

TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Council meeting held on Wednesday 21st February 2007 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. The Emergency Escape Plan is now agreed and it is placed at the Hall entrance at every meeting and attendees notice drawn to it.

Chairman: Councillor M Kennett

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

In attendance: District Cllr Sturdy, Mrs J Bygate, (Internal Auditor), Mrs G Firth (Clerk to the Council), 2 Members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the February Council meeting.

Apologies for absence - were received from County Cllr Savage, Cllr Robinson, Inspector Chapman, PC Ayre, and Mrs Steed. Cllr Billenness had advised that he would be late because of a prior commitment.

2. Police Matters

- An e mail had been received from PC Ayre sending his apologies and a crime update report.
- The Mobile Station had visited but at a time when there were few people about. Another visit is to take place on 9th March.
- A camper van has been parked on Marston Road since before Christmas. It is considered to be in a dangerous place, especially when the white van parks opposite it. Resolved that the Police be informed and the owner be asked to move it as it is causing a hazard to road safety.
- The Clerk reported that, after a conversation with Inspector Chapman, she had agreed to canvas local parish clerks to see if there was support for a consultation meeting to discuss ward based issues.

3. Minutes of the last Meeting The Minutes of the last meeting, having been circulated and taken as read, were amended at item 2, Police matters, to read "Cllr Ward-Campbell stated that it would be good to see Police Officers with speed guns in the villages as this would have a visible effect on the speed of vehicles". The Minutes were then agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

- Rumours are still going round about the proposed site and activities of the Yorkshire Air Ambulance. It was not known if a planning application had been submitted and, as the proposed site is not believed to be in this parish, it was suggested that HBC be asked to consult this PC when an application is submitted.
- Complaints had been received from neighbouring residents and businesses about the litter thrown over the wall from the VH grounds. Resolved that a letter be sent to the Youth Club stating that additional complaints have been received and requesting that perpetrators desist from this practice. It was believed that better lighting to the rear of the Hall would deter some of the activities. Resolved that the Clerk pass on this suggestion to the VHMC and ask that the light which is there should be angled downwards and not up to the sky!
- Tendered Local Bus Services – Cllr Billenness is still to liaise with the Clerk over proposed routings
- Waste bin adjacent to the School – this matter was passed to Cllr Waller for follow up and action.

5. Public Questions and Statements

Standing Orders were suspended.

- Works by Yorkshire Water - hydrants are being replaced, but not comprehensively.
- Daffodil bulbs in the verges have been saved - the water Co. were not aware until they were pointed out to them!
- The Mobile Police station visit – complaints made to the Officers present were acted upon promptly. When asked to outline ongoing problems, the Youth Club was mentioned.
- A suggestion was made that a tree/trees should be planted outside the Church instead of purchasing a large tree every Christmas.
- A query was raised about what is happening to the Methodist Church. It was confirmed that all artefacts of historical significance are to be moved to places in the Parish Church.

Standing Orders were resumed.

Resolved that a letter be sent to the Water Company asking if there is a regular method of checking water hydrants especially since Tockwith village is undergoing major repair works at present. We are to ask which hydrants are working, are they being recorded and is regular maintenance being done on them.

6. Village Hall

The Clerk reported.

- The Lease is progressing. A final draft has been seen by the VHMC, further comments are awaited.
- Fire Alarm – has been faulty. The panel has been repaired and new components ordered. The Emergency escape lights and covers have been repaired/replaced.
- Boiler controls – the Clerk has spent many hours at the Hall with the Broag qualified engineer and he confirmed that the Rematic control panel is broken. A replacement would be very expensive and, as the system is considered far too complicated for current user requirements, it was decided to replace the system with a Digistat. Unfortunately this new control has been interfered with and the timings and temperatures altered. The Clerk is going to reset the controls but it was resolved that the boiler room needs to be closed off except to essential users. A bolt and padlock will be put on the door and access to the keys limited so as to prevent further interference. A maintenance contract for the boiler and water heater is to be arranged so that the work is done according to the manufacturer's recommendations.
- The PAT testing of all appliances at the Hall has been completed and three items condemned.
- No progress to report on the matter of the noticeboard outside the Costcutter shop.

7. Bad bend in Cowthorpe Cllr Ward-Campbell brought to the Council's attention the spate of accidents recently at this corner due partly to the road surface. After contacting the Clerk he spoke to NYCC Highways Officers at Starbeck, who informed that a salt/grit bin is situated near the corner, 'slippery road' signs have been erected and investigations are to be done later in the year with the road being closed and dug up to try and discover either a broken water pipe or a spring which could be causing water to seep through the road surface. The very bad, dangerous state of the road into the village from the Tockwith direction was commented upon. Resolved that the PC write to NYCC, stating that we are aware of the accidents and the dangerous road surfaces and asking that we be informed what work is planned and when this may happen. Complaints had also been received about the road surface along Marston Road between Kendal Lane and Ralph Garth. This to be mentioned in the letter to NYCC.

8. Report by County Councillor In the absence of the Cllr there was no report.

9. Report by District Councillor

- Precept – HBC will be charging a 4.3% increase for next year. [With NYCC charging 4.9% and the Police Authority 3.9%, the overall increase will be around 4.5%]
- Airfield issues – a report is expected from Stephen Holmes, who was employed to investigate the problems of noise and smells.
- Local Government Reorganisation – HBC opposes the bid by NYCC to become a Unitary Authority. A decision is expected from the Government in March.
- Waste bin outside school – the D. Cllr will liaise with Cllr Waller.
- As Cabinet Member for Planning the D. Cllr is not aware of a planning application being submitted for the Yorkshire Air Ambulance.

10. Correspondence Additional items 45 to 55 were made known

- NY Times – a further response be made to NYCC informing of the absence of the February and March issues in Tockwith village and reiterating the offer to assist with distribution of the free newspaper
- Ash Tree on POS – the Clerk to contact the resident advising that any works to the tree should be agreed with HBC beforehand otherwise contravention of the bilateral agreement would occur.
- Allotment – Cllr Kirby kindly agreed to look into doing the clearance required at Bridlepath allotments. He agreed to liaise with Cllr Wardman over this.
- Police consultation meeting – the proposals were considered to be a good idea.
- HBC Spring Clean – the letter to be passed on to the Scouts and the Youth Club.
- Fleet Lane – footpath and street lighting problems – the letter to be passed to NYCC Highways for action/comment. The PC to reply and let the residents know.
- RHT Seminar on 14/3 – Cllr Mrs Wardman will let the Clerk know if she is available to attend.

11. Planning

Prospect House, Westfield Road, Tockwith – erection of single storey side extension and pitched roof to side. *The PC had no objections following neighbour notification.*

Water Tower, Marston Moor Business Park – O2 installation. *The Council believed this to be an eminently suitable idea, especially given poor mobile coverage in the area.*

31, Fleet Lane, Tockwith – erection of two storey and single storey rear extension *The PC had no objections following neighbour notification.*

50, Prince Rupert Drive – erection of rear conservatory and front porch *The PC had no objections following neighbour notification.*

Tarbert, Oak Road, Cowthorpe – erection of rear conservatory *The PC had no objections following neighbour notification.*

Decisions – approved with conditions Tomlinson Antiques, Moorside – erection of industrial unit (Use Class B2/B8) with associated hard and soft landscaping

Land at Marston Moor Business Park – erection of industrial building comprising 4 units.

Former Parish Hall, adjacent bungalow and garages to rear, Oak Road, Cowthorpe – reserved matters application for the erection of two detached dwellings with associated detached garaging and new vehicular access with access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale considered.

29, Kendal Gardens – erection of single storey rear and front extensions and first floor side extension

Decision - refused Larkfield, Oak Road, Cowthorpe – erection of first floor side extension and front double garage.

12. Accounts Bank balances (as at 21/02/07) Lloyds TSB current
a/c 2,500.00 Lloyds TSB Deposit
a/c 15,535.51

A/c's to pay/ratify SLCC training seminar
5.00 Ist Marston Moor Scouts (grant made payable to correct payee) 100.00

Byfield Heating (boiler service and repair) 192.41

Delegated authority was also given to the Clerk to pay outstanding invoices to: Viking Direct for stationery supplies (£84.99 + VAT) DENCO (Boiler controls attention and replacement - £780.96 Boiler and water heater annual maintenance contract £343.00) To discuss next month – Cowthorpe churchyard maintenance.

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

Date of next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 21st MARCH 2007 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending, and declared the meeting closed.