

**Keswick & Intwood Parish Council Meeting on 26th July 2006.
Minutes of the Meeting held at The Reading Rooms, Keswick at 19.00 hrs.**

Present: Alan Gelder (Chairman) AG; John Morrison (Councillor) JM; Cathy Cursons (Councillor) CC; John Payne (Councillor) JP; Joe Loades (Councillor) JL; Lars Tibell (Councillor) LT; Phillip Brooks (Clerk) PB.

Also present: Judith Virgo (Norfolk County Councillor) JV; Vivienne Clifford-Jackson (South Norfolk Councillor and Leader of the Council) VCJ; Chris Kemp (Councillor Cringleford Ward) CK.

Members of the public in attendance: Mrs. Margit Beavon

1. AG opened the meeting and the minutes of the meeting held on 10th May 2006 were accepted and signed as a true record.

2. Apologies were accepted from Councillor Julian Darling.

3. There was no declaration of interest in any item on the Agenda.

4. Matters arising from the minutes of the 10th May meeting:

Para 4.1. In response to Margit Beavon's comments about energy conservation, VCJ said that energy saving measures were being pursued with developers but these cost money and government must "tip the balance" to make things happen. CK said that Part L of the new Building Regulations Approved Documents increased the requirements regarding sustainability on all developers from 10th August 2006. On the matter of speed limits, AG said the "break point" for a 30 mph area was 0.5 mile of residential property on both sides of the road and with some depth (i.e. more than a single row of houses) and Low Road did not meet that requirement. However, AG agreed to contact the SNC Highways Engineer to discuss the matter of signing (in relation to people walking and horse riding) and that this should be a separate agenda item for the next meeting (**Action AG**).

Para 4.2. AG said that the Reading Room Committee had made an application for a grant to the Heritage Lottery Fund under the Awards for All programme. If the application is successful, the Parish Council will have the ultimate legal and accounting responsibility. VCJ added that Norfolk Rural Community Council also has funding available and that details could be obtained from Veronica Savage (now Hannah Cook) (**Action PB**).

Para 4.3. PB said that he had not received a reply from the SNC Planning Enforcement Officer but had been promised one within a few weeks. VCJ took a copy of the correspondence to follow up. (**Action VCJ**).

Para 9. PB said he had made arrangements to enrol for the autumn course for a CiLCA qualification.

5. JL asked for a separate meeting to complete the Audit Commission Annual Return. **(Action JL, AG, PB)**. The Clerk's expenses were agreed.

6. A motion was approved to suspend the meeting to allow members of the public an opportunity to inform the meeting. We welcomed again Mrs. Margit Beavon.

6.1. Margit drew attention to the possible state of water wells in the Parish. She had noted that the well in front of Jewson's yard and near the Iron Bedstead shop was filled with rubble and stressed what she thought was the importance of having all wells in the Parish in working order. VCJ thought it a worthwhile point to follow up. CK thought there would be an Environment Agency interest too. **(Action VCJ)**.

6.2. AG then invited the visiting Councillors to address any issues. CK said he would welcome an invitation to further meetings and the Clerk agreed to keep him (and the other Councillors) informed about future dates **(Action PB)**. JV said she was very happy to be involved with the Parish Council's activities and welcomed messages being left for her. She also mentioned a possible problem to be aware of in connection with buses and suggested that we keep a look out for them perhaps taking short cuts using roads that were not suitable. CK also mentioned traffic issues and particularly the situation in Intwood Road where there was now the prospect of having double yellow lines laid in the vicinity of the Cringleford Business Park

7. Parish Plan Progress. The following input was provided by those attending:

- CK said he thought it important for there to be a questionnaire for everyone (rather than one per household). He wondered whether the plan was intended for Keswick or Keswick and Intwood which sparked a discussion about composition of the Parish and its history – it was thought the two came together some 400 years ago. CK observed that in the SNC Yearbook the Parish was referred to simply as Keswick and said he would explore the reason for this with Alex Evans (Democratic Services SNC) **(Action CK)**;
- VCJ said there should be a focus on young people with a question for them to answer about sports and leisure facilities. That question might usefully include reference to the stables in the area and invite reaction from parishioners generally about them. A question relating to crime prevention could also usefully be included. She also recommended having the option for people to put their name and contact details on the questionnaire and suggested a Parish meeting timed to coincide with distribution of the questionnaire which SNC Democratic Services could help to organize; and
- JV said it would be helpful for the introduction to stress the importance of responding thoughtfully as this would help the district and county councils to plan for the next five to ten years.

8. Keswick Hall Bus Service Questionnaire. AG explained that the questionnaire was intended to gather evidence of demand for a bus service at the Hall which could be presented to the operator. JP said that:

- disappointingly, only four occupiers of offices within the Hall complex
- had responded to the questionnaire;
- 25% of the questionnaires distributed had been returned (30 out of 120); and

- most people that had responded were seeking bus services along routes that were not planned.

His conclusion therefore was that it was not so much that the existing route (along the Mulbarton Road) should be diverted to serve the Hall but that a new route should be created. JV said that a new route was being planned for Brettingham Avenue so there was a possibility of getting new routes in place where there was evidence of a requirement.

There was also discussion about the viability of using the Door to Door and Car Link services. However, the former was intended mainly for disabled people and even combined with the latter, this would not provide a total solution. VCJ mentioned a number of villages that had put car sharing schemes together and this might be a possible alternative at the Hall – she said that Florence Ellis at SNC could provide some help and guidance in this regard. PB said he would follow this up. AG asked JP to ask Hall resident Mrs. Pordage whether she had heard anything further from Richard Bacon MP (who had been involved in correspondence with her at an earlier stage) (**Action PB, JP**).

AG referred to the other issue involving residents of the Hall which was walking down to the bus shelter (on the Mulbarton Road) by way of the narrow connecting road which was unsafe for pedestrians at the best of times and particularly so during the winter months. An alternative option was to create a new path across the field (between the Hall and Mulbarton Road). Initially this was thought likely to be difficult because the land was not owned locally but by the Church Commissioners (going back to the time when the Hall was a Church of England training college). Peter Riches would be happy to explore the options available for a path crossing the land and would be attending the next Parish Council meeting to explain how this might be achieved. VCJ said she was aware that the Diocese was reviewing all of its land and has the contact details that might enable us to dovetail these two things. (**Action PB**).

9. Planning Application. 2006/1571. Pitched Roof Wooden Shed at Riverside Cottage, Mill Lane Keswick. This was deferred until there had been an opportunity for AG to complete outstanding inquiries.

10. Any Other Business.

10.1. Councillors wondered what planning permissions had been granted for work being undertaken at 29 Low Road and PB was asked to investigate (**Action PB**).

10.2. It had been noticed that there was evidence of camp fires having been made in the vicinity of Beech Walk. This was dangerous and especially so during a dry spell. VCJ said she would find out if SNC could provide suitable warning signs and CC agreed to speak to Peter Riches about having signs displayed (**Action VCJ, CC**).

10.3. It was also noted that the public telephone outside the Reading Room was awaiting repair – JP agreed to follow this up with BT (**Action JP**).

10.4. CC raised a number of points relating to overgrown vegetation especially in the area of Low Farm where high nettles were hampering visibility of oncoming traffic; and the old lay-by on the Mulbarton Road where people could not be seen walking through the area. AG said he would follow this up with the Highways Department (**Action AG**).

10.5. A point was raised about buses not stopping at the shelter on Mulbarton Road. Apparently drivers cannot see people waiting in the shelter and consequently are passing by leaving passengers standing. JP said he would ask the bus company to ask drivers to make a point of stopping or slowing down to ensure people were not missed (**Action JP**).

10.6. JP said he had been to an Emergency Planning meeting and was developing a suitable plan for the Parish. In particular he was developing a book of contact details including such information as people with specialist or relevant skills likely to be helpful in an emergency. AG suggested it would also be helpful to maintain information about incoming families so they could be given additional help if required (**Action JP**).

10.7. There was a brief discussion about the travellers' site near the Harford Bridge Park and Ride being cleared. VCJ confirmed that travellers were paying council tax but this fact was seldom reported by the Media. Moreover, she said that factors such as the need to have regular work meant that less travelling was being done than happened in the past; and there was therefore a duty for local authorities to find them fixed sites. In reply to a question from AG, VCJ said that information would be made available to Parish Clerks about what the requirements were for a fixed site.

10.8. JL raised the question of whether the Parish Council was prepared to share the cost of providing notice boards with the Keswick and Intwood churches. AG said the Parish Council would make a contribution.

11. The dates for the next meetings were set for: Monday 25th September (Parish Plan working meeting); and Wednesday 27th September (Parish Council Meeting). Both meetings would commence at 19.00 at the Reading Room.

The meeting closed at 22.00.

Phillip Brooks. Parish Clerk.
3rd July 2006.