

## **TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 18th JUNE 2003 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm**

**Chairman:** Councillor M Kennett

**Present:** Councillors Mrs Wardman, Mrs Billenness, C Saunders, W J Bowyer, N Waller, 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), 2 members of the public.

**1. Apologies for absence** - were received from Cllrs Alderton, C.Billenness and Pick.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **2. Police Matters**

There was no Police Officer in attendance but the Clerk made known e mail messages received from both Inspector Barker and PC Haydon. A monthly list of crime figures was provided for each Cllr.

Resolved that the Clerk reply and confirm that PC Haydon and Sergeant Wilson are invited to attend the July Meeting and Inspector Barker the October Meeting.

### **3. Minutes of the AGM and last Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council**

The Minutes having been circulated and taken as read were amended under item 8 of the May Minutes to correct the spelling of Mr Burnell's name and then agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### **4. Matters arising from the Minutes**

- Field off Tockwith Lane - Cllrs reported that the idea of a 'running track' had been well received amongst residents. The Chairman had been unable to speak to Mr Burnell as he was away on holiday. Field Pathways would be preferred but the added difficulties of maintenance of such an area would have to be considered.
- It was reported that the Scouts were desirous of providing alternative and additional storage as the hut at the rear of the Village Hall is not large enough and requested that a temporary building for storage may be considered at this location. The Chairman stated that because of the open countryside location planning regulations would be unlikely to allow such a building. There should not be a problem with Scouts using the field for Camps and outdoor activities. The Chairman had spoken to the Scout Leader and encouraged him to consider erection of a steel portal framed building which should not be too expensive to provide.  
The land has planning permission for change of use from agricultural to recreational and it would be good to have something the whole village could use.
- Flytipping on Southfield Lane - continues to be a problem. When instances are reported to the Clerk she contacts the appropriate authority to arrange removal.
- Neighbourhood Watch - it is hoped the Police Officer responsible would be able to come to a meeting later in the year and it would be appropriate to invite Local Co-ordinators as well.
- Allotments at Church Row - the Clerk had produced a draft letter for agreement. This would be signed by allotment holders of long standing and residents of Church Row as well if this was possible to confirm what the original width of the gate had been for many years. When this had been signed the Clerk agreed to progress the matter with the HBC

- Estates Dept. and Legal if required.
- Landscape Character Assessment - the Chairman agreed to provide a report on possible feedback for the next meeting. Cllrs commented that there seemed to be no effort to preserve the Enclosures of historical value.
  - Parish Newsletter - was progressing
  - Westfield Green litter bin - had been provided as requested but was not emptied often enough.
  - Grass verge cutting - the Clerk was asked to write to RMS to request either that they be responsible for the verge cutting on Wetherby Lane up to Cowthorpe village or make a contribution to the Parish Council as the costs will be greater because of all the signs within the verge because of the road works. Resolved also that the Clerk write to NYCC at Selby to express concern at the standard of the verge cutting they are responsible for. The County Cllr agreed to raise the matter with NYCC Selby.
  - Photocopier - the Clerk was now in possession of a new digital machine.

## **5. Village Hall**

General:

- Boxing in pipework - had been completed.
- Water heating - only two replies had been received so far. The Clerk was in liaison with the VH Chairman to arrange access for Contractors.
- Roof repairs - had been completed.
- Insurance - the Clerk had paid the VH Insurance as the renewal date was the 15th June and no reply had been received from Zurich to confirm what the current Parish Council Insurance covers. It had been agreed that the Parish Council, as owners of the building will pay the Insurance which can then be claimed back from the VH Management Company. A telephone call to Zurich had been made and Zurich were only now looking at April correspondence and so had not got round to our letter. Verbal figures were given for all the items covered under the current VH Policy with Allianz Cornhill. After full debate it was resolved that the Clerk contact Allianz Cornhill and ask that the name of the Policy holder be changed to the Parish Council.

### ***Standing Orders were suspended.***

The VH Committee Chairman provided a letter in reply to the Clerk's from last month.

A Report was included of the damage and disruption at the Village Hall since the Incident Book was started in February this year. The Chairman had been in contact with the Youth Club Leader

and both were aware of the ongoing problems.

The Parish Council are indemnified against loss and issues of concern if these matters are not dealt with.

There is to be a Public Meeting on Wednesday 9th July in the VH from 8pm to 10pm to discuss the Regeneration of the Village Hall.

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

Resolved that the Parish Council will take up the issues of concern as stated in the Report and the Clerk write to the Director of Education, stressing the importance of additional funding available for Youth Work in North Yorkshire being allocated to the rural areas which are in special need of it and that additional help for the Youth Club Leader be urgently pursued.

The Knaresborough District Community Education Tutor, Mr Linfoot, also be told that Stephen Goodrick needs extra help on Youth Club nights.

The Police were to be contacted and asked to patrol on Tuesday and Friday nights, whenever possible, to assist with the orderly dispersal of young people from the VH and immediate environs.

The Council's Solicitor was to be contacted about the Right of Way adjacent to the VH grounds and the right of access to the land at the rear of the VH. The access gate has been locked by business owners to the rear of the Spotted Ox and VH users told they cannot access the rear grounds as they would be trespassing on private land.

## **6. Standing Orders/Financial Regulations**

The Chairman reported there had been a meeting of the Working Group, who had gone through all the documentation, making alterations or deletions as required. All Cllrs had been provided with a copy of the edited document.

Cllrs were invited to ask questions or make comments.

Resolved that the final draft edited document be accepted as the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations under which the Council will work from now on.

## **7. 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.

## **8. Report by County Councillor**

- Regional Assembly - a referendum had been announced by the Government, possibly to be held in October 2004. Current proposals would see only 2 Representatives for the whole of North Yorkshire and a Unitary Authority, possibly the loss of NYCC and an amalgam of Harrogate and Craven Districts.
- B1224 safety measures are being implemented from the York boundary to the Leeds MDC boundary.
- Cattal Bridge - electricity for the traffic lights should be provided soon.
- Biffa - major ongoing problems have been reported. North Riding Waste as the site operator are not being very helpful.
- Police presence at Parish Council meetings - concern has been expressed by other local Councils. The County Cllr will be taking this up with the Chairman of the Police Authority, Jane Kenyon.
- Report on Social Services to be discussed at County Hall. Scrutiny Committee will be discussing the Audit Commission Report on the PCT and Social Services on 31/7/03
- Skewkirk Bridge - a rally to take place on behalf of the Ramblers Association and ACS.
- Concrete crushing plant' - Appeal deadline looming.
- Cllr Savage has been promoted to the Yorkshire Village Halls Committee.

Cllrs expressed concern at the road markings at Cattal Bridge, especially on the Tockwith side.

It is considered that the Stop line is too near the Bridge access, beyond a bend in the road, leading to fears of a rear end shunting accident. It is believed there should be advanced warning signs that are not obscured by the vegetation. Also because the line is so near the narrowed access/egress from the Bridge, buses crossing the Bridge cannot pass if vehicles are stopped in the correct position waiting for the lights to change.

Noise from Biffa continues to be a problem for some residents of Prince Rupert Drive.

The County Cllr asked for accurate recording of incidents and that they be passed on to him as soon after the incidents as possible.

North Riding Waste are still willing to meet with the Parish Council and the Residents' Association.

### ***Standing Orders were suspended.***

A resident reiterated concerns about road markings, traffic signs, lack of grass cutting and improper sight lines at Cattal Bridge.

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

The Cllr was asked if the traffic calming measures for the B1224 would be monitored to see if they worked. Road markings are not always understood and some are put over potholes.

Monitoring would take place but it was a process of educating drivers to the new measures.

The County Cllr was thanked for his report.

## **9. Report by District Councillor**

- Noise from go-karts on the airfield - a meeting had taken place between the District Cllr, the Cabinet Member for Environmental Health and Environmental Health Officers of HBC to discuss the monitoring of the airfield activities over the past months. During eight visits there had been no problems and on only one occasion was there a noise nuisance. The outcome was not satisfactory and a consultation with households on PRD would take place. Since 1993 a total of 38 households had complained to HBC, since January only 6 households had complained. Residents were to be asked whether the noise had got worse, had improved or was much the same. A meeting was to be arranged with the owner, Mr Simon Moore. Residents were urged to fill in these surveys as if complaints were not recorded there was no proof that there was a nuisance.
- Westfield Green - no valid application had been received as yet.
- Enforcement cases - 106 PRD had been visited and providing the shed and greenhouse were moved further away from the house the building works would be classed as permitted development. - Jodhpurs has been visited and the process is ongoing. Planning permission exists only for storage for the large new building.
- 42, Westfield Road - planning application refused on design and size grounds. There would be no problem with demolishing the bungalow and rebuilding a two storey dwelling.
- Westfield Green litter bin - the Cllr will take up this matter as the new bin may not be on the round as yet.

The District Cllr was thanked for his report.

## **10. Correspondence**

Items 14 to 33 were made known to Cllrs.

- Field along Marston Road - the Council had received an offer to remove and take away the broken fence. This offer had been communicated to Mr Elwess. A reply was awaited.
- Letter from Youth Club Leader enclosing press cutting about extra Funding for Youth Services and a request that the Council write to the Director of Education.
- Lease for Sportsfield Trust - Land off Tockwith lane, had now been completed with signatures and resolved that the Chairman sign on behalf of the Council, witnessed by the Clerk. The Lease does not allow sub-letting of the smaller of the two fields.
- The Clerk was asked to flag up with HBC the interest of the Parish Council in obtaining commuted sums for work to the larger of the fields, off Tockwith Lane, especially if a 'running track' and kick about areas are to be created. It was considered important that commuted sums should, in the main, be used for purposes involving the whole community.

- Laptop hire (YRCC) - information passed to VH Committee Chairman.
- Land at Cowthorpe - the Clerk reported a phone call with Mr D Newis. The Council was asked for comments on what would be acceptable for the site. Resolved that the Clerk reply and suggest a meeting for Mr Newis with Cllrs Billenness, the Chairman and Clerk to discuss the issue.

## **11. Planning**

6, Lucas Grove South, Tockwith - erection of front conservatory.

Resolved that the Council not object but make comments/seek safeguards regarding retention of the conifer hedge at its present height in order to safeguard the amenity of neighbours.

Pengarth Cottage, Oak Road, Cowthorpe - Erection of side conservatory, roof extension including increase in roof height, increase chimney height and formation of pitched roof over existing front porch.

Resolved that the Council not object to the principle of development but make comments/seek safeguards regarding possible loss of amenity to neighbours. It is believed there is a restrictive covenant in place which would not allow windows in the west elevation unless they were obscure glazed. Amendments would be needed to overcome the loss of amenity to neighbours whose side elevation and rear garden would be overlooked. It was requested that any amendments to the current proposals be notified to the Council for further comment.

Southfield Lodge, Rudgate - concern was expressed that this application had been refused. The applicant had been asked to market the property for business purposes during the next few months and after 6 months the application could be resubmitted without further cost.

Planning decisions and enforcement issues were made known.

## **12. Accounts**

### Bank balances

Lloyds Bank Treasurer's a/c (as at 30.05.03) £16,757.02

National Savings Bank (Norfolk) a/c £152.02

National Savings Bank Investment a/c £358.28

### Accounts to pay/ratify

YLCA - postage for Good Cllrs Guide £3.70

Clerk (salary to 30/6 and expenses to 18/6) £916.54

Viking Direct (new laser photocopier and stationery supplies) £644.78

L. Woodhead (boxing in pipes) £1,675.00

J Lewis (roof repair) £556.00

Allianz Cornhill (VH Insurance) £1,057.89

- Resolved that the Bank balances be accepted, and the accounts be paid/ratified as above.
- Resolved that the Clerk obtain the appropriate forms in order to close both National Savings Bank accounts and transfer the money to the Lloyds TSB Treasurer's account.
- Resolved that the Clerk contact HBC about seeking dispensations for all Cllrs who are involved with Tockwith and District Show Society.

**13. Date of next Meeting:** WEDNESDAY 16th JULY 2003 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

The Clerk explained she would be abroad at the time of the September Meeting and requested that consideration be given to having the Meeting earlier in the month. As there is no meeting in August there is always a lot of business and correspondence to catch up on.

Resolved that the Clerk investigate the possibility of holding the September Meeting on the 10th of the month. If the VH is not available it may be possible to book the Methodist Hall.

***Standing Orders were suspended.***

- A resident said Mr Milner should be thanked for all his hard work following the beautiful display of spring bulbs this year.
- The resident expressed concern at the standard of grass verge cutting done by NYCC.
- Concern was expressed at the amount of litter on The Green and the fact that motor cyclists congregate on the corner there.
- Concern was expressed that the gully emptying and verge sweeping cannot be done satisfactorily when cars are parked at the kerb sides throughout the village.
- Concern was expressed that grass verge cutting did not extend up to the ditches along Fleet Lane.

***Standing Orders were resumed.***

The Clerk was asked to work out the cost per copy for parishioners wishing to use the new photocopying machine.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the Meeting closed at 10pm.