

TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Council meeting held on Wednesday 15th November 2006 in the Village Hall

The new Fire and Safety Regulations are in place and everybody was asked to sign the attendance book on arrival and departure. Once the Escape Plan is agreed and signed it will be placed in a prominent position at every meeting and attendees notice drawn to it.

Chairman: Councillor M Kennett

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

In attendance: Mrs J Bygate, (Internal Auditor), Mrs G Firth (Clerk to the Council), 1 Member of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the last Council meeting of this year.

Apologies for absence - were received from District Cllr Sturdy and the Police.

Police Matters

There was no Officer in attendance but crime figures to date had been circulated to Cllrs. Concern was expressed that of 21 crimes recorded only one had been detected.

Minutes of the last Meeting

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

Matters arising from the Minutes

The Fire and Safety Plan was presented to the Chairman for signature. A copy to be passed to the VHMC.

Tendered Local Bus Services – Cllr Billenness is still to liaise with the Clerk over proposed routings

The Clerk was asked to check whether the Countryside Stewardship scheme was still in effect for Wilstrop Hall and Ness Lane and make appropriate comments to HBC about the review of Open Spaces

VH Clean-up – the VHMC had suggested that the Youth Club should have a rota scheme in place to clean up after each meeting. The PC had completed their part of the clean-up.

The signs at Rudgate crossroads for Tomlinsons had been moved so sight lines were no longer obstructed

Gas Solutions, the firm which commissioned the CH boiler, had agreed to attend and service the boiler but had not attended when arranged. The Clerk to follow this up as a matter of urgency.

Cllr Pick agreed to see the owner of Millfield Farm, Mr Burnell, about access for the Sealed Knot Society for a weekend camp during the first weekend of July 2007

Public Questions and Statements

Standing Orders were suspended.

A resident asked if there had been any progress on provision of a waste bin outside the School. The School Caretaker had agreed to empty the bin. The matter was referred to the District Cllr for action.

The matter of parking on the verges in Southfield Lane and Tockwith Lane which destroyed the daffodil bulbs was raised. The matter to be passed on to the Sportsfield Trust at their AGM by Cllr Billenness.

The resident believed the footpath in Kirk Lane was too narrow to accommodate all the mothers and children who used it as a route to school.

The resident had received a survey form from HBC inviting a response on the services provided by the District Council. The form had not been returned and another one subsequently received.

The matter of Bus Stops in the village was being addressed by the Community Police Officer.

Standing orders were resumed

Village Hall

Standing Orders were suspended.

The VHMC Chairman, Mrs Steed reported that there was no progress with development proposals as responses are awaited from NYCC and the Sportsfield Trust.

A small group of enthusiastic people are trying to carry on with a smaller development project than the original at the Village Hall site and fund raising, but the job is very difficult due to lack of support.

An outline plan of a possible proposal for the Sportsfield was to be presented to the AGM next week.

Additional people are needed to take up positions on the VHMC and a new Treasurer required as soon as possible.

The Parish Council Chairman thanked the VHMC for all their efforts.
Standing Orders were resumed.

Lease and management arrangements (Response to comments made by Jonathan Dawson)

Rent - The Council agreed to proceed with a peppercorn rent if this protected the VHMC from any future owner increasing the rent to an unreasonable amount such as full commercial value.

Repairs – the draft lease had been so worded as the PC is in a better financial position to deal with the fabric of the building.

The VHMC has instructed Jonathan Dawson, (ACRE Solicitor) to act on their behalf and negotiations are ongoing.

Christmas Fair – P Cllrs were asked to volunteer to help set up, assist during and clean up after the Fair to be held on Saturday 9th December (10.30am to set up, 2pm-4pm the Fair, and afterwards to clean up) Contributions for raffle and tombola prizes, stalls and refreshments, home-made cakes and preserves, were asked for and suggestions for an indoor game.

The Council resolved to purchase a hamper, to the value of £40, from Ainsty Farm Shop and donate it as a quality raffle prize. Cllrs Waller and Pick agreed to organise this.

The VHMC will hold their AGM on the 10th January 2007.

The PC is grateful for all the hard work done by the VHMC and resolved to supply two bottles of wine to the AGM.

CORGI – the Clerk reported on the Inspection done in the presence of the CH contractor. The Water Heater in the boiler room was switched off for safety reasons and the position

explained to the VHMC. The external flue needed moving/repairing and the opening in the wall needed closing as exhaust gases could seep back into the room. The contractor agreed to do investigative work to look for any water leak from the system, after which the system would need inhibitor adding. The external copper pipe which had been destroyed by vandalism was to be replaced by an iron pipe.

The boiler needs servicing as a matter of urgency and the controls need to be reset. A set of instructions in English has been requested as the present ones are written in Dutch! An appointment for the servicing had been arranged but the contractor failed to attend or give a reason for absence. The Clerk to follow this up.

Once this work has been done the boiler will be padlocked and a notice put up instructing people not to tamper with the boiler controls. The key to be held by the Clerk to the Council.

Report by County Councillor

In the absence of the Cllr there was no report.

Report by District Councillor

In the absence of the Cllr there was no report.

Christmas Tree/lights

After discussion it was resolved to purchase a tree and additional lights if required for erection at Tockwith Parish Church – Cllr Pick agreed to obtain a tree from Allerton Park, at a cost of up to £100, and transport it to the Church.

The tree and lights to be erected two weeks before Christmas.

Additional lights to be purchased for Cowthorpe at a cost up to £30, Cllr Billenness to arrange.

Correspondence

Additional items 32 to 38 and additional planning decisions were made known
NY Times – a response be made to NYCC agreeing to assist with distribution of the free newspaper

Footpaths and speeding – comments from resident agreed with. A copy of the e mail to be forwarded to the Police and the County and District Cllrs for comment/action.

DEFRA response re chemical smells from Marston Moor Business Park – the letter to be copied to HBC and the Environment Agency commenting that in the light of the letter's contents action is taken under the powers in place to resolve the issue

HBC Review of Open Spaces and Village Halls – the Clerk to respond

VH electricity supply – a message was passed to the VHMC that the polarity of the circuit is reversed and needs attention

Planning

Decisions – approved with conditions

Unit 8/9 Rudgate Business Park – change of use of light industrial unit (use Class B1 – Business) to unit for preparation, servicing and tuning of high performance and racing cars.

Field View, Oak Road, Cowthorpe – erection of single storey side and rear extension.

North Field Farm, Marston Road, Tockwith – erection of two storey and single storey rear extensions

Oakdene, Oak Road, Cowthorpe – erection of stable block with garage, feed store and tack room.

Land adjacent to East House – Cllrs asked for written confirmation that the roof heights of the new buildings will not exceed those of neighbouring property, so as to look incongruous

in the street scene, and also for confirmation that part of the Beech hedge which had been removed during site clearance will be replaced.

Accounts

Bank balances (as at 15/11/06)

Lloyds TSB current a/c	2,500.00
Lloyds TSB Deposit a/c	16,840.42

A/c's to pay/ratify

Ray Farrer	380.00
Mrs Firth (Clerk's salary to 31.12 and expenses to 15/11)	734.30
Mrs J Bygate (removal and replacement of Parish noticeboard)	32.00
PWLB (D/D on 1/11)	1,859.41

Receipts

Sportsfield Trust (rent and land registry charges for Junior Football field)	96.00
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Resolved that the Bank balances be accepted, and accounts be paid/ratified as above.

An estimate had been received from Mr Dodsworth for works to the Marston Road Play Area following the RoSPA Inspection. As this was felt to be too high the Clerk was asked to contact HBC for alternative contractors who could be asked to provide estimates. Delegated authority was given to the Chairman and Clerk to accept the lowest compatible quotation and progress the works.

Mr Farrer had replied that he would prune and cut back the shrubs at the POS at the appropriate time but he was not able to do work to the Ash Tree.

Cllr Billenness was given authority to spend up to £50 on acquiring a web site

Church wall – the letter from the Church Warden was read out. Resolved that the PC will consider making a contribution to the costs of the new wall, once these are known, but cannot commit to contributing a third of the total cost.

The requests for grants were noted and will be decided at the January meeting as usual.

Precept

The Clerk presented a draft budget for next year's Precept.

Cllrs agreed with this in the main, but suggested additional sums for a Christmas Tree and lights (£160), and Noticeboards (£250). The salary of the Clerk to be discussed in exempt matters at the end of the meeting.

Resolved by a majority that a Precept of £15,836 be demanded, proposed Cllr Billenness, seconded Cllr Pick.

Cllr Saunders voted against the motion.

Date of next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 17th JANUARY 2007 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Delegated authority was given to a committee of Cllrs Kennett, Pick, Billenness, Mrs Wardman and Mrs Scholey to deal with any urgent issues which arise before the next meeting.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending, read out the resolution for exempt matters and declared the meeting closed to the public.