

## **TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 16th APRIL 2003 in the Methodist Hall immediately following the Annual Parish Meeting**

**Chairman:** Councillor M Kennett

**Present:** Councillors Mrs Wardman, Mrs Billenness, C Saunders, W J Bowyer, N Waller, C Billenness, R Lumley.

**In attendance:** County Cllr Savage, District Cllr Sturdy, Mrs J Bygate (Internal Auditor), Mrs G Firth (Clerk to the Council), Mrs F Steed (VH Management Committee), 3 members of the public.

**Apologies for absence** - were received from Cllr Sturdy, who would attend later following an earlier meeting, Cllrs Alderton and Pick.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### **Police Matters**

There was no Police Officer in attendance and no report which had been requested.

Cllr Bowyer gave a report on the recent CaP Group meeting at Boroughbridge, which he felt had been of limited use to the members attending.

It had been reported that 30 new Community Constables and 17 new Police Constables had been appointed but only for the urban areas of the Harrogate District.

Auto crime in the District had risen by 78%, residents were advised not to encourage burglaries by leaving valuables in cars, in plain sight and to lock cars away in garages if possible.

Cllr Waller provided updated crime figures for the Parish.

Cllr Bowyer agreed to provide a report for the next meeting on a Company acting locally and using methods of pressure selling of burglar alarms.

#### **Minutes of the last Meeting**

The Minutes having been circulated and taken as read were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising from the Minutes

A1 Upgrade - Cllr Billenness reported that the woodland at Cowthorpe was permanent forestry in that it would be cropped in rotation and replanted as felling occurred.

Reports had been received that a quarry, 1 mile south of Cowthorpe, would be used during the road construction works.

Resolved that the Clerk write to NYCC Minerals & Waste Planning Unit and the RMS Community Liaison Officer asking for confirmation of this quarry having approval and asking why this Parish Council had not been informed of the planning application/proposals.

Authority was delegated to Cllr C Billenness and the Clerk to progress the matter of a new

photocopier.

Skateboard park at Green Hammerton - it was reported that the facility is little used.

Skateboard park for Tockwith - this Council is waiting for the young people, who attended a previous meeting, to come back with information and proposals, which they agreed to provide, before this project can go any further.

Allotments - at Bridlepath were reported to be much tidier now.

## **Village Hall**

Lease and Management Company formation - Cllr Billenness reported that there remained only minor details to be completed.

The Council's Solicitor had advised that ALL Trustees should be directors of the Limited Company.

The Registered Office of the Company would be required to have a plaque outside to fulfil Company legislation.

Resolved that the Clerk contact Ware & Kay to discover the cost of being the Registered Office and placing the plaque at their premises.

## General -

Boxing in pipework - three quotations had been received. Resolved to accept the cheapest quotation and proceed with the works.

Water heating - a reply was awaited about the costs of alternative proposals. Resolved that the Village Hall Chairman would provide the Clerk with a specification of water quantity and temperature required following which alternative quotations would be sought for the work.

Roof repairs - the Council had not received a reply but the VH Management Committee had received a reply from the contractor who did the last emergency repair work, but quoting for the whole amount of works required to the roof following the Structural Survey. Resolved that the contractor be contacted again and asked to quote for the emergency repairs only. Alternative quotations would be sought for the additional works.

Money held in VH/CC savings account - resolved that in accordance with the terms of the original proposals this be transferred to the VH Management Committee.

Cllrs stressed the importance of showing financial prudence.

The County and District Cllrs said that they would have Member Budgets for this financial year and may be able to offer grants to help with the costs. They were both thanked for this offer.

The VH Committee agreed to pay a grant (of up to £800) to the Council once the full costs of the projects were known.

*Standing Orders were suspended.*

The VH Committee Chairman said the central heating was much appreciated by Hall users.

The Council confirmed they would not be undertaking works to the drains or roofs at this time.

A comments book had been initiated for Hall users and, although early days yet, it was apparent that damage was being caused to the Hall, especially on Youth Club nights and following teenage parties. It would appear that the grounds at the rear are being used at night without permission.

*Standing Orders were resumed.*

The Chairman advised that the Parish Council, as owners of the building, have indemnity from NYCC with regard to Youth Club activities which cause damage. He suggested a record of all the instances should be made and passed to the Council, who would take up the matter with NYCC.

It was suggested that the Terms of Hire for the Hall should be tightened and the boundaries of the property made secure.

### **Standing Orders/Financial Regulations**

The Chairman said the aim was to have the smallest number of Standing Orders in order for the Council to operate properly.

As some Cllrs had not received their copies, it was resolved that the Clerk provide all Cllrs with a copy containing the Clerk's annotations. This could then be discussed at the May Meeting.

The Internal Auditor wished Cllrs to take special notice of item 67 under FR and "beef it up" if necessary.

Skateboard Facility in Tockwith

As there was no representative in attendance, from the group of young people who had promised to get back to the Council with their proposals, this item was deferred to a future meeting.

### **Footpath PRD to School**

The County Cllr reported that the hold up was because the landowners, Evans of Leeds, were not prepared to cooperate.

Cllr Bowyer agreed to supply the file he had been given, detailing the history of the roads and footpaths across the land in question to the County Cllr, Cllr Lumley and Miss Coote at NYCC Footpaths at Fulford.

### **Terrorism Insurance**

Cllr Billenness said this was something the Council should consider as they owned a public building.

Resolved that the Clerk contact the Insurers and ask for the cost of extending Insurance cover to include the Village Hall.

### **Field off Tockwith Lane**

The Chairman said he would like to see the land in community use, perhaps as open access woodland or a venue for Scout camps. The Council has a remit to enhance the community.

Cllrs were requested to ask around the community for suggestions and to ask groups they had contact with such as the TRA and an item could be put in the Council newsletter to be distributed in May.

## **Report by County Councillor**

The Carers Resource - funded by the PCT but extra funding not being given this year so activities will have to cease.

The County Cllr requested that all Parish Councils wrote to the PCT to support this very worthwhile cause.

Cattal Bridge - NYCC were suggesting a 13T gross vehicle weight limit but the County Cllr wished for a 7.5T restriction so that another route to the Business Park was not opened up along country lanes. He asked for the Parish Council's support.

Traffic Lights at Cattal Bridge - are in place but there is a problem getting electricity to them. This should be resolved in the near future.

The Cllr had received complaints about the access to the Business Park from Rudgate. This was being followed up.

Biffa - a meeting of all concerned parties had been held at County Hall. It had been stated that Biffa want to be good neighbours and along with North Riding Waste Management are prepared to attend meetings of the Parish Council and TRA. Cllr Savage agreed to Chair such meetings if that would be helpful.

The Chairman said the Council would discuss this and arrange to invite them to a future meeting.

Bad smells from the Business Park - after the 1st of May no food waste will be treated without being sterilised.

*Standing Orders were suspended.*

A resident complained about the lack of signs to the Business Park at the top of Rudgate.

The County Cllr replied that new signs are to be provided during the update works at the cross roads.

Heavy lorries are still passing through Tockwith but as they are foreign it is assumed nothing can be done. Residents are still urged to report this to the Police, with registration numbers if possible, as if there are enough complaints something must be done.

*Standing Orders were resumed.*

The County Cllr was thanked for his report.

## **Report by District Councillor**

East House Farm planning application, for demolition of existing buildings, due to be heard at DC Committee on Thursday next, deferred from last month because of procedural irregularities. Cllr Mrs Wardman to attend on behalf of the PC.

Litter bins/Dog bins - a new litter bin had been approved for Westfield Green and replacement bins, with lids, for Marston Road and Westfield Road/Fleet Lane.

Kerbside recycling - a letter should have been hand delivered last Tuesday but not all residents had received one. This was being followed up. A trial period of a second initiative allowing residents to keep their own boxes may happen but it is believed this will cost more because of

the time increase.

Planning application at Hangar 88 - HBC Environmental Health had been asked to address the issue of the overloaded skips.

Tockwith Airfield unauthorised buildings - the Enforcement Officer had been given a map of the buildings causing concern and the matter was being dealt with.

HBC had debated a Notice of Motion regarding support for the Carer's Resource.

Noise from the airfield - there had been very little noise from the go-karts, only the model aircraft.

The District Cllr was thanked for his report.

He agreed to provide his annual report to the Clerk for inclusion in the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting.

### **Correspondence**

Items 34 to 49 were made known to Cllrs.

HBC - Landscape Character Assessment South East Area meeting - Cllrs Kennett,

C Billenness, Mrs Wardman, W Bowyer, N Waller and C Saunders agreed to attend.

Mr S Milner was to be invited to attend and Cllr Mrs Wardman agreed to let ACS know.

Royal Mail - the Clerk to copy the letter to the local Postmistress assuring her of the Council's support if such a service could be provided.

Allotments, Church Row - the Clerk to contact HBC for information about the access and Rights of Way issues.

The Probation Service - had been contacted and the Council was assured that arrangements would be put in place to dig over the Westfield Green planted beds.

Bus timetable fixture - the Clerk had contacted NYCC who had promised to deliver a sign box and fixings over the Easter weekend.

Litter - the Clerk had received a complaint from a resident about the untidy state of the footpaths in Tockwith with dog dirt, leaves, seeds and silt blocking the roadside gulleys.

Elwess's field along Marston Road - complaints had been received about youths using the land for car racing. This was reported to the Police. Recently a ditch had been dug across the field to prevent access from Marston Road.

Photocopier - the Clerk reported the difficulties she had experienced in finding a local supplier for the make and model suggested by Cllr Billenness.

Structural survey VH addendum - a verbal report was passed on by the Clerk, detailing works required to replace loose render on the front wall, make safe slipping coping stones on the RHS brick wall, repair to the mesh fence at the rear.

## **Planning**

Rivendell Cottage, Kendal Lane - erection of two storey rear extension and single storey side extension. No objections to this application.

Southfield Lodge, Southfield Lane - conversion of printing works/offices to form 1 no new dwelling, including new package treatment plant and formation of vehicular access.

No objections to this application.

Lendon Croft, Cowthorpe - erection of attached single garage and flood defence works including erection of rear wall. No objections to this application.

### **Oak Tree House, Cowthorpe - erection of detached garage/snooker room with first floor storage (revised scheme).**

The Parish Council continues to object to this application, which has not addressed the concerns raised at the time of the original application. The previous application was refused on the grounds of conflict with Policies A1 and HD20 of the Harrogate District Local Plan. The revised scheme is not different enough to overcome the Policy objections. The proposed garage is disproportionately large and in an inappropriate location, given that it is higher than one storey and introduces domestic paraphernalia into what was once an agricultural field to the rear of properties along Oak Road/Tockwith Lane. All the proposed windows in the "garage" face the gardens of adjacent properties, one of which is single storey and there are no windows at all facing the derelict properties immediately adjacent to the South. The proposed building looks more like a residential bungalow. If approval of this application is recommended it is considered important to append a condition stating that this building should only be used as ancillary to the main three storey dwelling.

Anglo Baits Ltd, Blind Lane - erection of replacement industrial unit with integral office accommodation to fall within Use Classes B1 and B2.

The Council objects to this application on the grounds that no application would be supported which would generate more vehicular traffic, especially HGV's, on Blind Lane, which is a single track Lane with passing places. As Blind Lane is a Public Bridleway, it is very well used by local riders, especially the young people who attend the adjacent Riding School. Additional heavy traffic on this narrow lane would not be compatible with the safety of riders. The original Bait Farm was Classed as Sui Generis and not general industry, so the Council would question whether permission for general industrial use is appropriate in this rural location.

Planning decisions and enforcement issues were made known.

## **Accounts**

### **Bank balances**

Lloyds Bank Treasurer's a/c (as at 30.03.03) 7,211.91

National Savings Bank (Norfolk) a/c 152.02

National Savings Bank Investment a/c 358.28

## **Accounts to pay/ratify**

R Renier - VH Structural Survey 176.25

YLCA - annual subscriptions 243.00

## **Receipts**

Allotment rents 55.00

Resolved that the Bank balances be accepted, and the accounts be paid/ratified as above.

Date of next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 21st MAY 2003 immediately following the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council to be held at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

*Standing Orders were suspended.*

A resident said it was pleasant to see all the Spring bulbs around the village but it was sad to see they had been trampled on the verge opposite the School.

It was questioned who had responsibility for the safety of gravestones in the Churchyard as some were leaning at a precarious angle. (This was believed to be the PCC).

Complaints were made about the altered route of the B1224 following the A1 Upgrade works, it was said that traffic would not be able to access the A58 from the B1224 without joining the A1M at Kirk Deighton.

It was suggested that the field off Tockwith Lane could provide an area of Public access like Golden Acre Park at Bramhope, Leeds.

Complaints were received about vehicles parking on Marston Road in front of access gates and preventing residents accessing their own properties. It was suggested a Polite Notice should be attached to the doors/gates in question, which may deter indiscriminate parking.

The Clerk reported that she had been in contact with the Archives' Section at County Hall. They would be prepared to take and store non current records of the Parish Council. The Parish Council would retain ownership but the records would be deposited for safe keeping and microfilmed for public viewing.

The Chairman said the principle was good but it would be a major undertaking to go through all the records held to decide what would be suitable for archiving and what needed to be readily available.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending, read out the resolution for exempt matters and declared the meeting closed to the public.

Thanks were expressed to the Methodist Church for the hire of their Meeting Room.