

TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Council meeting held on Wednesday 17th October 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 C Saunders

Present: Councillors Mrs Wardman, Mrs Scholey, N Waller, P Kirby, R Ward-Campbell, I Robinson, C Billenness, M Kennett

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 October Council meeting.

Apologies for absence

were received from Cllr Savage and notification that Cllr Kennett would attend later.

2. Police Matters

No communication had been received from the Police.

Vandalism and graffiti had occurred at the derelict site in Cowthorpe.

Police had stopped and questioned four youths in a car on Fleet Lane in the early hours of the morning

Springfield Terrace – further incidents of throwing eggs at cars and homes had occurred after Youth Club on Friday nights.

On Youth Club nights disruption occurred down the side of the Spotted Ox and the VH in the adjacent lane which is a private road and a public footpath.

These last two incidents to be recorded and sent to the Youth Service so they are aware of what is happening on Youth Club nights. A debate ensued on the various incidents occurring on Youth Club nights both within and outside the VH. The Health, Safety and Welfare of the young people is considered to be at risk if there is no supervision or leadership. A letter to be sent to NYCC saying that the Council is increasingly concerned at the number of incidents and the outcome may be the suspension of the Youth Club for a time until better procedures can be put in place. Cllrs Billenness, Saunders and Waller agreed to visit the VH on Friday night both before and after the YC meeting to monitor and record the state of the Hall and surroundings.

3. 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.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

- CCTV cameras – The Clerk had obtained quotations which would be discussed in exempt matters at the end of the meeting because of commercial sensitivity.
- Bank signatories – confirmation has been received that the change of signatories has been completed.
- Village Hall Lease – the latest position was outlined by the Clerk. The matter would be discussed under item 6 on the agenda.
- The Clerk asked Cllrs to complete and return to her any outstanding Members Register of Interests forms.

- The Clerk had collected a sack of daffodil bulbs from Harrogate – the Probation Service, Community Service Project Team to be asked to assist with planting these at the entrances to the villages in the parish..
- Harrogate District Transport Forum – the Clerk gave a report on information previously received. Concern was expressed at the way matters had moved forward without public or committee consultation. The Clerk was asked to write and ask what had happened to the Lower Nidd Community Minibus and also why no meeting or consultation had taken place when the bus was transferred to the Transport Forum.
- Cattal Station car parking – the e mail from NYCC was read out. Cllrs were most concerned at the lack of action over many years on this matter. If the Government wants people to use public transport the means of doing so with regard to car parking in the rural areas must be made available. A letter to be sent to ATOC, the Minister for Transport, Northern Rail, the Strategic Rail Authority, the MP with a copy to Cattal Parish Council expressing the concerns about the matter and lack of action to date.

5. Public Questions and Statements

Standing Orders were suspended.

- It was reported that vehicles had been parking on footpaths during work to extend/refurbish properties.
- The cost of the motorcycle and horse ‘springers’ in the Marston Road Play Area was requested.
- The “No Dogs allowed” sign in the Play Area had been vandalised and broken.

Standing Orders were resumed.

The first matter was to be passed on to the Chairman of the CaP Group at the next meeting.

Cllr Mrs Wardman agreed to look out the prices requested.

The Clerk was authorised to organise purchase of a replacement sign.

7. Public Footpaths in the Parish

1. The path along the side of Syke Beck on the south side of Marston Road was no longer passable because the new owners of the field had put up a fence to block off the path. The Land was not previously registered with the Land Registry and the land has not been farmed for many years. The footpath has been used for many years by pedestrians and dog walkers. The Clerk was asked to obtain the necessary Evidence of Use forms from the Definitive Map Team Officer.

2. The footpath from Prince Rupert Drive to Southfield Lane has still not been provided in spite of the Public Enquiry held last year and the agreement with the landowner. On hearing the information that the path is unlikely to go ahead on the designated route, despite having the funding in place for the footpath, because of the exorbitant cost of removing enough trees in the copse to allow the footpath with lighting to be built councillors were extremely concerned. A letter to be sent to NYCC stating that the PC are extremely concerned at the likelihood that public time and money has been spent over a long period with no visible result to date and the Parish Council is aware that residents are minded to contact the Ombudsman and the Audit Commission if a speedy resolution of the problem is not forthcoming.

3. The Definitive Map Officer to be asked about the footpath which went through the farm yard and field of North Field Farm. It is believed an agreement was made with neighbouring land owners in the 1960’s but there is no evidence that the path was ever diverted or extinguished as a public ROW.

4. The fact that there are no dropped kerbs in Tockwith village at the central T junction in the

village, along the length of Westfield Road to Fleet Lane and Westfield/Springfield Lane was mentioned. This makes access for wheelchair users very difficult. NYCC to be made aware and asked to provide dropped kerbs at important places along the route and at the village Shop/Hairdressers/pubs/Bus Stops and Village Hall.

5. Ness Lane/Skewkirk Bridge/Common Land – Skewkirk Hall estate is for sale. The Clerk to write to the selling agents requesting that, as parties to a dispute involving some of the land, the Parish Council is kept aware of details of the progress of the sale.

8. Report by County Cllr 9. Report by District Cllr

Cllr Savage had spoken to the Clerk who passed on up dates on ongoing matters.

6. Village Hall

- Planning application – was due to go to Planning Committee for determination on October 6th with a recommendation for refusal it was believed. The Planning Officers were saying that the stage and green room must be removed from the plan as well as the side extension already present to make the scheme more acceptable and there were objections from residents to the scheme.

Cllrs would attempt to attend and speak to the application on the date specified.

- Lottery grant – the VHMC had received word that they had not been successful in obtaining a grant as the scheme was many times oversubscribed. Efforts were continuing to access other grants and funding.
- Lease – YLCA had been contacted and sent a copy of the latest draft Lease for consideration along with the Village Halls Advisor. Once they were fully informed it was hoped a meeting could be arranged between them and the PC and VHMC to try and progress matters as soon as possible.
- A letter containing photographic evidence of the state of the Hall after Youth Club meetings had been sent to the 4Youth Services Officer, John Collins. No action had yet been taken to try and resolve the problems in spite of repeated requests and letters.

10. Correspondence

Additional items 24 to 29 were made known

- Recycling Talk by HBC – resolved to ask for attendance at the February PC Meeting
- Churchyard extension – resolved to ask Ray Farrer to do the grass and hedge cutting
- HBC Group 2 meeting – for next corries file
- YLCA – info to be e mailed to those Cllrs on e mail

11. Planning

55, Prince Rupert Drive – erection of single storey side extension and alterations to porch to form bay window *No objections to this application subject to neighbour notification*

Planning decisions – approved with conditions: Land to the rear of East House Farm, Kirk Lane – erection of detached stable block

12. Accounts

Bank balances (as at 17/10/07)

Lloyds TSB current a/c	2,500.00
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Lloyds TSB Deposit a/c	18,469.31
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A/c's to pay/ratify

Mrs G Firth (salary to 31/10)	415.53
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PWLB (advance notice of D/D on 1/11)	1,859.41
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Receipts

Allotment rents	5.50
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Precept (Part 2)	7,918.00
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Resolved that the Bank balances be accepted, and accounts be paid/ratified as above.

The Clerk had prepared a draft budget for Precept 2008/9. Cllrs took a copy each to peruse prior to discussion at the November meeting. Quotations for CCTV had been obtained. These to be discussed in exempt matters at the end of the meeting.

Date of next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 21st NOVEMBER 2007 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. The Clerk gave her apologies.

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