

TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 16th November 2005 in the Village Hall, at 7.30pm

Chairman: Councillor M Kennett

Present: Councillors Mrs Wardman, C Saunders, C Billenness, W J Bowyer, Mrs K Scholey, P Pick, N Waller

In attendance: District Cllr Sturdy, Mrs J Bygate (Internal Auditor), Mrs G Firth (Clerk to the Council),

2 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** - were received from Cllr Smith and PC Ayre.

2. Police Matters

No Police Officer in attendance but PC Ayre had sent an e mail.

Since the last meeting the village has suffered a blip in crime with 5 burglaries and 1 attempted burglary of outbuildings, sheds etc being reported in the Westfield and Marston Road areas. A ringmaster message was passed out but no information has been forthcoming. In addition there was damage to the piano in the Village Hall (already discussed with VHMCC Chair and YC Leader) and one of the driver training cars has been stolen from the airfield and yet to be recovered. The coach/minibus issue on Westfield Road has been monitored. One bus seems to be parking up in the Sportsfield Trust car park."

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

Concern continues to be expressed about indiscriminate parking on the grass verges at both sides of Tockwith Lane and Southfield Lane. This is damaging the spring bulbs which are starting to show through and causes obstruction to the safe passage of vehicles along these roads. Recently a bus was prevented from passing and this could be dangerous if emergency vehicles are obstructed. Resolved that the Clerk write to the Sportsfield Trust asking them to put out bollards at every event attracting a large attendance. Other venues for overflow car parking should be looked at.

LDF "Plan with Us" - the sub committee had met and formulated a response to HBC - the Clerk to copy this for the next corries file.

The new noticeboard has been erected in Tockwith Main Street and new keys provided. The other noticeboard for Cowthorpe has not been made yet and no reply received from letters of July and September. Resolved that the Clerk write again to expedite matters.

Footpath Creation Order - an e mail had been received from NYCC Legal Dept. stating that a signed Creation Agreement has been signed by the land owner and NYCC will not now be pursuing the Creation Order at the Public Inquiry. Objectors would receive letters explaining the

position and the Parish Council would receive a copy of the Creation Agreement shortly. The Clerk had had a meeting with the PROW Officer to discuss the issue and provide evidence.

" Village Road Safety Schemes - a mini roundabout was suggested for the junction of Fairfax Crescent with Prince Rupert Drive. Resolved that the Clerk obtain a specification and quotation from NYCC in order to submit a suitable scheme to HBC for consideration.

5. Public Questions and Statements

Standing Orders were suspended.

1. Concern was raised about notices erected at Cattal Bridge which could not be read from passing vehicles. What are the notices about and why are they not in the village? The County Cllr was not present to answer these questions.

2. What are the restrictions about vehicles parking on footpaths? Vehicles are not allowed to drive on the footpath or completely obstruct the footway. Advice received from the Police said to point out to offenders that they were breaking the law and the Police would be informed if they did not move their vehicles.

Standing Orders were resumed.

6. Village Hall

The Clerk reported that she had had a meeting with Sheena Spence of YLCA, following which Legal advice was to be sought from NALC and a report back given in due course.

The Clerk was asked to write to the VHMC reminding them of the indemnity with regard to damage caused to the piano. This should be taken up with NYCC. The piano was considered an asset which was enjoyed and used well. It should be replaced.

Questions were asked about the operation of the CCTV system. The VHMC was to be asked about the use of the cameras and the data storage and retrieval system.

It was reported that the VHMC Treasurer had said there would be difficulty paying the Insurance next year.

7. Christmas Tree/lights

Cllr Saunders agreed to check that the lights from last year, which had not been taken down, are still working. The lights to be switched on from 1st December.

There is no suitable place for a tree in Cowthorpe but Cllr Billenness was given authority to replace the large bulbs for the lights used at the Christmas Service. (up to a value of £20)

8. Wetherby employment site

WARDEN had asked for the Council's comments on development proposals for Deighton Grange.

It was believed that the land owners were "putting a marker down" for the deliberations on the HBC LDF and there are no firm development proposals in place.

However the PC would oppose any such development as there is no proven need for more "warehouse type" developments locally and any such development does not provide a large

number of jobs. Any such large development should provide jobs for the local workforce.

The highway network would require massive "planning gain" in order to make such development 'fit in' within the locality without causing massive disruption to local concerns.

Local employment centres such as several Business Parks in the locality of Tockwith would suffer from any such development. The PC would support objections to any major development at Deighton Grange as there is no market demand for such development.

9. Report by County Councillor - no report as the Cllr was absent.

10. Report by District Councillor

East House Farm planning application - approved subject to conditions and a Section 106 agreement regarding the affordable housing element.

Meeting with Cabinet Member for Environmental Health - District Cllr to attend with Cllrs Kennett and Bowyer.

Main issue would be the noise from the airfield.

Regarding the chemical smells from the Business Park, the Environment Agency Officer would be writing to complainants with findings after recent site visits. The work is ongoing. The smells occur at night and at weekends as well as through the week which suggests possible venting of storage tanks. The Environment Agency only have authority over businesses operating under Licence.

Cllrs reported that although planning approval had been sought for the buildings in the forecourt of the BCB building, the yard is being used for a motor dismantling business. Information would be passed to the D Cllr to pass on to NYCC.

11. Correspondence

Items 24 to 31 were made known

Parking on white lines on Westfield Road - the lines are advisory to prevent obstruction -parking tickets could still be given if vehicles cause obstruction.

NALC guidance on Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 to be circulated to Cllrs for comment before 2nd December

Survey of Settlement Facilities and Services to be returned to HBC

Rural Housing Trust seminar - interest from Cllrs Bowyer and Kennett

12. Planning

Land to East of East House, Marston Road - erection of three no terraced dwellings with detached garage and 3 no parking spaces with new vehicular access (amended plans)

The Parish Council does not object to the principle of development in this location and believes that the amended plans have dealt with the majority of the previous objections.

However there are several concerns which remain to be addressed as follows:

IT IS MOST IMPORTANT THAT ALL THE CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO THE PREVIOUS

APPLICATION/PERMISSION ARE ADHERED TO IN THEIR ENTIRETY, ESPECIALLY:

1)The retention in its entirety of the wall along Marston Road is imperative. It is important that the existing beech and holly hedge along the site frontage is retained at a height of not less than 1m above the wall. (The Holly Tree should be retained within the hedge)

2) Existing mature vegetation should be retained as screening for the site during development and afterwards in the interests of neighbour amenity especially at the south east corner of the site.

3)Please note that the trees to the front of the site are mis-named on the plans. The Weeping Ash is the tree to the west of the frontage (on the right) and not as shown on the plans and the other tree is an Ash Tree.

69, Prince Rupert Drive - erection of rear conservatory.

There were no objections to this application.

Gowlands Farm, Green Hammerton - increase of height of boundary wall to 2m high with raked wing walls to property and erection of replacement 1.8m high fence with gates.

The Parish Council has the following observations: There is no objection in principle to the proposals. The contractors on site advise that there is no intention to go ahead with the raked wing walls but that mature trees are to be planted instead.

Concern was again expressed about the current development at 43, Westfield Road. There have been two applications for a conservatory, one was refused and one was approved!

The District Cllr agreed to investigate.

Planning decisions and enforcement issues were made known.

13. Accounts - Budget for Precept

Bank balances

Lloyds TSB Treasurer's a/c (as at 16.11.05) 2,500.00

Deposit a/c 20,472.65

Accounts to pay/ratify

Playground Management Ltd (Playground Inspection) 72.85

T Backhouse & Son (noticeboard) 528.75

Mrs G Firth (salary to 31/12, expenses to 16/11) 775.42

PWLB (loan repayment) D/D 1859.41

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

The Clerk produced a draft budget for consideration and discussion.

Resolved that the Precept be retained as last year at £15,375.

Quotations had been received for ground works at the Westfield Lane ginnel.

Resolved that the Clerk obtain quotations for the new lighting required by NYCC and write and accept the quotation from Nick Spence.

Letter from Tockwith Church regarding grounds maintenance - resolved that the Clerk reply and say that grants will be reviewed in January, the PCC is invited to apply for an increased grant to assist with grounds maintenance, the Parish Council support the Church but are not in a position to undertake grounds maintenance work.

A quotation had been received for parish grass cutting next year. This was to be accepted.

Date of next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 18th JANUARY 2006, in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

A sub-committee, comprising Cllrs Pick, Bowyer, Kennett and Billenness, was given delegated authority to deal with any urgent items arising before the next meeting.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed