

TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Council meeting held on Wednesday 15th October 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, C Billenness, R Ward-Campbell, M Algar, S Trenchard

In attendance: County/District Cllr Savage, Mrs J Bygate (Internal Auditor), Mrs G Firth (Clerk to the Council), PC Haydon, Mrs Steed, 1 member of the public

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the October Council meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence** – were received from Cllr N Allott

2. **Declarations of Interests** - 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

- NYCC had provided a new map for the web site
- The Photographic Statement of Condition of the Village Hall had been completed. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Billenness for his efforts in this regard
- Allotments – only two replies from tenants had been received so far. One was in favour and one against the formation of an Allotment Association. Proposed rent increases will take effect from October 2009 with 6 months at the old rent and 6 months at the new rate for 2009/10. This will allow a staged increase in the rents to be charged. The rents will be reviewed annually from now on and be an agenda item for March meetings. From next year the application of an administration fee will be looked at.
- Village Hall – the fencing and gate to the rear of the building have now been completed. The Clerk was authorised to purchase a combination lock for the gate.
- Village Hall – damp penetration – contractors have been approached for quotations for remedial work.
- POS encroachment – a watching brief to continue

5. Police matters

This item was deferred to later in the meeting as PC Haydon was due to attend.

6. Public Questions or Statements

There were none.

7. Village Hall

This item was deferred until later in the meeting, awaiting the attendance of Mrs Steed.

8. Tockwith Village Sign(s)

The Chairman had done research and reported that grant assistance may be available from The Yorkshire Dales Millennium Fund Aggregates fund to provide stone village signs. There were a multitude of different possibilities for the size and type of signs. It was stated that the Fleet Lane sign may have to be moved to the opposite side of the road due to the narrowness of the verge on the approach to the village.

Cllr Saunders agreed to do further research and report back.

9. and 10. Report by County/District Councillor

- BCB – the application has been withdrawn. Thanks were expressed to everyone for help during the application process. A further application may be submitted. The Environment Agency had been very much against the application
- Skewkirk Bridge – the matter is ongoing but still in ‘chaos’.
- NYCC Finance – confirmed that no money is deposited in Iceland. A briefing note was passed to the Clerk for filing
- Affordable Housing – the scheme is ‘on hold’ during the current economic climate
- Cattal Station car park – works are taking place at the Public House car park which is being extended. There should be 11 parking spaces for rail users but the landlord is resisting this.
- Concessionary fares scheme – HBC does not know the full costs for the District as the scheme has been more successful than could have been foreseen.

Questions were asked about the Bus Company’s charges, HBC and NYCC should have a full break-down of the costs incurred and further subsidies should be provided to offset the costs. The Government was supposed to give grants to cover the costs of the scheme so that no Councils would lose out but this finance had not been forthcoming. There is a worry that Council Tax will have to be increased or the Services reduced because of the huge costs involved.

It is hoped that HBC will liaise with other Authorities to lobby the Government about this matter.

- Cllr Savage stated that he would be happy to help with grant assistance for the Village Signs from his Members Budget allocation. Paperwork to be requested from Ruth Gladstone at County Hall.
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Thanks were expressed to Cllr Savage for his attendance and report.

7. Village Hall

Mrs Steed apologised for lateness.

Standing Orders were suspended. Mrs Steed was invited to report.

- Quotations had been obtained for internal decoration of the building.
- The VHMC is keen to work with the PC for structural elements and major works. Grant funding is being sourced.
- The Parish Council was thanked for the fencing and gate to the rear of the building which will reduce unauthorised access to the Village Hall grounds.
- Fund Raising events are ongoing – Entertainment Evening to be held on 15th November and Christmas Fair on 6th December. Help and contribution from the Parish Council will be gratefully received.

- Village Hall Lease – unfortunately one of the named Holding Trustees has recently passed away and a new Trustee is being sought.
- Village Hall garden – further work is being done.
- Village Hall back room – the carpet has been steam cleaned and the room is looking much better.
- Youth Club – is temporarily suspended until further notice. A letter from the Youth Service was to be included in the next VHMC newsletter to make the situation as widely known as possible and try to prevent false rumours circulating about the matter. Letters from the Youth Club Leader and North Yorkshire 4Youth Service had been noted. Mr Goodrick had hired the Sportsfield building on two occasions recently and held a ‘Youth Club’ there. The Youth Club Leader refused to return his key for access to the VH.

Standing Orders were resumed.

Mrs Steed was thanked for her report.

Information on the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust Aggregates Grant was passed to the VHMC.

It was confirmed that there would be no firework displays at the VH.

The Information Commissioner – the Clerk was delegated authority to pursue Notification at a cost of £35 per annum.

CCTV in the VH does not require parental consent but safeguards should be in place regarding the collection and retrieval of information and restriction of its dissemination under the Data Protection Act.

The binders containing the PSC were to be signed by the Clerk and Mrs Steed and passed to Ware & Kay to form part of the new Lease. Cllrs agreed to the latest revisions to the draft Lease and especially to the deletion of Clause 11.

Cllrs expressed concern at matters relating to the Youth Club Leader.

Security of the building had been compromised and it was resolved that a new door lock for the front door be investigated and purchased as a matter of urgency.

Storage in the VH of ‘personal property’ of Mr Goodrick was questioned. Personal property should not be present and personal details of Youth Club members should not be stored on the premises.

Concern was also expressed at the Youth Club Leader taking the children elsewhere for meetings as the Youth Service is insured to operate in the VH and nowhere else in the village.

All concerns about the operation of the Youth Club were to be passed to Cllr Savage who agreed to take the matter up with the Director at NYCC.

5. Police matters

Standing Orders were suspended.

PC Haydon attended and produced a copy of the latest crime figures.

- Most of the increased number of crimes took place on Marston Moor Business Park with theft of diesel and scrap metal of most concern.
- There had been a few house break-ins over the summer but mainly thefts of and from vehicles occurred. Thefts during the summer of Landrovers, lead and scrap metal had occurred.

Cllrs expressed concern at the nil detection rate. PC Haydon explained that the method of recording crimes had altered and new computer software was being installed and ALL violent crimes and assaults are detected.

- Economic fraud crimes e.g. e bay had increased.
- New Motorway Service Area – lots of crimes of make-offs, burglary and one illegal immigrant found.

Cllrs wanted crime figures and detection rates to accurately reflect the number and type of crimes occurring so that residents could see what is actually happening and any trends could easily be noted. A monthly report from the Police would be appreciated though PC Haydon assured the Council that all crime victims are informed personally.

- Speed analysis – figures are not available as the machine is away being calibrated. The matrix sign 'blew up' and another is on order. The Fire Brigade will do speed monitoring if there is a local issue.

PC Haydon invited questions.

- The gypsies have now gone from the St James's site at Knaresborough, although £40,000 damage had been done to the site. The site owners have a responsibility to take precautions against unauthorised access but had failed to do so. A new pro-active Policy is hoped to be in place for future years. Warning messages from the ring round system advising landowners to keep their land gated and secure had been appreciated. The Police and HBC had been trying to find areas of hard standing where the travellers could go, especially with all the wet weather this year. Any ideas/suggestions would be gratefully received.
- CaP Group Minutes – the comments by Inspector Chapman about lack of attendance meaning that residents were happy with the Police Service were believed to be too general and not accurate.
- Neighbourhood Policing Area – it was questioned whether the Marston Moor and Ouseburn Wards was too large an area to be covered by a single Officer. It is hoped that extra man power will be forthcoming. The system has operated for 6 months and the balance needs adjusting as sometimes there is no vehicle available and man power is lacking at certain times due to leave/days off etc.
- Police Surgery – is not favoured by senior Officers but the PC can ask for the Mobile Police Office to visit the village at least monthly.
- Response Officers/Safer Neighbourhood work – Officers have delegated responsibilities and can be contacted wherever they are. Community Police Officers do not deal with crime work as such, only work surrounding it such as projects to reduce crime and the fear of crime.
- Ralph Garth – indiscriminate parking on pavements is a problem once again. The Police were asked to look at when patrolling the village.

Instances should be reported to the Police using the saferknaresborough@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk e mail.

PC Haydon gave his personal mobile number for use by the Council only.

PC Haydon was thanked for his attendance and invited to attend future meetings as his duties allow. He was asked to pass on to Inspector Chapman the concerns mentioned this evening.

11. Correspondence

Additional items 24 to 45 were made known.

- Consultation on making and enforcement of byelaws – comment was made on the fact that Councils and Cllrs would not be allowed to police byelaws.
- Village Hall rear doors – the fire door mechanism could not be altered due to the condition of the doors and the need for the doors to be replaced. A quotation had been asked for.
- Tyres on airfield – HBC Fire & Safety Planning Enforcement had rung to say the majority of tyres were full of water and therefore not a fire hazard; the separation distance from residential properties was sufficient for there to be no Fire Safety issues; the Environment Agency was the authority to deal with such issues.
- Khyati Vaughan leaving HBC – the Council wished to thank her for all her work and wish her well in her new career down South.
- Play Area Inspection – no urgent matters had come to light – resolved that any remedial work be held over until the Spring.

12. Planning including standing item: BCB application

Applications

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

The PC has the following concerns: 1) concern is expressed about the loss of garage amenity in this location,

2) the proposals are considered to be an over-intensive development of the site. Removal of the 5th bedroom would add more balance to the property.

From last month, additional comments made:

Gowlands Farm, Wilstrop – erection of link extension between dwelling and garage.

The PC does not object to or support the application but wishes to make the following comments:

1) The extension does not appear to be in keeping with what was a farm complex conversion

2) access to the oil tanks and the car port would be restricted

3) the car port is owned by the Management Company (4 properties) and the garden room would be an attachment to the car port wall

4) the glass fronted proposal is not in keeping and overlooks the adjacent property

Thorn Croft, 81, Marston Road – erection of single storey side extension. *No objections.*

Decision – approved with conditions

Unit 18, Rudgate Business Park – erection of industrial unit with first floor office accommodation (Use Class B1)

Decision - refused

Crossgates Farm, Cattal Moor Lane – display of one non-illuminated free standing sign.

Tree Preservation Order No 72/2008 – Land surrounding footpath connecting Westfield Lane and Westfield Green

The Parish Council supports this TPO.

The Clerk to authorise the Tree works to proceed after necessary permission obtained. Adjacent residents to be informed that works will go ahead to all 3 trees as a gesture of goodwill from the PC but without prejudice and the PC accepts no responsibility for further works being required to T1 or T3 which form a joint boundary with the POS.

BCB – the planning application has been withdrawn.

BCB had not been able to satisfy the objections of the Environment Agency.

This item to be kept on the agenda as a standing item for at least another month as more information may be forthcoming. BCB are allegedly looking at 'alternative technologies' and a new planning application may be submitted.

13. Accounts

Bank balances (as at 15/10/08)

Lloyds TSB current a/c	2,500.00
Lloyds TSB Deposit a/c	13,911.18

A/c's to pay/ratify

Clive Billenness (binders with photographs)	35.64
Dalton Joinery (VH rear door repair)	218.55
The above two accounts from last month to be deleted and the cheques cancelled.	
Cllr Billenness (reimburse for binders and PSC)	3.00
SLCC (AGM and Branch Training Day)	17.00
Information Commissioner	35.00
RoSPA (Playground Inspection)	74.03
Bartlett Tree Experts	937.65
Eggborough Fencing (additional £100 for mesh gate)	2,195.37
Pennine Timber & Damp Company (visit and inspection prior to quote)	41.12
PWLB (advance notice of D/D on 1/11)	1,859.41

Receipts

Precept 2	7,918.00
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Resolved that the Bank balances be accepted, and accounts be paid/ratified as above.

Cllr Billenness abstained from the vote as a reimbursement to him was included above.

The Clerk presented a draft budget for 2009/2010 and asked Cllrs to read and digest it and be prepared to make decisions at the November meeting as the return would have to be made to HBC before the first meeting in January 2009.

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 19th NOVEMBER 2008 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.