

## **TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 20th July 2005 in the Village Hall, at 7.30pm**

**Chairman:** Councillor M Kennett

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

**In attendance:**

Dr. Stephen Clayton (Research Associate on the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust project 'The State of Local Democracy'),  
Karen Scholey (new Cllr for Wilstrop),  
Mrs J Bygate (Internal Auditor), Mrs G Firth (Clerk to the Council),  
Mrs Fiona Steed (VHMC Chairman)

**1. Apologies for absence** - were received from County Cllr Savage, District Cllr Sturdy and PC Ayre.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Dr Clayton was invited to introduce himself and explained that he was an observer of how local parish councils conducted business.

**2. Police Matters**

Resolved that a letter be sent to Inspector Waind, who is on long term sick leave, thanking him for all his efforts on behalf of the Parish Council and wishing him well.

A fax message had been received from PC Ayre giving monthly crime update figures.

· A compliant had been received from residents about youth rowdyism in Kirk Lane. Details of the incident were to be provided to the Clerk who would pass the matter on to the Police.

· Concern was expressed at the increase in general misbehaviour according to the recent crime figures. Resolved to express these concerns to the Police and ask for increased patrols in the villages to combat this.

· Two 'Hanoi' style attempted burglaries in Cowthorpe were reported.

· Concern about speeding traffic through the villages was expressed again. Resolved that Cllrs Smith and Saunders would look into the provision and costs/funding of illuminated signs, such as those in Rufforth/Collingham villages.

· Cllr Bowyer reported on the last Tier 2 CaP Group meeting at Boroughbridge which he had attended with Cllr Smith. It was being proposed that Tier 2 Groups are disbanded. This was not felt to be the way forward as the CaP Groups can provide useful local information. Cllr Bowyer was asked to request that HKT beat details are included in the crime figures in the Minutes.

**3. Minutes of the last Meeting of the Council**

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

**4. Matters arising from the Minutes**

· The Clerk reported that she had spoken with John Hodgson, the NYCC Highways Engineer at Selby, who had agreed to provide the criteria for works needed to the Westfield Lane ginnel prior to adoption.

· The Clerk had had further meetings with Mr Muir about the Common Land application. NYCC are in favour of putting the matter on hold until the outcome of a case, currently in the High Court, is known.

· Village Hall - the Clerk is still trying to get information from ex Cllr Lake and will then be in a position to progress the matter with the Council's Solicitor.

· Noticeboards - the matter is ongoing but no reply has been received from Backhouses.

## **5. Public Questions and Statements**

Standing Orders were suspended.

· A resident had reported damage to the road surface in Norfolk Gardens, caused when a delivery lorry was accessing the area to the rear of the Costcutter store. The Clerk would pass the details to NYCC Highways for attention.

Standing Orders were resumed.

## **6. Village Hall**

This item was adjourned to later in the meeting when the VHMCC Chairman was due to attend.

## **7. Report by County Cllr.**

In the absence of the County Cllr there was nothing to report.

## **8. Report by District Cllr.**

The District Cllr sent a verbal report via Cllr Bowyer.

· The Jodhpurs planning application had been approved with conditions. The car parking requirements had to be completed within three months.

· Dog Fouling leaflets had been obtained and would be passed to the Council at a later date.

## **9. Correspondence**

Additional items were made known to Cllrs.

· WARDEN - an e mail had been received about a Parish Cllr having a road accident whilst on Council business but his Insurance would not cover the incident. Cllrs were reminded that they may need to have an endorsement on their private motor insurance if they do not have business cover, to the effect - "local government voluntary work with mileage costs".

· A letter from a resident about the land in the cul-de-sac on Prince Rupert Drive was discussed. The land is now privately owned and has been fenced but not maintained since a planning application for change of use to extended domestic curtilage was refused. The Clerk was asked to write to the landowner asking that the land be tidied up and maintained under the duty of care to the amenity of the neighbourhood.

· Clean Neighbourhoods Act - this matter to be an agenda item for discussion in September. Cllr Billenness to research information from the Internet.

· Proposed gas supply for Cowthorpe village - further to e mails about the increased cost of domestic heating oil and the request for a gas supply it was resolved that the Clerk write to Transco about the matter.

· Common Land application - the Clerk to produce a letter, to be signed by all Cllrs who feel able to, about the land being used by residents in the event that the application is successful.

· Dog fouling at 60, PRD - the Clerk to progress this matter with the Dog Warden.

· Recycling seminar details - to pass on to the Youth Club and YCA for information.

· The Chairman had spoken with Mr Fattorini about proposals for Ness Lane. There had been no progress as the Council is awaiting a promised letter from Mr Fattorini's Solicitor.

## **6. Village Hall**

Lease and Management arrangements - The Clerk reported research/progress to date.

January 2003 - it was decided to progress a Lease and form a not for profit Limited Company to manage the Village Hall. This would change to a Community Interest Company under the Charity Commission when legislation allowed.

February 2003 - it was decided to have four Directors of this Limited Company, who would be protected from liability.

March 2003 - alternative guidance was received from NYCC as the current Management Committee hold Charity status.

November 2003 - the Village Hall Management Committee produced a Regeneration report.

January 2004 - YLCA advised that the way forward was to form a Federated Charity.

June 2004 - amendments were made to the Draft Lease and formation of a Federated Charity was being investigated.

July 2004 - a Report on future management issues and financial projections was received from the VH Treasurer. This projected a £2,500 pa shortfall in income over expenditure.

September 2004 - it was stated that the Draft Lease was being finalised and the Deed of Trust

being completed. The Constitution of the VHMC was being updated and a model drafted which was to come to the PC for comment.

2005 - no progress has been made to date. The Council's Solicitor has not heard from the Cllr who was delegated the authority to deal with the matter.

The Clerk has finally got hold of a copy of the amended Draft Lease but no other documents regarding the Deed of Trust, Federated Charity or Constitution, in spite of repeated requests. She agreed to meet with the Solicitor and try and get things moving forward speedily.

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

Mrs Steed reported on the broken ceiling tiles, which had occurred when tiles were being removed in order to get templates for replacement.

A Business Plan is being prepared which will provide information on long term financial commitments and will be reviewed every six months.

Copies of quotations for proposed works will be forwarded to the Clerk to support the verbal request for a grant from the PC.

A village resident has recently volunteered to be responsible for applying for grants for the VHMC. Cllr Waller agreed to provide information on grant sources.

The Chairman's overview was that maintenance is hard work and an ongoing responsibility, it is difficult to get committed people to sit as VHMC members, the finances are precarious in the longer term.

Cllrs expressed concern at the untidy state of the grounds to the building. It was suggested the Youth Club be asked to remove the boat or store it chained to the wall, as it traps windblown rubbish and creates an eyesore. The table in the back garden should also be stored after use.

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

## **10. Planning**

Hedgerow Removal Notice at Community Fields - removal of a 5m length of hedgerow.

There are errors in the planning application - the land is not part of an agricultural tenancy and the PC as land owner has not been informed of the proposals.

Cllr Billenness agreed to contact Dr Cross and point out these errors and also the fact that no hedge should be removed without express permission from the PC.

The Parish Council objects to the application on the grounds that the application form is inaccurate for the reasons stated above and the proposed length of hedgerow to be removed is considered excessive for the purpose stated.

Skip Bridge Farm - Lawful Development Certificates for residential accommodation and change of use to domestic curtilage. The Council has no objections/comments.

86, Prince Rupert Drive - erection of two storey side extension. No objections.

Moorside Farm - erection of detached stable block with feed/tack room. No objections.

## **Enforcement issues**

Buildings on Marston Moor Airfield - the decision letter is considered not to have taken into account the information supplied by the PC. The decision is unsatisfactory because the information stated by the Enforcement Officer is wrong in fact. Cllrs are prepared to state that the information given is false. The Officer had met with a Parish Cllr and saw and heard evidence which appears to have been discounted. This is considered discourteous.

The Clerk to write and state the views of the Parish Council and state that the matter will be brought to the next Consultation meeting with Harrogate Borough Council in October.

Planning decisions and enforcement issues were made known.

## 11. Accounts

### Bank balances

Lloyds TSB Treasurer's a/c (as at 24.06.05)	2,500.00
Deposit a/c	16,561.35

### Accounts to pay/ratify

Stanley's Builders	110.45
Ray Farrer	215.00

### Receipts

Reimbursement of Insurance from VHMC	1,253.11
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Resolved that the Bank balances be accepted, and the accounts be paid/ratified as above.  
Resolved that Cllr M Smith be added to the cheque signatories for the PC accounts.

Date of next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 21st SEPTEMBER 2005, in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

A Committee was delegated authority to act on any urgent matter which arises before the next meeting - any three from Cllrs Kennett, Wardman, Bowyer, Billenness, Smith, Saunders, Waller.