

TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Council meeting held on Wednesday 17th January 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, C Saunders, N Waller, R Ward-Campbell, C Billenness, P Pick, I Robinson

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

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

1. Apologies for absence - were received from County Cllr Savage, Cllrs Mrs Scholey and P Kirby and the Police.

2. Police Matters

- An e mail had been received from PC Ayre sending his apologies and a crime update report.

Information was received about upcoming visits from the Mobile Police Station with cycle patrol Officers and PCSO's hoping to undertake high visibility patrolling in Tockwith village on 13/2 and 9/3.

- The Clerk reported on a meeting held with Senior Police Officers at Ripon just before Christmas.

The area Policing is being looked at again and further changes are expected in April 2007.

- Cllr Billenness made known the latest scam regarding post-it notes - left on car rear windows in car parks, when the driver gets out to remove the note, a thief jumps in the car and makes off with it!
- 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.

3. Minutes of the last Meeting

The Minutes, and exempt 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

The Chairman reported on the latest position regarding the Air Ambulance. A planning application could be expected fairly soon as a site had been acquired. A second helicopter was being purchased. Concern was expressed about rumours and misleading comments which had been circulating in the villages:

- i) There will be NO night flying by the Air Ambulance based at Tockwith
- ii) The second helicopter will be based elsewhere and not at Tockwith – this machine may undertake night flying
- iii) There will be no maintenance of other helicopters at the Tockwith site
- iv) NO FLY Zones will be set up so as to minimise the effect on local people
- v) The acquired site is NOT on the airfield and is NOT very close to the village

Resolved that the Clerk write to Mr Eede expressing the support of the Parish Council and the village for the Air Ambulance.

- Tendered Local Bus Services – Cllr Billenness is still to liaise with the Clerk over proposed routings
- VH Clean-up – following the recent clean-up of the Hall and grounds it was distressing to see the state of the Main Hall and rear garden after recent Youth Club meetings. The recently installed suspended ceiling has already been damaged and covers for the emergency lighting and escape routes are damaged or missing.

Letters from the Parish Council and VHMC to the Youth Club had gone unanswered. Resolved that photographic evidence be included in a letter to NYCC asking that pressure be brought to bear on the Youth Club to respect the premises and grounds so that other users are not put off from using the venue.

- VH – central heating/boiler controls – after great difficulty in finding a contractor who would deal with the boiler, an engineer had recently done an annual service and had ordered a part to repair the boiler. However this engineer was unable to deal with the complicated automatic control system. Resolved that the Clerk contact the main distributor for this make of boiler and discover an engineer who could and would do the necessary investigations into the control system and any necessary repairs.
- VH – Lease – a letter had been received from Mr Peach about the current position and further written contact and a site meeting arranged with the Solicitor acting for the VHMC. A final draft Lease was expected shortly.
- The Clerk reported on a recent SLCC meeting she had attended when it had been suggested that the PC hold an open evening to 'show the public what goes on'.
- VH – potential development – a Public Open Meeting is to be held to allow residents to view the latest plans and make comments on them.
- Cllr Pick had seen 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 and Mr Burnell gave permission for the access to be used as long as any activities were restricted to camping.
- 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.

- A resident expressed concerns about traffic problems on the B1224 at Rufforth. He was advised to make his concerns known to Rufforth PC and/or York City Council under whose jurisdiction it fell
- The matter of parking on the verges in Southfield Lane and Tockwith Lane which destroyed the daffodil bulbs was raised again. The matter had been passed on to the Sportsfield Trust at their AGM by Cllr Billenness but the response had been less than helpful. It was believed the signs had proved useful except for a few mindless car drivers who ignored them.

Standing orders were resumed

6. Village Hall

Standing Orders were suspended.

- The VHMC Chairman, Mrs Steed reported that amended proposals were being put forward regarding development at the VH. A Public Meeting was to be held on the 18th January to allow residents to see the plans and make comments.

The PC Chairman talked through the amended plans and pointed out where changes had been made to reflect the concerns expressed by members of the public at the last Open Meeting. The PC was asked for comments on the amended plans. It was reported that nothing had come of other options investigated so the plan to develop the current VH was being pursued. The lack of car parking was the most serious issue for consideration. It was stated that the fact that the VH is in a central position within the village should mean there is less need for car use. This reflects current planning policy and, as a local community asset, driving to the site should be discouraged. Minor changes to the disabled ramp siting could be included. Phasing of development was considered important and sustainability of the completed development was questioned.

The VHMC Chairman said phasing was possible, sustainability would have to be proven with the business case or grant funding would not be forthcoming, the Highway Authority would be consulted on the need for additional car parking. The current building is becoming less viable as utility costs rise, with 'one user at a time' the only possibility with the current configuration.

A comment was made that the parking problem should be solved before any planning application was submitted.

The VHMC Chairman said that an informal talk with the planning authority would take place before resubmission.

Standing Orders were resumed.

Resolved that the PC resubmit a planning application subject to further comments from the public at the Open Meeting; A meeting be arranged with NYCC to discuss the matter of the YC use of the building and grounds and the matter of the indemnity raised. Cllr Billenness abstained from the voting.

- Lease – the VHMC needed a Lease to be in operation so as to have the required legal status.

The latest draft was being looked at before final responses are made.

- A letter of thanks had been sent to all user groups who had assisted at the Christmas Fair, which had been successful.
- Mrs Steed had spoken to the new owners of the Costcutter store about possibly having a village noticeboard outside the shop as it would be more likely that residents would see it. The PC supported this idea.
- The AGM of the VHMC had been held, there was zero attendance from the public. The constitution of the VHMC had been changed to reflect the lack of support from user groups.

7. Report by County Councillor

In the absence of the Cllr there was no report.

8. Report by District Councillor

In the absence of the Cllr there was no report.

9. Correspondence

Additional items 31 to 45 and additional planning decisions were made known

- NY Times – a further response be made to NYCC informing of the absence of the December issue and reiterating the offer to assist with distribution of the free newspaper
- Methodist Church – to reply and say that the PC has no information on possible proposals for future use of the site
- Minutes – under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act the PC is no longer obliged to provide hard copies of the approved Minutes as a copy is available on the PC web site. However if people do not have access to the internet and wish for a copy of the Minutes they are advised to contact the Clerk to the Council or any Parish Cllr. Spare copies of the Minutes to be available at meetings to give to any interested residents.
- Lychgate lights – following damage to the lights and their removal it was agreed to consider replacing the lights in time for Christmas this year.

10. Planning

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

The Parish Council did not object to this application but made the following comments:

1. The Council is concerned about adverse visual impact, from external lighting on the proposed buildings, on nearby residential properties and asks that the Planning Authority imposes appropriate design conditions on any proposed external lighting to minimize visual impact on neighbouring residential dwellings.

2. The Council notes that the processes related to the restoration of antiques often involve the use of caustic or solvent materials. The Council accordingly requests that appropriate conditions

be applied to any planning consent: (i) to restrict the storage or use of such substances outside the premises, (ii) to prevent any spillages of such substances from entering nearby watercourses, (iii) to prevent any fumes from the storage or use of such substances reaching nearby dwellings.

It is noted that Tomlinsons have recently erected new lighting poles on the site and it is queried whether planning consent has been obtained/is required for these?

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

The PC has no objections to this application.

The Chairman, Cllr Kennett, declared an interest in this item and left the room during discussion and voting on it.

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.

The Parish Council objected to this application on the following grounds:

1. The Council does not object to the principle of development of two dwellings on this site but does object to this application as the height of the proposed dwellings, being on the road frontage, would have a detrimental impact and be visually intrusive in the street scene.

2. The proposed dwellings are considered to be too near the road frontage and should be set back into the site, in line with other properties on this side of Oak Road.

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

The Parish Council objects to this application on the following grounds:

1. The proposed garage, sited in front of the present building, will create a visual intrusion in the street scene and lead to a loss of amenity to adjacent neighbours, causing loss of light to principle living rooms.

Prospect House, Westfield Road , Tockwith – erection of single storey side extension and pitched roof to side.

The Council had no objections subject to neighbour notification and any comments received.

Draft plans for O2 installation at Marston Moor Business Park Water Tower – this proposal was considered eminently suitable for the site, especially given poor mobile coverage in this area.

Decisions – approved with conditions

4, Kendal Gardens – erection of two storey front and first floor side extensions

Enforcement issues

The response regarding Professional Go-Karting on the old airfield gave rise to concern as it was felt that no investigation could have been done if the catalogue of complaints and investigations dating back over recent years

had not been referred to. Resolved that the Clerk write again, requesting that the Enforcement Officer talk to colleagues in Planning, Enforcement and Environmental Health Departments in order to discover the true position,

as there must be many files of correspondence on this issue.

12. Accounts

Bank balances (as at 17/01/07)

Lloyds TSB current a/c	2,500.00
Lloyds TSB Deposit a/c	17,120.32

A/c's to pay/ratify

Ainsty Farm Shop (Christmas hamper)	30.00
Allerton Park (Christmas Tree)	80.00
Cllr Billenness (reimburse for Cowthorpe Christmas lights)	39.99
SLCC (adjusted amount for annual subscriptions)	65.00
Viking Direct (stationery supplies)	88.34
Mrs G Firth (reimburse for 2 bottles of wine)	11.48

Quotation for works at Marston Road Play Area £550 + VAT

Resolved to accept the above quotation after contacting HBC, who confirmed Mr Dodsworth as their approved contractor.

Boiler service/annual maintenance, invoice awaited of £70 + VAT + parts

RoSPA – Resolved that the Clerk reply to organise the Playground Inspection for 2007

Receipts

VHMC/Players (contribution to suspended ceiling)	1,420.00
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Resolved that the Bank balances be accepted, and accounts be paid/ratified as above.

Grants

Tockwith Parish Church (churchyard maintenance)	400.00
Tockwith Methodist Church (burial ground maintenance)	400.00
Tockwith & District Show	250.00
VHMC	640.00
Ist Marston Moor Scouts	100.00

Section 137 contribution towards rebuilding/replacing churchyard wall 1000.00

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

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