

Peterborough Parish Council Liaison Meeting

Minutes of the Parish Council Liaison Meeting

Held at 6:30 PM on 21st March 2024 via Zoom

Hosted by Good Neighbours Rural Peterborough CIO

Present:

Clr Neil Boyce		Acting Chair Parish Liaison Group Castor Parish Council, Co-opted Member Growth, Resources and Communities Scrutiny Committee
Clr Keith Lievesley		Ufford Parish Council & Vice Chair Parish Liaison Working Group
Clr Steve Jackson		Glinton Parish Council
Clr Denis Batty		Glinton Parish Council
Clr Henry Clark		Peakirk Parish Council & CAAPALC
Clr Peter Hiller		Ward Clr and PLG Chair
Vince Moon		Werrington Neighbourhood Council
Clr Mick Grange		Sutton Parish Council
Clr Sandra Costa		Orton Longueville Parish Council
Clr Roland Pickett		Orton Waterville Parish Council
Clr Mark Ormston		Newborough & Fen Borough Council & Scrutiny Committee member
Clr Graham Stevens		Wansford Parish Council
Cate Harding		Good Neighbours-Rural Peterborough
Jane Taylor-Pitt		Good Neighbours-Rural Peterborough
Margaret Long		Thorney Parish Council
Clr Anne Perkins		Ailsworth Parish Council
Clr John Bradshaw		Wittering Parish Council
Clr Phil Thomas		Deeping Gate Parish Council
Clr Joe Dobson		Helpston Parish Council
Clr Simon Little		Southorpe Parish Council
Daryll Preston		Police and Crime Commissioner
Police Sergeant Andy Gladders		
Clair George		Safer Peterborough Partnership

Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from: Cllr Richard Clarke Wansford Parish Council, Mark Ormston Newborough Parish Council John Haste –Clerk Castor Parish Council, Glinton and Castor ward. Ian Phillips, Peterborough City Council

1. Minutes of the Parish Council Liaison Meeting held 29th November 2023

The Minutes were accepted as a true record, proposed by Cllr Long and seconded by Cllr Boyce representing the PLG Working group.

2. Policing in Rural Areas

Cllr Hiller welcomed the guest speaker: Police and Crime Commissioner Daryll Preston, Police Sergeant Andy Gladders and Claire George, Safer Peterborough Partnership.

Daryll firstly clarified that he is not a police officer but has the responsibility for ensuring the police force is operating sufficiently in the area. A Police & Crime plan, available on the website, is in place with 6 key areas including neighbourhood crime. The plan has a strong focus on crime prevention and Daryll acknowledged that there is less police visibility in the rural areas. There is a rural crime action team who link well with farmers. Crime stats have been reducing, in particular domestic burglaries and the organised crime of hare coursing which are down by 20%.

Cllr Hiller asked if actual crime stats are reducing or the reporting of crimes. Daryll confirmed that plans are under way to make the reporting of crime easier. currently Cllr John Peach is currently the deputy Police and Crime Commissioner

John Haste raised concerns about urban type crimes, like graffiti, in rural areas and yet, other than the offer of a local surgery there is no visible police presence. Henry Clark stated that traffic speed data from Speed watch is regularly submitted but there is no evidence of anything being followed up. Daryll advised that the Chief Constable has communicated directly with Bainton Parish but was unable to comment further as it is an operational matter with issues of data protection.

Andy Gladders introduced himself as the police sergeant for the Northern sector. He has 5 police officers and ½ PCSO which covers the rural areas. He acknowledged that a police presence is reassuring for residents, but this is not always possible as they cover a large area.

Mick Grange raised concerns regarding the increase of fly tipping from cannabis farms.

Henry Clark asked if it was possible to re-introduce providing crime reports as this have been helpful in the past. Andy confirmed this was possible and suggested emailing the request ahead of Parish meetings. Clair agreed to help to coordinate this.

Anne shared concerns about the increase in graffiti and fly tipping in Ailsworth and requested views on the use of trail cameras. Clair George responded to say that

council officers will support and follow up to issue fixed penalty notices if applicable
In some cases authorisation is needed with advice from the police if it involves the anti-social behaviour of individuals.

The council have recently submitted a bid for £50k for cameras to be split between urban and rural areas If the bid is successful, they will reach out to the parish councils to explore all ways of utilising the equipment. This will include waste dumped on private land. Clair also advised that work would also be needed the magistrates and media team to 'name and shame and ensure appropriate sentenced are handed out.

3. Biodiversity Net Gain – Opportunities for Parish Councils

4. Rowan Rumble, Senior Wildlife officer for Peterborough City Council shared a slide presentation (attached)

Cllr Little states that the initiatives are valued overall but how can they be enforced with all the desires for new planning sites?

Rowan advised that biodiversity is a new statutory requirement for all planning applications and the applicants must demonstrate they are going to deliver the 10% net gain required. It will be Rowan's responsibility to monitor this alongside the S106 agreement, with an additional officer that will be recruited. Cllr Boyce stated that it looks like Peterborough is losing a lot of its countryside to development what are the risks of developers engaging with other authorities to get what they want? Rowan stated that there are restrictions built into the system to prevent this.

Cllr Grange shared concerns that the work of many Parish Councils in the John Clare Countryside initiative could be at risk. He asked further what was the weight of the PCC challenge compared to letting the planning go ahead

5. Update from Scrutiny Committee

Unfortunately the Zoom meeting was accidentally ended prematurely at this point

6. Date of Next PLG Meeting.

Peterborough City Council Committee Members:

All Parish Councillors and Parish Clerks

Councillor Peter Hiller CHAIR

Substitute: Councillor

Further information about this meeting can be obtained from:

Cate Harding, Good Neighbours Rural Peterborough on:

Telephone: 07735 810139 or email: cate.harding@goodneighboursrp.org.uk

Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 19th June 2024 6:30pm via Zoom

