plans being introduced through the localism bill which give communities power to develop policies for the area in which they live.

Following the presentation the following issues were addressed:

PCC is generally supportive of the changes but more detail needed on certain points.

Any plan that is put forward must conform to PCC plan.

Neighbourhood Plans must be the subject of a referendum.

It was put to the Group Manager of Development management Planning Services that the document was unclear in a lot of its points. He responded by saying he hoped for more clarity when the government had published its final document early next year.

4. Management of Parish Council owned trees – best practice

The Natural & Historic Environment Manager from Planning Services presented to the PCL a best practice report for the management of Parish Council owned trees. The presentation looked at the benefits of trees such as their release of oxygen into the atmosphere, absorption of carbon dioxide and that they provide a habitat for local wildlife.

It was noted that in the past ten years tree failure has accounted for sixty four fatalities in the UK.

It was recommended during the presentation that trees should be assessed on a regular basis by someone who has received LANTRA accredited training.

Following the presentation the following issues were addressed:

The landowner is responsible for the upkeep of trees on his or her land even if the victim of a tree failure was trespassing.

Rural footpaths typically run through private land but if the tree is growing through the right of way then the council will take responsibility.

LANTRA offer a one day training course to gain a tree inspection qualification which costs approximately £60.00.

5. Parish Question Time

No questions were raised.

6. Parish Council Liaison Work Programme

It was agreed to look at the work programme at a future meeting.

CHAIRMAN
Closed at 8.30pm