

TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Council meeting held on Wednesday 17th May 2006 in the Village Hall

Chairman: Councillor M Kennett

Present: Councillors Mrs Wardman, C Saunders, Mrs K Scholey, N Waller, I Robinson, P Pick, C Billenness, P Kirby

In attendance: Mrs G Firth (Clerk to the Council), 3 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence - were received from Cllr Saunders, District Cllr Sturdy, Mrs Bygate, PC Place.

2. Police Matters

Request to be made for a Police Officer to attend PC meetings so that the new system of local policing can be explained and a way to contact our local Officer investigated

Reports of attempted break-ins at Cowthorpe were received

Complaints had been received about the number of motorists using mobile phones whilst driving

3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting and last Ordinary Meeting of the Council

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

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

A lengthy report from the Youth Club Leader had been received - this to be copied for inclusion in the next correspondence file.

Rural Housing further meeting - information to be passed to Cllr Pick for his reply.

The Local Channel - Cllr Billenness had looked at the correspondence but said it was not needed by the PC

The absence of the County Cllr and any report was noted. The Clerk to attempt to contact Cllr Savage again and enlist the support of the District Cllr if necessary

5. Public Questions and Statements

Standing Orders were suspended.

Residents raised the following matters:

Dalton Joinery had erected a gate to stop unauthorised access to the premises and car park behind the Spotted Ox. A Public Footpath runs alongside the Village Hall to Ness Lane and this was to be kept at a minimum width of 900mm with a pedestrian gate included.

Concern was raised at the lack of liaison between neighbouring Parish Councils.

Thanks were given for the recent litter pick by the Cubs

A resident said not enough information had been available about recent works to the bridge on Hunsingore Road at Cattal

The plaque on the Marston Moor War Memorial was reported as missing.

A resident said he had obtained the telephone number of the Highways Dept at Starbeck

Grass cutting along Southfield Lane will need doing in a month's time.

Standing Orders were resumed.

The matter of gating the footpath was noted.

Resolved that a letter be sent to the Cubs thanking them for the recent litter pick.

The Memorial plaque had been removed for repair and was to be replaced.

The Parish contractor will do the first verge grass cutting at the end of May/beginning of June dependent on weather.

7. Tockwith Community Fields

The letter from the Chairman of Tockwith AFC was discussed again now Cllrs Pick and Billinness were present.

The Parish Council still favours informal use of the land off Tockwith Road by the whole community but not a formal agreement involving change of the land. This matter has not been discussed at a meeting of the Sportsfield Trust.

A full debate ensued.

Cllr Pick has been maintaining the land on behalf of the PC , keeping weeds down, liming, mowing and topping, rolling and attention to the hedges and ditches. The PC envisage a project

for the large field for community use in the future with access, fencing and usage considered. Cllr Pick said he would inspect the field surface after mowing to see if it is practicable for use by anyone for recreation. The front third of the field would be unsuitable for purely Football Club use as it would lock out the remaining large part of the field.

Once the mowing has been done and Cllr Pick has reported back, a further discussion on this matter can take place.

6. Village Hall

1) Lease - the Clerk had met with the Solicitor and a final draft Lease is expected shortly.

2) The planning application has been submitted. Planning fee to be ratified.

3) The fencing repair invoice has been paid. Ratification needed.

4) A reply had been received from the CH contractor. Major expenditure was required to keep the system in working order. This was unacceptable. Mrs Steed to provide a history of the system and its failings since installation, after which the Clerk to write to CORGI, expressing concern and asking for an inspection/assessment to confirm that the system is "fit for purpose."

5) A ceiling contractor has inspected and reported that the grid is loose and needs replacing, as well as broken tiles.

6) A list of contractors capable of doing the work required to the drains is being provided by Mrs Steed so the Clerk can write and obtain quotations.

7) Roof - quotations have been obtained for weather-proofing/repair/replacement.

8) Information letters circulated - there had been a few responses from residents and businesses, most supportive. There is to be a Public Open Meeting on 12th July to explain the plans fully.

There have been minor amendments to the planning application.

9) An independent fund holder is required for the Project. The PC resolved to look into this and open an additional bank account if required.

8. Report by County Councillor

In the absence of the Cllr there was no report.

9. Report by District Councillor

In the absence of the Cllr, the Clerk passed on the comments made in a telephone conversation.

HBC has returned to No Overall Control following the recent elections but the Conservative Group will remain the Administration in practice.

Cllr Sturdy is to be the Cabinet Member for Transport and Planning following the Annual Meeting.

A meeting with Environmental Health Officers is to take place tomorrow if any Cllrs wish/are able to attend.

Holes in the road outside numbers 21/22 Prince Rupert Drive have been reported to NYCC Highways.

10. Correspondence

Additional items 22 to 27 were made known

NYCC - Tendered Local Bus Services - the timetable sent with the consultation is not the current one.

The Clerk to reply commenting on the mistake and the lack of a night service for Tockwith and the possibility of re-routing some buses through Cowthorpe. Cllr Billinness would include an item in the parish magazine to canvas opinion/interest from Cowthorpe residents.

Footpath Prince Rupert Drive to Southfield Lane - a Creation Agreement has been signed and sealed, the Inspector reported that a Creation Order is no longer required, Ken Major at Starbeck says the matter is a high priority and should be done this financial year.

11. Planning

A question was asked about the Planning system. In the last five years it has changed considerably.

The Local Development Framework, which will replace the District Local Plan, is supposed to be democratising but it is felt that little or no notice is being taken of comments made by the public.

New Policies have been implemented and the system changed drastically. It was felt that poorer decision making happens in order to keep within the eight week deadline. Design Guides are being interpreted differently by different Officers. The PC has a duty to respond to planning consultations and applications but the District Council does not have to take notice of these comments. The Cabinet system has changed things so that local representatives have even less involvement in planning decisions. The PC to ask HBC for copies of current guidelines on house extensions for Cllrs information

Buildings to the North of Nethercarr Farm, Blind Lane, Tockwith - change of use from agricultural to Light Industrial (Use Class B1, B2 & B8)

The PC objects to this application on the following grounds:

- 1)The local roads are under extreme pressure, the junction of Blind Lane/Fleet Lane is already dangerous for large vehicles
- 2)Blind Lane is a Public Footpath and a private road, single track with few passing places, not conducive to passage of large vehicles, unsuitable for regular use by commercial vehicles.
- 3)The presence of a Riding Stables which is well used means the conflict between horses/motor vehicles would not be appropriate in a rural area in terms of road safety.
- 4)The Use Classes quoted are too wide and would allow almost any industrial business, this would be inappropriate in an isolated rural area.
- 5)Currently problems have arisen with businesses putting many and various signs on the grass verge at the entrance to Blind Lane because premises are so isolated.
- 6)The Parish Plan, adopted following wide public consultation, contains a policy which states that proposals should be well connected to the classified road network, will not generate significant volumes of traffic and will not adversely affect the character of the area.
- 7)The cumulative effect of traffic movements for commercial concerns should be taken into account.

Field View, Oak Road, Cowthorpe - erection of roof extension to form first floor with balcony to rear and single storey rear extension with raised decking and balcony.

The Parish Council has the following objections:

1. The Plans show multiple levels of roof height which would be inappropriate and incongruous in this location
2. The visual impact of the proposals would be detrimental
3. The proposals are contrary to Harrogate Borough Council's guidelines on home extensions
4. A more appropriate development would be to raise the roof height of the property and include all the desired elements therein

Planning decisions, Appeals and Enforcement issues were made known.

14. Accounts

Bank balances

Lloyds TSB Treasurer's a/c (as at 30.04.06) 2,500.00

Deposit a/c 9,549.53

Accounts to pay

Harrogate Borough Council (planning fee) 795.00

ATM Ltd (Village Hall fencing) 304.27

Mortgage payment due 2nd May 1,859.41

Receipts

Allotment rent 5.00

Precept 1 7,688.00

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

Delegated authority was given for the Clerk to authorise the contractor to do the first grass verge cutting.

Date of next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 21st JUNE 2006, in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Cllr Billenness gave apologies for absence for the next Council meeting as he has a prior commitment.

A recent power cut in Cowthorpe was caused when a transformer blew.

A different system is being employed by the new Utility provider so residents will note that the power goes on/off intermittently until the fault is located and fixed.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.30pm.