

TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 18th May 2005 in the Village Hall at 7.45pm

Chairman: Councillor M Kennett

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

In attendance: District Cllr J. Sturdy, Mrs J Bygate (Internal Auditor)

3 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

Were received from the Clerk Mrs G Firth, Cllr Billenness, Cllr. Hewick, Cllr Lake (resignation letter received)

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

In the absence of the Clerk Cllr Waller agreed to take the minutes.

2. Police Matters

The Chairman welcomed the new Neighbourhood Police Officer Mark Ayre. Cllr Bowyer wished to place on record that he had proof that the police did patrol the village in the early hours as his son had been stopped and checked at 3.00am. He added that the police officer that stopped his son was very courteous and doing exactly what the public would expect him to do. Councillors were delighted to hear about the patrols.

PC Ayre was asked about North Yorkshire's Policy about testing vehicles at high speed in view of the officer in another force escaping a driving ban for speeding. PC Ayer did not know of the incident but felt most of the high speed tests were done off road and generally vehicles purchased by North Yorkshire had been thoroughly tested before hand.

Problems were still being encountered in various parts of the village of vehicles being inconsiderately parked on the footpath.

PC Ayre reported on the current crime state with most of the crime being committed outside the village on the Marston Business Park.

Concern was expressed by Councillors regarding the spate of arsons in the Kirk Deighton area and worries that these incidents are not happening too far way from Tockwith. PC Ayre said that close liaison was being kept with West Yorkshire Police as the offenders may well come from Wetherby.

Cllr Bowyer wished information to be passed back to those responsible for the ringmaster messages, on the automated message there is a delay after the first part of the message and people are having to wait for the message which is sickening them off. PC Ayre said that he had

already received complaints from another village and would pass this message on.

PC Ayres contact number is 01423 539512 Fax 01423 539513

Email - mark.ayre@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

3. Minutes of the last Meeting of the Council 20th April 2005

Councillor Smith commented that he felt that the minutes had not recorded the in-depth conversation that had taken place regarding possible land development at Cowthorpe and believed there should have been more detail as to what had been said and the issues raised. This issue was debated and the general consensus from Councillors was that since no planning application had been made, it was not yet an issue for the Parish Council and that the minutes need not record anymore detail.

Following a vote the minutes were passed as being a correct record by councillors. Cllr Smith abstained.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

- Cllr WARDMAN circulated a report by the youth leader Steve Goodrick - he wanted councillors to note the possible move of Community Education to Harrogate. He wished Councillors to fight for it to stay at Knaresborough believing it will lead to remoteness should it move to Harrogate. - to be discussed at the next meeting once Steve's report had been read by Councillors.

- The Water Board had replied regarding the water bottles which had been thrown about the village. They pointed out that they were not responsible for unlawful behaviour but were looking at the process of leaving pallets in the street. They could perhaps be left later and unused bottles collected sooner and will consult the contractor.

- A response had been received from West Yorkshire Fire Service, there were no plans to close Wetherby Station - there may be some adjustments to opening hours however.

- There were still problems on the A1, repairs to the new northbound carriageway were being done at the expense of work on the extended A168. The entry to this road from Cowthorpe was particularly confusing if one wanted to travel north.

5. Public Questions and Statements

Standing Orders were suspended.

- A resident commented that he felt that the Parish Council had been too quick in supporting enforcement action by HBC in relation to a hedge that had been planted on council land when quite clearly he was tidying up the area. The Chairman explained the Parish Council could not support the unlawful claiming of public land no matter the circumstances.

- The same resident said that he was disappointed about the lack of action taken by the sports club to prevent parking on the verge where the daffodils are planted. He said one weekend there were so many cars that the service bus could not get through and the police had to be called. Agreed Cllr Billenness to raise this issue again with the sports field to seek assurances that they will deal with the problem. It was also suggested where events were likely to attract lots of visitors by car then no parking cones could be considered.

6. Village Hall

Lease and Management arrangements - Clive Lake had resigned from his position on the VHMC. Agreed that the leasing document be passed to our solicitors to seek an early conclusion as this had taken longer than anticipated.

7. Report by County Cllr.

In the absence of Cllr Savage there was no report.

8. Report by District Cllr.

Cllr Sturdy apologized for not being able to attend the Annual Parish meeting the previous month.

£6m Heritage Lottery funding had been secured for the renovation of the Royal Hall with HBC putting up a further 2M which will mean a partial restoration will be possible.

The Borough Council departments had been streamlined as part of a cost cutting exercise. His new cabinet responsibility was now Transport - but had lost street cleansing which was now under Environmental Health.

Cllr Sturdy reported that the mechanical sweeper can to Tockwith 3 times a year and the village litter picked 6 times a year. He believed that someone was going to come out and check the litter position. Explained that it would be better if they left it a few weeks as the village had been litter picked by the Scout Group.

Cllr Sturdy handed out some leaflets regarding dog fouling but it did not appear the HBC did any leaflets concerning litter. Cllr Sturdy agreed to obtain a supply of dog fouling leaflets so that they can be distributed in the parish. The Clerk to be asked to contact Keep Britain tidy to see if they have any leaflets re litter. It was noted that the Marston Moor Scout Group had been carrying out litter picks. The Clerk to write to the Scout Leader passing on the Councils thanks for their public spirited actions.

Green Waste bins were not in use - the council would appreciate feed back - Cllr Wardman stated from the people she had spoken to the bins had been well received.

Asked about progress regarding development at East House Farm Cllr Sturdy said he had no new news but understood the delay may be connected with the Section 106 agreement.

The position regarding planning permission for building just out of Cowthorpe seen from the new bridge over the A1 was queried. Cllr Sturdy to make enquires.

9. Correspondence

A letter had been received thanking the council for their action regarding the moving of the barrier in the ginnel between Westfield Lane and Prince Rupert Drive. There was still however a

problem re erosion of the path. There was still a question mark re ownership so the council could not commit itself to repair. The Clerk to make enquiries regarding the cost of bringing the footpath up to adoptable standards.

The Chairman had received a letter from a resident in Prince Rupert Drive to consider traffic calming measures in the area of 77, Prince Rupert Drive junction with Fairfax Crescent. Enquiries to be made with County Cllr Savage to see if there has been any change in criteria regarding traffic calming .

Further to item 6

Mrs Fiona Steed Chairperson VHMC joined the meeting and gave an update regarding the improvements that were being carried out. The floors had been sanded and a carpet for corridor was to be fitted soon. Some work had been required by the Fire Officer which was in the process of being done. Work for DDA compliance was going to be costly and grants had been sought. Some electrical works were also required. The work had been listed in a previous letter and the VHMC were seeking a grant of £2,500. Mrs Steed was advised that the Parish Council had provided a large amount of money in recent years and wanted some evidence of fund raising events being done by the VHMC and sight of a business plan to show the sustainability of the village hall in future years. The Clerk also to produce detailed figures as to the amount of funding provided by the Council in the last three years. The grant to be discussed when this information is provided.

Mrs Steed asked whether the recycling bins could be moved as the area they took up meant the loss of a substantial amount of parking. The VHMC needed to provide an allotted parking space for disabled drivers. Cllr Sturdy to make enquiries regarding the bins' use to see if they are still viable, when this information is forthcoming then the matter can be considered further.

The Youth Club had installed CCTV with a camera to the front and rear of the premises with remote monitoring. Enquiries being made re Data protection compliance.

10. Planning

Stable at Moorside Farm for personal use - no objections.

Lights tennis courts - no objections to seek assurances re timers, consider light pollution issues are there too many lights applied? Ensure there is no interference to traffic. Turned off at 10.00pm.

Workshop 81 Marston Road Tockwith - no objections

Planning question Mrs Steed advised that it was her intention to appeal regarding her refusal by the planners to grant permission for her property at Lucas Grove South. She enquired whether the Parish Council would support the appeal. The Chairman stated that there had been no objections from the Parish Council at the time of the original application and their stance had not changed.

A large advertising sign had been positioned Blind Lane junction with Fleet Lane causing visibility problems and probably in breach of planning Cllr Sturdy to investigate.

11. Accounts

Bank balances

This information was not available as the Clerk was absent.

Accounts to pay/ratify

Payment Y.L.C.A. £6.58

Quotes were still being awaited for new notice boards

12. A.O.B.

Due to the resignation of Cllr Lake the Clerk to put up a formal notice advertising the vacancy.

Date of next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 7.30pm 15th June 2005 in the Village Hall

Meeting closed 9.40pm.