

TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Council meeting held on Wednesday 19th November 2008 in the Village Hall

The 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 placed at the Hall entrance at every meeting and attendees notice drawn to it.

Chairman: Councillor C Saunders

Present: Councillors N Waller, Mrs Wardman, Mrs Scholey, P Pick, R Ward-Campbell, M Algar, S Trenchard, N Alliott

In attendance: Terry Begley and John Coates (4Youth Service of NYCC), County/District Cllr Savage, Mrs J Bygate (Internal Auditor), Mrs G Firth (Clerk to the Council), Mrs Steed, 6 members of the public

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the November Council meeting.

Apologies for absence – were received from Cllr C Billenness. Late arrival Cllr N Alliott.

2. Declarations of Interest - There were none.

3. Minutes of the last Meeting and Exempt Minutes

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/business remaining from the last meeting

Allotments – more replies from tenants had been received. A tenant requested names and contact details of all allotment holders in order to develop a constitution.

Resolved:- that the Clerk reply and say that until every tenant has replied, they have been given until February 2009 to do so, the wishes of the majority will not be known. Only if the majority of tenants are in favour of an Association will the matter be progressed. It is therefore not appropriate to give out contact details of current tenants.

Youth Club Standing Orders were suspended.

Mr Begley and Mr Coates were welcomed to the meeting. They were invited to speak.

Mr Begley wished to assure the Council that the matter is being taken seriously by 4Youth Service of NYCC and they are trying to resolve the issues with the Senior Youth worker. They are happy to work with both the Parish Council and the VHMC as they are committed to quality provision of a service for young people.

The Chairman of the VHMC regretted the fact that there was a lack of communication between the Youth Service and the residents of Tockwith about the current state of affairs.

The Chairman of the Parish Council spoke about the concerns regarding the Youth Club which have existed for a number of years. There are concerns about the supervision of the young people which raise Child Protection and Health and Safety issues and cause problems for other user groups of the VH. The Council supports the efforts of the VHMC to provide a secure, safe environment for all user groups. There have been problems recently with unauthorised access to the VH, which have resulted in changes to the door lock mechanism and the provision of restricted keys. The Council would like to see a business plan and risk assessment and a programme of events before the Youth Club resumes.

A councillor, who is also a parent of Youth Club aged children, spoke of the lack of adequate leadership of the Youth Club, lack of rules and management of activities which had caused a loss of confidence in the Youth Club leader. It was stated that a form of communication between parents/residents and the Youth Service was essential in the future. Concern was expressed and questions asked about an 'alternative' Youth Club being held in the village.

Mr Begley replied that there is no form of registration for youth work and anyone can set up and run a Youth Club.

North Yorkshire Youth has a scheme of affiliation and expects procedures to be complied with before this affiliation is confirmed and can be covered by insurance.

Standing Orders were resumed.

Resolved:- that the Parish Council write to the 4Youth Service expressing support for a properly managed Youth Club but stating that the Youth Club will not be allowed to resume under the same leadership or with the current Leader having any part in the running or supervision of the Youth Club.

Mr Begley and Mr Coates were thanked for their attendance.

Village signs – nothing further to report

Public Open Space encroachment – a letter to be sent to the residents thanking them for reinstating the boundary but asking them to remove the three posts which have been left on POS land.

Information Commissioner – the Council is now registered and is covered under the Data Protection Act.

Village Hall – The Clerk had purchased and fitted a combination lock for the rear gate.

Village Hall – damp penetration – quotations for remedial work to be discussed in Exempt Matters. **Village Hall** – window repairs to be authorised now before the winter weather, with the exterior decoration to be completed next Spring.

Village Hall – door lock mechanism/restricted access keys, padlocks/keys for storage cupboards – an invoice has been sent to NYCC 4Youth Service for reimbursement of the costs (as agreed with John Collins)

5. Report from the Clerk

BT Adopt a kiosk – the Clerk reported on the application and the work entailed. An application and cheque for £1 had been sent to BT. An application for an unmetered connection agreement had been made to YEDL and an Unmetered Supply Certificate, providing details of the MPAN and Estimated Annual Consumption associated with the light in the telephone kiosk was awaited.

Resolved:- that the Clerk progress the application to conclusion, Cllr Ward-Campbell agreed to laminate the sign required for display in the kiosk after adoption.

6. Police matters

PC Haydon had sent an e mail report with the latest crime figures. He was to be asked to let the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators know about specific incidents when public information may prove useful.

There is no crime trend in the area but as the nights are drawing in and nearing Christmas people are encouraged to be extra vigilant and ensure their properties are secure when unattended.

Speeding on Fleet Lane has been addressed. Six people had been cautioned for speeding and two tickets issued for over 40mph

Complaints about buses speeding through the village are being addressed

Parking problems in Ralph Garth are being addressed

The Mobile Office had visited Tockwith and had 16 visitors with no particular issues raised

7. Public Questions or Statements

Standing Orders were suspended.

Residents expressed the following concerns:-

The proposals to close branch surgeries and local doctors' dispensaries.

Parking on the grass verges near the Sportsfield which damaged the daffodil bulbs.

Lack of Police presence at PC meetings.

Conservation Area – recent planning application to alter/extend a bungalow on Westfield Road

Standing Orders were resumed.

Resolved:- that the Clerk write to the Secretary of State for Health, with copies to the MP and Chief Executive of NYCC about the proposals to close dispensaries/branch surgeries and state the Council's objection to the proposals.

Verge marker posts are due to be erected shortly and a further supply requested from NYCC.

PC Haydon had attended last month's PC meeting and his apologies were accepted as his wife is seriously ill.

Recent planning application:

HBC is reviewing Conservation Areas in the Harrogate District, results of the consultation are awaited.

The Parish Council objected to the planning application and it is HBC which makes the decision

The Parish Council had not agreed to demolish the bungalow

Further applications to demolish the bungalow and replace it with a detached dwelling will be considered under item 12 on tonight's agenda.

8. Village Hall

Standing Orders were suspended.

Mrs Steed was invited to report.

A meeting will be held this week with the ACRE Solicitor, acting for the VHMC, in regard to the Lease.

Quotations have been obtained for internal decoration of the building. Orders will be placed for the work to be done once the damp problem is sorted out. The major development to extend the VH is not going ahead. A small extension, to include disabled toilets and storage, is being investigated. Architect's drawings are required before contractors will quote for the works. Agreement of the PC is requested for this action.

Volunteers are requested for the VH Christmas Fair, to be held on Saturday the 6th December. A donation from the PC of a raffle prize is requested. Standing Orders were resumed.

The PC will put in place, as soon as possible, the remedial works to cure the damp problem.

The PC supports the small extension and will submit a planning application in due course.

A hamper, to the value of £40, will be donated as a raffle prize for the Christmas Fair.

Thanks were expressed to the VHMC for all their work.

9. and 10. Report by County/District Councillor

HBC - Commuted sums – the issue is complicated but is being addressed

HBC – Concessionary fares – the full impact of the scheme is still not known

NYCC - call in of the Waste Management Plan – the Plan will recommence in Spring 2009

Cllr Savage was asked what Waste Management Policy NYCC is working to. The current Policy will remain in force until it is superceded. Any new Policy has to be in line with European recommendations. The 17 sites earmarked have been put on hold but Allerton is still favourite. The Policy was called in because NYCC did not comply with all the rules during Inspection and Consultation. A further report will go to NYCC in December.

Skewkirk Bridge – ongoing but nothing further to report

Youth Club – the matter is being addressed by senior Officers of NYCC after a recent flurry of e mails

BCB – a meeting had been held with NYCC Planning Officers – a report will follow later

Closure of local doctors' dispensaries – copy the Chief Executive of NYCC into correspondence

Cllr Savage wished everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year.

Thanks and compliments of the season were expressed to Cllr Savage, for his attendance, report and good wishes.

11. Correspondence

Additional items 53 to 67 were made known.

New Mandatory Publication Scheme – the Clerk was authorised to complete the table of information to be made available so that the scheme is in place before 1st January 2009 as required by law.

The Boroughbridge CaP Group agenda was passed to Cllr Algar as the PC representative

Village Hall Lease – further communications from PC’s Solicitor regarding amendments to Lease, Deed of Covenant with NYCC information and estimated professional fees had been received. The Clerk to progress the Lease to completion as soon as practicable.

12. Planning including standing item: BCB application

Applications

Linden, 40, Westfield Road – Conservation Area consent for demolition of bungalow and outbuilding

Linden, 40, Westfield Road – erection of replacement detached dwelling

Standing Orders were suspended to allow a neighbour to speak.

The neighbour is concerned about overshadowing/overlooking as the intention appears to be to create a two storey house next door to a bungalow.

Standing Orders were resumed.

The Council was concerned that the plans submitted with both the above applications seemed to be the same as had been submitted with the earlier application to alter/extend the bungalow.

Resolved:- that the Clerk contact the planning department and request that the correct plans are sent before the PC make comments/observations. The PC needs to see what is proposed following the proposed demolition. The plans to alter/extend the bungalow had been approved contrary to the PC objections.

Tomlinson Antiques, Moorside – Reserved Matters – variation of condition 6 of planning permission 6.124.220.PA to allow Tomrods Ltd. To occupy warehouse (Use Class B8 – storage and distribution)

Standing Orders were suspended to allow neighbours to speak.

Neighbours objected on grounds of noise and HGV movements. The original planning consent for this site was for a specialised antique restoration business and had restrictions on it.

Standing Orders were resumed.

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

- 1) The site is considered inappropriate for the proposed business;*
- 2) doors would not always be closed, thereby noise would affect nearby properties;*
- 3) local C Class roads, which are shared with residential properties, are inadequate for HGV traffic;*
- 4) if the business is relocating locally, staff will relocate also and the likelihood of employment opportunities is unproven;*
- 5) the “handling and treatment of steel, including sandblasting” is not a suitable activity to take place adjacent to residential dwellings; 6) the proposed change of use would lead to an industrial site occupying a most inappropriate location in the countryside.*

Westfield Green – Protected Tree Works application *The Parish Council supports this application. Neighbour consultation will be done and any comments made known to the Clerk.*

Planning decisions – approved with conditions

40, Westfield Road – erection of single storey side extension and raising of roof height to form first floor

Thorn Croft, 81, Marston Road – erection of single storey side extension.

The Barn, Gowlands Farm, Kirk Hammerton – erection of link extension between dwelling and garage

Planning Appeal Decision – appeal dismissed Southfield Lodge, Rudgate – conversion of redundant building to form 1 dwelling, installation of new package treatment plant and erection of detached storage building for gardening and landscaping business.

13. Accounts

Bank balances (as at 19/11/08)

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Lloyds TSB current a/c | 2,500.00 |
| Lloyds TSB Deposit a/c | 9,459.12 |

A/c's to pay/ratify

| | |
|---|----------|
| Pennine Timber & Damp Company (visit and inspection prior to quote) | 41.12 |
| Bartlett Tree Experts - (expenditure approved - to be paid once invoice received) | 937.65 |
| Eggborough Fencing (additional £100 for mesh gate) | 2,195.37 |
| PWLB (D/D on 1/11) | 1,859.41 |
| BT (adopt a kiosk) | 1.00 |
| [The current electricity cost is £17 per annum] | |
| Absolute Emergencies (first visit and specification) | 76.38 |
| Absolute Emergencies (visit to fit new lock/restricted keys) | 340.75 |
| Ray Farrer (grounds Maintenance) | 250.00 |
| Mrs Firth (Clerk salary to 30/11, expenses to 19/11) | 874.78 |
| Viking Direct (stationery supplies) | 140.22 |
| SLCC (annual subscription) | 94.00 |
| Ainsty Farms (Christmas hamper) | 40.00 |
| Steve Tebbutt (to be paid when VH window repair done) | 750.00 |
| Resolved:- that the Council will provide lights for the tree/porch at the Parish Church, by improvising and using the lights already owned. | |

Resolved:- that the Bank balances be accepted, and accounts be paid/ratified as above.

Precept 2009/2010 The Clerk made known the NALC interim salary award from 1.4.08 and made Cllrs aware of her increased work load over the last several months. Resolved:- Cllrs' responsibilities be placed as an agenda item for the January meeting.

Cllrs discussed the draft budget from last month and an alternative budget proposed by Cllr Billenness. Cllrs agreed that borrowing approval should be sought to obtain a loan from the PWLB for major capital works at the VH. This is to be done when quotes for the most essential capital works have been obtained eg roof replacement. Amendments were made to the draft budget. Resolved:- a Precept of £25,000 be demanded for 2009/2010.

Cllrs were made aware of cash flow and budget issues for the current year and likely expenditure before the financial year end next March.

Date of next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 21st JANUARY 2009 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

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