

**MOULTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Date:** Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2008

**Time:** 7.15pm **Venue:** Moulton Village Hall

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**94/08 Conduct a Public Session**

Several residents attended the meeting to raise their objections to planning application DA/2008/0512. Concerns include; the field is now classified as a brownfield site as it has a small 'gas' building on it, and not as a Greenfield site in the previous application; traffic generated, additional run off from the development and inadequate parking facilities at the Doctor's Surgery.

A number of residents spoke of the parking problems in Siddons Way; the damage being done to the grass verge and that Heyford Homes had not properly reinstated the verge damaged by contractor's vehicles. Mr Meech also mentioned landscaping vehicles parking on the path and verge to access the shop opposite, cars driving across the grass verge to access Siddons Way and vehicles parking on the cobbled area at the junction of Ashley Lane impairing visibility for other drivers.

Mike Austin spoke of his interest in agenda item 103/08 Bob Eady Trust and informed council that he had been scanning much of the information onto C.D.'s, including his own personal photographs.

**95/08 Record Attendance, Apologies, Absence**

**Attendance:**

Councillors (Parish): Cllr Baldwin, Cllr B Care (Chairman), Cllr S Care,  
Cllr Gray, Cllr Kirk, Cllr Midmer, Cllr Sheldon, Cllr Ward,

Councillors (District): None

Clerk: Mrs J Austin

Residents: 8

**Apologies:**

Cllr Clipston (prior commitment), Cllr Fletcher (prior commitment)  
Cllr Johnson (holiday), Cllr Morrow (holiday), Cllr Swannell  
(work commitments), Cllr White (family commitment)  
District Councillor Cribbin

**Absence:**

none

It was **resolved** to accept the apologies of the absent councillors.

**96/08 Record any Declarations of Interest on subjects included on this agenda**

None

**97/08 Accept Minutes of Council Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2008**

With unanimous agreement, it was **resolved** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

**98/08 Progress any Matters Arising from previous Minutes**

**23/08** The Clerk has been contacted by Mr Norris wishing to discuss the possibility of the planting of additional trees to provide a tree screen. Cllr Gray and the Clerk to meet with Mr Norris.

**86/08 (1)** Andy Leighton from Northamptonshire County Council is coming to Moulton on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June for an informal discussion to discuss the possible siting of additional double yellow lines. The Clerk has received quotes for 20mph 'repeater' signs - £37.40 + VAT each. Solar powered flashing 'slow down' signs -£3983 + VAT supplied and fitted. It was **resolved** to give the Clerk delegated powers to approach Nick Gore for the correct procedure to progress both matters and liaise with Sgt Grady as to the number and positioning of 'repeater' signs required and purchase same.

Questionnaires to determine the need for a Daventry Outreach Service were distributed on Festival Saturday. 68 questionnaires were returned on the day and 61 people indicated they would use the service. The next issue of 'Daventry Calling' is imminent and issues delivered to Holcot, Pitsford, Moulton, Boughton and Overstone will contain a questionnaire. Parish Councillors to encourage residents to complete the questionnaire and return to Daventry District Council.

**87/08** The Clerk reported that some responses had been received from County Councillor Judy Shephard and District Councillor Cribbin regarding issues discussed at the recent Annual Parish Meeting.

**90/08** Cllr Kirk and Cllr Fletcher were asked at the last meeting to ask if the Moulton Environment Group would co-ordinate the campaign to reduce the number of plastic carrier bags in Moulton. Cllr Kirk has not yet been able to ask the group.

### **99/08 Planning Related Matters**

#### **1. Agree responses to the following Planning Applications:**

The following responses were agreed for the Clerk to submit to the DDC Planning Authority.

##### **a) DA/2008/0512 Outline application for demolition of existing dwelling, redevelopment of the site and the paddock to the rear to provide 5 dwellings (2 two storey, 2 two and a half storey and one bungalow) with associated garages and turning space. Land at and to the rear of 116 Northampton Lane North.**

It was unanimously **resolved** to recommend **OBJECT** to the above application and submit the following comments:

Concerns were as follows: loss of privacy – access road to development would mean vehicles would pass right by the lounge window of 118 Northampton Lane North leading to a lack of privacy, initially from building traffic, then subsequent residents traffic, proposed new dwellings would overlook neighbouring properties and gardens, mains pipe underneath existing access road is not suitable to cope with heavy traffic, considerable congestion exists already with high volume of traffic generated by Doctor's Surgery, with cars already parking on the main road as insufficient parking is available within the Doctor's Surgery.

Residents living across the road from the proposed development were angry that they had not received any notification about the planning application, particularly as the development would overlook their gardens and demanded to know why.

Other areas of concern included: Paddock is designated agricultural land, lying outside the Parish building line, inadequate number of car parking spaces have been allocated per 5 bed dwelling (2 per house), inaccurate plans show sycamore tree to be 35m from new dwelling, resident has checked measurement and found it to be only 20m away – damage to tree inevitable, existing problems with flooding on Northampton Lane will be exacerbated by tarmac road from new development onto Northampton Lane, poor visibility onto an already busy road, access road to development very narrow – no passing room for vehicles will cause traffic build up on Northampton Lane, development opposite elderly persons bungalows will increase the dangerous nature of the road preventing occupants from crossing the road to attend the Doctor's Surgery particularly as there was no footpath further along the road.

Concerns were also raised about the adverse affect on wildlife in the area- pheasants and various species of birds live in the paddock and a badger had been seen on site.

The proposed development contravenes DDC planning policy HS36 on backland development in several ways, particularly breaking the guidelines on points D and E listed within the policy: four houses are considerably higher than the existing properties on Northampton Lane and will be seen over the top of the housing, the house on plot no 6 looks directly into 112 Northampton Lane North, the existing track is not wide enough to accommodate more than one vehicle at a time causing probable congestion for egress and exit onto site, adding to present poor highway visibility and is insufficient for development. It is unnecessary to demolish existing property – the village benefits from having individual, traditional housing within its boundaries.

Further comments: There is an open manhole cover, which is used as an inspection site for a large gas pipe – totally unsuitable to support the weight of large vehicles. A number of trees have already been cut down; the majority of trees shown on the plan are in neighbouring properties and not on the development site. The access road measures 4.3m only and not 4.5m as shown on the plans. The land is at least 3m higher than the land on NLN. A traffic survey carried out in November 2007 showed a total of 47,300 vehicle movements each week. Northampton Lane has a significant flooding and drainage problem, this development will increase this.

Clerk to notify the Highways Agency and the utility companies of the proposed development.

##### **b) DA/2008/0550 Conservatory to rear, 30 Lunchfield Lane**

It was unanimously **resolved** to recommend **SUPPORT** of the above application

## 2. Report on recent Planning Decisions

The following responses have previously been submitted to DDC Planning Authority:

### **b) DA/2008/0482 Screen wall between dwelling and parking area, 6 Lunchfield Court.**

**Unanimous agreement to recommend SUPPORT** with the following comments: All neighbours have been informed and have no objections, there are no builder's covenants preventing development of this type being undertaken.

### **b) DA/2008/0500 Outline application for residential development consisting of approximately 500 dwellings with open space, structural landscaping, highways and drainage infrastructure works (all matters reserved except means of access) Land at Brampton Lane, Boughton (Buckton Fields East).**

**Unanimous agreement to recommend OBJECT**, restating the original comments and adding further comments:

- The current DDC Local Plan states that development at Buckton Fields should be conditional on 'no more than 150 dwellings are occupied until Stage 1 of the Northampton north west bypass is open'.
- Traffic in Kingsthorpe is already stated as being 'at capacity'.
- The development has been designed with a strong emphasis on the use of Sustainable Transport and the implementation of traffic calming methods by the developer. However, both DDC in the HS2 policy for Buckton Fields and Northampton Town Strategy together with Northampton Modal Study 2006/07 believe that as well as improvements to public transport, walking and cycling routes there is a requirement for an outer orbital route or north west bypass. Originally DDC felt that no more than 520 dwellings should be occupied until stage 1 of the bypass was open, a park and ride scheme, bus routes, cycling and pedestrian routes completed. We therefore believe that the advice of these bodies should be followed before completion of the Buckton Fields development.

This development will have a huge impact on traffic flow and because of the traffic already at capacity in Kingsthorpe we are aware of people from the Buckton Fields area using Boughton and Moulton as a cut through to the A43.

The parish council remains unconvinced that the new Transport Strategy is workable and feel that traffic in the surrounding area of the development will increase. The existing volume of traffic in the area is not conducive to the proposed alternative travel methods i.e. cycle routes, park and ride. The proposed development will have a detrimental effect on the character of the surrounding villages i.e. The Bramptons and Boughton.

The parish council suggests that a comprehensive survey is carried out on drivers from the surrounding areas and drivers who use the A5119 and A508 to ascertain exactly who would use the alternative forms of transport.

### **c) Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999 (As amended) Request for a Scoping Opinion in Respect of a proposed wind farm at Lodge Farm (north of Brixworth) Northamptonshire**

**Unanimous agreement to submit the following comments and request answers to the questions posed:**

The parish council is strongly opposed to further wind farms in Northamptonshire; The Brampton Valley Way has been designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the proposed wind farm would detract from the existing landscape. If Northamptonshire has already exceeded its target for ecological energy by 66%, why is another wind farm proposed? The proposed site is a great distance from the National Grid or any power lines. The turbines are sited only 50m from the road and would prove a distraction to motorists.

There are several other proposed wind farms in Northamptonshire, can the locations be confirmed? At what stage will the necessity for another one be confirmed? What firm commitment is there to remove all above ground hardware at the end of the operational life of the wind farm?

The following applications have been decided upon by DDC:

- a) **DA/2007/1327** Pedestrian access to Moulton Primary School **GRANTED**
- b) **DA/2008/0346** Detached double garage at front of dwelling 75 Park View **REFUSED**
- c) **DA/2008/0348** Timber framed pergola forming covered external area The Artichoke **GRANTED**
- d) **DA/2008/0349** Listed Building Consent for timber framed pergola forming covered external area The Artichoke **GRANTED**
- e) **DA/2008/0388** First floor extension above garage – ground floor extended to front (amended design) 16 Ashley Lane **GRANTED**

### 3. Other Planning Matters

#### a) **Moulton Mill, Spectacle Lane, APP/Y2810/C/07/2043722 and 24**

Appeal by applicant dismissed.

- #### b) **DA/2007/0644**
- The height of the front boundary wall has been measured and found to be in excess of the agreed height on the planning application. Dave Smith, Daventry District Council Enforcement Officer has visited the site and the developer has agreed to lower the wall in Accordance with the plan.

## 100/08 Finance Related Matters

### 1. **Propose payments and sign cheques**

It was **resolved** to make the payments and sign the cheques.

Authorised payments were as follows

Bushbaby Computing	(£408.00)
MAST	(£2,500.00)
Shaun Lambley (labour)	(£590.00)
Shaun Lambley (materials)	(£168.94)
On demand (Moulton Scene)	(£3,380.00)
Cyber Signs (repair BM sign)	(£29.38)
Shurville Signs (underpayment on last invoice)	(£28.20)
BT (Clerk's home)	(£185.54)
BT (Village hall)	(£79.99)
J Austin (litterpickers)	(£31.96)
J. Austin (stationary/pc firewall)	(£121.55)
NCC Pensions	(£345.83)
J Austin (June salary)	(£934.92)
D. Torpey (June salary)	(£75.00)
D Archer (allotment rotavation)	(£139.52)
Petty Cash Reimbursement	(£100.00)
John Bland (trees cemetery)	(£630.00)

### 2. **Feedback from Internal Auditor**

The internal audit for 2007/08 has recently been completed and the internal auditor is able to confirm to the Council that there are no issues that need bringing to the attention of the Council.

### 3. **Consider purchase of Fire Proof Filing Cabinet**

The Clerk has requested that a Fire Proof Filing Cabinet be purchased to store Burial Registers, Deeds Etc. It was **resolved** to purchase a Phoenix Fire File 2244 at a cost of £749.00 + VAT. Clerk to progress.

## 101/08 Properties Related Matters

### 1. **Public Gardens**

#### a) **Electrical Supply – obtain quotes for repair of door and internal works**

It had been noted recently that the door to the electrical supply in the Gardens was in need of repair and the internal works should be tested for safety. It was **resolved** to delegate powers to The Clerk to progress repairs up to a value of £500.

#### b) **Installation of hosepipe**

Work not yet carried out. It was **resolved** for the Clerk to pursue further quotes.

#### c) **Consider purchase of additional security measures – prikka strip**

PC Gary Wright has recommended this product as an additional security measure to prevent intruders gaining access to the Public Gardens during the evening. It is secured onto the top of fences and is the legal alternative to barbed wire. The product costs £2 per metre and is available from the Community Safety Officer at Northants Police. It was **resolved** for the Clerk to progress this.

d) **Consider quote for removal of dead willow tree**

There is a dead willow tree at the bottom of the Public Gardens adjacent to the staging. A quote of £280 has been received to fell the tree. It was **resolved** to delegate powers to the Clerk to progress this. Conservation Area Consent not required for removal of a dead tree.

e) **Consider quote for trimming 2 trees (silver maple and apple)**

A quote of £65 has been received to trim the two trees blocking light from a property in Church Mews. The resident has offered to contribute to the cost. It was **resolved** for the Clerk to progress this, request a contribution of £30 from the resident and obtain Conservation Area Consent for the work.

Cllr B Care mentioned that a tree in Barlow Lane needed trimming back or removing. It was **resolved** to obtain a quote to remove or trim the tree.

f) **Additional Works**

After some discussion it was **resolved** for the Clerk to obtain quotes to extend the tarmac staging by approximately 3m x 4.7m to finish at the end of the path. Clerk to progress

## 2. Cemetery

a) **Burial Regulations/Burial Records**

The Clerk has recently attended a Cemetery Management Course and advised Council of the latest requirements for all contractors working in the cemetery. It was **resolved** for the Clerk to write to all Stonemasons, Funeral Directors, Grave Diggers, Ground workers etc and obtain copies of their Public Liability Insurance and Risk Assessments for the work they are carrying out. Stonemasons also need to confirm they are working to BS standards when installing a Memorial.

The Clerk informed council that burial records should now be computerised and grave owners written to at the end of the period of the Grant (i.e. 100 years) to ask if they wish to renew the Grant period. Clerk to progress this.

b) **Plan of Cemetery**

The plan of the cemetery is a statutory document and legal requirement. Records are available for the newer parts of the cemetery but a plan needs to be made of the old part of the Cemetery. Cllr Kirk is aware of an existing plan. It was **resolved** that Cllr Kirk will assist the Clerk and look for the existing plan or draw up a new one.

c) **Formal Memorial Inspection**

All memorials should be formally tested once every 5 years and tested by the parish council annually. It was **resolved** that the 2 Cemetery Wardens, Cllr Kirk and Cllr Sheldon would meet in the cemetery with the Clerk and carry out an inspection. If any memorials need repairing, the Clerk will write to the family concerned and request the memorial be made safe. If the memorial is less than 10 years old then the stonemasons are responsible.

The Clerk reported that she had been approached by a neighbour of the cemetery requesting the parish council trim back the boundary hedges from his access road. It was **resolved** to write to the landowner stating that the parish council were happy for him to trim the hedges on his property and dispose of the cuttings himself or otherwise place them back into the cemetery.

d) **Moles**

There is a problem with moles in the cemetery. It was **resolved** to delegate powers to the Clerk to contact Abington Pest Control to resolve the problem.

## 3. Feedback from Allotment Association Sub-Committee Meeting

The Clerk reported that all was well at the allotments. Only one plot remains to be let. The Allotment Association has requested the use of a chemical toilet at a cost of £20 per week on a trial basis for the summer. It was **resolved** to allow this. Clerk to progress. It was **resolved** to purchase 2 x 10mph signs for the service road to discourage speeding. The Allotment Association are investigating the possibility of starting a small shop for plot holders selling seeds and sundries. It was **resolved** to support this. Clerk to check with NALC to ensure council complies with Financial Regulations.

## 4. Consider Purchase of 2 New Seats

It was **resolved** to purchase 2 new Stanford seats at a cost of £717.51 + VAT each. One to be sited at the Chater Street Seating Area and one to be sited at the Overstone Road Seating Area. It was **Resolved** to remove the bushes at the front of the current seating area and place the seat nearer the Path and plant the shrubs at the back of the area.

#### **5. Consider Purchase of 5 new litter bins**

It was **resolved** to purchase 3 'super trimline' litter bins at a cost of £43.15 + VAT each - 2 for use on the railings outside the primary school and 1 for use by the new seat on Northampton Lane.

It was **resolved** to purchase 3 'Topsy Jubilee' litter bins at a cost of £196.10 + VAT each . 2 for use in Pound Lane and 1 for use in Northampton Lane near the entrance to Moulton Leys.

It was **resolved** to place the old litter bins on Park View.

#### **6. Consider Purchase of 2 new dog waste bins**

It was **resolved** to purchase 2 new dog waste bins at a cost of £119.47 + VAT each. 1 to be sited behind the Information Board in Barlow Lane and 1 to be sited at the Overstone Road/Park View junction.

#### **102/08 Appointment of a Parish Councillor as a Tree Warden**

Cllr Midmer offered to become the Parish Council Tree Warden. Plans to be drawn up of the Cemetery and Public Gardens. List to be compiled of all the significant trees in the parish. It was **resolved** to appoint Cllr Midmer as Tree Warden.

#### **103/08 Bob Eady Trust – Listing the Collection**

##### **Standing Orders suspended to allow Mr M Austin to speak.**

Mr Austin explained that he had been gradually copying the collection onto CD's and had already listed a large amount of the collection.

##### **Standing Orders resumed.**

It was **resolved** that Gordon Poole would liaise with the clerk and Mr M Austin (Moulton History Society Archivist) to ascertain the time needed for listing the Bob Eady Collection. It was **resolved** that all items from the Collection, including any CD's copied by Mr Austin, be marked as 'Copyright Moulton Parish Council' and written approval of the council must be obtained by other organisations prior to use.

#### **104/08 Noise from Aerobatic Practice (Sywell Aerodrome)**

It was **resolved** for the Clerk to write to Sywell Aerodrome and complain about the increase in noise from aerobatic display practices and send copies of the correspondence to the Environmental Health Officers at Daventry District Council and Wellingborough Council.

#### **105/08 Feedback from Pubwatch Meeting**

The Clerk reported that an extraordinary Pubwatch meeting had taken place following the violent disorder on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May. All gang members involved in the incident had been banned indefinitely from Moulton Pubwatch.

#### **106/08 Review of Outstanding Council Matters**

The Chair expressed concern that some responsibilities and work tasks undertaken by Councillors were not being completed and a considerable amount of the Clerk's time was being wasted in chasing these matters. Cllr Sheldon has completed the Village Design Statement. It was **resolved** to forward it to Karen Britton at Daventry District Council for comment.

#### **107/08 Review Correspondence**

**a)** Clerk has received a copy of a letter to a resident from Moulton College re: parking situation. It was **resolved** to respond to the letter via the Chair of Governors. Clerk to email Councillors with a draft letter before sending for perusal.

**b)** Invitation received from Moulton College to Presentation Days in July. Councillors to contact Clerk if able to attend.

**c)** Invitation to Parish and Town Council Meeting at Daventry on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2008. Councillors to contact Clerk if able to attend.

**d)** Letter received from Moulton College in response to Clerk's request for a copy of the Travel Plan. The Travel Plan will be available late summer.

#### **108/08 Address Any Other Business Items with no resolutions**

**a)** Cllr Ward mentioned changes in aircraft routes/stacking at Luton airport could result in additional air traffic over Moulton. It was agreed to monitor the situation.

- b) Cllr S Care mentioned that a local resident was interested in sharing his ideas for youth provision with the parish council.
- c) Cllr Midmer asked if a reply had been received from the resident in Church Hill re: stone wall. The Clerk replied that the letter to the resident would be sent shortly.

**109/08 Confirm next Meeting Date**

The dates of the next meeting was confirmed as follows:

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2008**

Meeting Closed at 9.30pm

**Copies to:**

Parish Councillors (14), District Councillors (2), Moulton Library

**Chairman's Acceptance Signature.....Date.....**