

## **TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL**

Draft Minutes of a Council meeting held on Wednesday 18th November 2009 in Tockwith Church

**Chairman:** Councillor C Saunders JP

**Present:** Councillors N Waller, R Ward-Campbell, P Pick, N Alliot (early departure), Mrs L Chasney, Mrs J Wardman

**In attendance:** District/County Councillor Savage, (late arrival), PC Haydon, Mrs G Firth (Clerk to the Council), Mrs A Unsworth (VHMC Chairman), 2 members of the public

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the November Council meeting, the last of this year.

### **To consider co-option of a Councillor for Tockwith Ward**

The Clerk reported that, as there had been no request for an election, Harrogate Borough Council had advised that a new councillor could now be co-opted. Cllrs were unaware of any resident who may be interested in joining the Parish Council.

**Apologies for absence** – were received from Cllrs Algar and Billenness, (work commitments)

**3. Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Alliot on a planning matter at 80, Prince Rupert Drive.

### **9. Police matters**

PC Haydon said the PC had already received the monthly crime figures from Inspector Chapman. He gave a brief report on crime in the parish.

- Crime-wise things are relatively quiet. The major events of the last month had involved theft of agricultural machinery, namely tractors, which are being stolen to order. Farmers should be made aware of these thefts.
- There had been several incidents of anti-social behaviour in the village recently. The Police were following up on these.
- Children had been caught riding their bikes in the dark without lights. Young people's groups in the village had been spoken to and warned of the dangers.
- The School grounds had been visited on several occasions but none had been caught yet.

Standing Orders were suspended.

Kirk Lane residents spoke of the recent problems with overlooking of their property by young people using the recently installed play equipment. They were advised to ring the Police if the problems continue.

Standing Orders were resumed.

Cllrs reported the following concerns:

- Speeding at the east end of the village is still occurring regularly. The Police were asked to provide details of when and where the speed checks were done and the results.
- A unmarked tipper van had dumped a load of trees and other gardening refuse on Southfield Lane. Cllr Pick had cleared the road.

PC Haydon was thanked for attending and giving his report.

#### **4. Public Questions or Statements**

There were none, other than agenda items later in the meeting.

#### **5. 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. The Chairman thanked Cllr Waller for chairing the meeting in his absence and Cllr Algar for taking the minutes in the Clerk's absence.

#### **6. Matters arising from the Minutes/business remaining from the last meeting**

**i) Playground apparatus at the Primary School** – the new equipment had been installed without consultation with residents and was considered too high as it overlooked the rear of properties in Kirk Lane. The matter is to be an agenda item on the Governor's meeting to be held next week, as well as further signage to warn against trespassing on the School grounds. Cllr Saunders declared a non- prejudicial interest as he is a School Governor and sits on the Health and Safety Committee.

Standing Orders were suspended.

Kirk Lane residents spoke of their dismay at the invasion of their privacy and intrusion into their lives. It was believed the apparatus was taller than normal. It had been installed in the summer holidays by the PTA. The positioning was considered to be wrong and should be moved away from the hedge boundary. The residents had visited the School and spoken to the Headmistress but had not been satisfied by the response. The residents invited members of the PC to visit their home to see the problems for themselves. They had lived happily near the School for many years and had been good neighbours.

Standing Orders were resumed.

Cllrs believed a lesson could be learned for the future and better communication may have helped the situation.

**ii) Marston Moor Airfield activities** – Officers and HBC Cllrs had been invited to a PC meeting early in 2010. No replies had been received yet. If no replies are forthcoming, the matter to be followed up with the Dept. Director/ Leader of the Council/Cabinet Member.

**iii) Salt bins** – the Clerk was to arrange a meeting with the relevant NYCC Officer to discuss various local issues.

**iv) Play Area Inspection** – remedial works to be arranged in the Spring.

**v) Adopt a kiosk** – resolved that the Clerk write to YLCA and Rural Action Yorkshire to explain the difficulties in becoming involved with this scheme and warning other Councils of these.

**vi) Costcutter Noticeboard** – resolved that a temporary repair be done to re-affix the Board to the wall and complete replacement would be looked at in the New Year.

**vii) Mini Recycling Centre** – more signs are needed to try and stop people leaving a large number of plastic milk cartons at the site. These are not collected and have to be tidied up by somebody. HBC had said they would look at additional signage but none had been forthcoming so far. Cllr Savage was asked to follow this up with the relevant Dept. at Harrogate.

**viii) CCTV** – resolved that the Clerk have delegated authority to arrange for the repair of the cameras which are not working so that the culprits from vii) above may be traced. The Clerk to

check the warranty on the system.

**ix) Wilstrop hedge** – Cllr Mrs Chasney had spoken with the landowner who had agreed to look at the hedge in question with a view to cutting it back. He had said he would ring back if there were problems.

**x) Wilstrop** – caravan – the Clerk had contacted HBC for advice. Apparently the caravan requires planning permission. Resolved that the Clerk inform Planning Enforcement and ask them to look into the matter.

## **10. Village Hall**

Standing Orders were suspended.

Report by VHMC Chairman, Mrs Unsworth gave a report.

- The acoustic folding door has now been fitted.
- Work to the back room has been done and new furniture has been ordered.
- Feedback from Hall users has been positive regarding the refurbishments.
- A 'Village Hall Vision' newsletter is due to go out in the New Year. User Groups were being encouraged to write a short piece about their particular group. If the PC wished to contribute to this it would be welcomed.
- Recent Fund Raising events included the Quiz Night, which was enjoyed by all and the Christmas Fair is to be held on the 28th November. All are welcome.
- Fund raising to further improve the VH is ongoing. It is hoped to attract more day-time users. Leaders are required to organise Tea Dances. The VH is for everybody in the community to use and suggestions for events/meetings are welcome.
- The next major project at the VH is the provision of disabled toilet facilities and general refurbishment of the toilet areas which are badly in need of this as rain is coming in through the skylights.
- A grant for the coming year from the PC would be very much appreciated and put to good use
- The VHMC cleared up the large amount of plastic bottles in the front yard during the clean-up after the Quiz evening.
- The VHMC Chairman is continuing to visit each user group so that a good dialogue can be kept up.

Standing Orders were resumed.

Mrs Unsworth was thanked for her report.

## **7. Report from the TRA**

In the absence of Cllr Algar, the Clerk gave a brief verbal report. The TRA is organising a bus to Northallerton for the Planning meeting on 15th December. All objectors to the BCB application, including the Parish Council, the TRA and anyone else will have 15 minutes to speak as will the applicant. This was because a pre-meeting with NYCC Cllrs was not going ahead. It was suggested that the PC get together with the Land & Development Practice to co-ordinate their efforts. As there was some confusion about what would happen, resolved that the Clerk would contact NYCC and seek clarification and confirmation of the procedure to be followed at the meeting, asking also why the PC had not been informed of the changes to usual procedure.

Cllr Mrs Chasney reported back from the Waste Conference she had attended recently. It had been interesting and looked at the bigger picture, both nationally and internationally. It may be worth contacting our MEP about the issue as Europe is very much involved with Waste matters.

The Officer recommendation on the BCB application will not be known until 5 days before the meeting. There is no mention of a response from HBC to the re-consulted application. The main point is that the application deals with toxic waste not only municipal waste. The Chairman, Cllr Saunders, will speak on behalf of the Parish Council.

Cllr Savage arrived, having attended another meeting previously. He explained his understanding of the change to procedure regarding speakers at the meeting. He would have unlimited time to speak as the local Cllr.

Cllr Allott left the meeting at the conclusion of this item.

## **11. Report by County Councillor Savage 12. Report from District Councillor Savage**

1. Cattal station car parking – the owner of the Victoria has obtained planning permission recently. On the application it clearly stated that there are 14 car parking places at the station. The car park has been moved back to the garages with the loss of two places.
2. Performance of NYCC over the last two quarters - makes interesting reading and was left for Cllrs to see.
3. Ofsted – a bad report had been received on ‘looked after children’. Education, Adult Services and Environmental Services had also been inspected.
4. Council Tax – Rates – Government grants are not known yet and NYCC has a £1 billion per annum spend. Council Tax for next year may rise by 0 to 2%.
  - Cllrs Savage was asked about discretionary rate relief being removed from local charities, meaning their expenses would increase dramatically. Cllr Savage was asked to follow this up for the Sportsfield Trust.
  - Highways issues – footpath at Kendal Gardens estate, broken kerb outside the Church, Cllr Savage was asked to follow these up with NYCC Starbeck and arrange site visits if required.
  - Wilstrop issues – works to the A59 road are going to be done. It was requested that Reflector posts which had been damaged and removed were replaced.

Cllr Savage was thanked for his report.

## **13. Christmas arrangements**

The Christmas lights for Tockwith would be erected at the Church if they could be located. Cllr Billinness would organise the Cowthorpe lights.

Delegated authority was given to a committee who would make any decisions required before the next meeting of the Council in January.

## **14. Correspondence**

Items 37 to 41 and additional e mails, planning applications and decisions were made known to Cllrs.

- **NYCC Winter Service** – received and noted.
- **NYCC Budget and Council Plan consultation** – received and noted.
- **HBC Consultation meetings with Parish Councils – future format** – received and noted.
- **North Yorkshire Police** – Neighbourhood Profile Guides; Safer Neighbourhood Teams volunteers required – to be passed to Cllr Algar as he is the PC representative on SNT/CaP group.
- **Brotherton PC email for attention of PC Chairman** – the Chairman felt he had no important information to exchange. Resolved that the Clerk reply and send a copy of the PC objection to the BCB application, and point to the web sites of the PC and TRA.

- **Sportsfield Trust letter** - about possible use of Community Field and hosting a European football tournament next August. A full discussion ensued. Resolved that the PC supports the principle of a tournament but there are details and potential problems which would need addressing.

The Clerk to reply and mention the points which would need resolving before such an event could take place, e.g. Access to the Community Field - reintroducing the verge crossing to access the Field from Tockwith Lane and provision of a gate and hard standing to allow vehicles to access the Field; fencing along the adjacent private drive to prevent unauthorised access to the neighbour's property and for security of people using the Field; being aware of livestock at the adjacent property when considering noisy events; timing of the event so as not to disrupt the football season and not clash with the Tockwith and District Show.

## **15. Planning, including standing item: BCB application**

BCB application – covered elsewhere in these Minutes.

To ratify decisions from the last meeting:

**Orchard House, Marston Road – erection of two dormers to front elevation** *There were no objections to this application.*

**Oakdene, Oak Road, Cowthorpe – erection of stable block** *There were no objections to this application.*

**Cherry Tree Cottage, Marston Road – erection of single storey rear extension** *There were no objections to this application.*

**80, Prince Rupert Drive – erection of first floor front extension, verbally notified application** withdrawn.

**1, The Terrace, Oak Road, Cowthorpe – erection of two storey rear extension (amended plans).** *As the application is not considered materially different to the previous one and neighbours still have the same concerns, it was resolved that the PC object on the same grounds as before.*

**Ivyholme Cottage, Cowthorpe – erection of two storey and single storey rear extensions.** *There were no objections to this application.*

**Tomlinson Antiques, Moorside – Change of use of industrial unit (Use Class B8 – Storage or Distribution) to (Use Class B2 – General Industry) and (Use Class B8 - Storage or Distribution) and erection of new storage area.** *In principle the PC did not object to this mainly agricultural business being suitable for this location. Hours of operation and noise restraints may be required as the business is near to residential properties. The Clerk to ask for an extension to the time limit for response to allow time for neighbour notification.*

**5, Kendal Lane – Replacement planning permission for 6.124.398.A.FUL (expires 22.11.09) for erection of two storey side extension.** The Clerk had sought clarification from HBC about whether the 'replacement' application was, in effect, renewal of unimplemented permission. The terminology had changed two years ago, causing confusion all round! *There were no objections to this application.*

## **Planning decisions – approved with conditions**

**Paddock House, Moor Monkton – retention of 1 stable block and ménage and erection of field shelter and store.**

**Oakdene, Cowthorpe – erection of stable block.**

**Decisions - refused** 80, Prince Rupert Drive – erection of first floor front extension.

**Planning Enforcement notification** Larkfield, Warfield Lane, Cowthorpe – erection of fence in excess of 1 metre adjacent to the highway.

## **16. Accounts**

<u>Bank balances</u>	(as at 21/10/09)	(18.11.09)
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Lloyds TSB current a/c	2,500.00	2,500.00
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Lloyds TSB Deposit a/c	11,684.68	11,575.43
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### A/c's to pay/ratify

Information Commissioner	35.00
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SLCC (Training course)	109.25
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Tebbutt (VH back room plastering)	1,195.00
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PWLB (D/D Loan repayment)	1,859.41
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Viking Direct (stationery supplies)	341.29
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Mrs G Firth (salary and expenses)	884.73
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Resolved to pay for hire of the bus to Northallerton for the Planning Meeting on 15/12/09. This amount to be deducted from the amount set aside to assist the TRA. Some Cllrs were concerned about public money being used to pay for the transport to Northallerton as they felt that if people felt strongly enough about objecting to the planning application, they would be prepared to pay for the cost of transport provided.

### Receipts

Precept (2)	12,500
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Npower credit note (for electricity bill for Cowthorpe telephone kiosk (the invoice was not paid)).

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

Quotations for re-roofing the Village Hall. The Clerk had followed up some references of the preferred contractor but had several more to contact before the contract would be awarded.

The Clerk was given delegated authority to arrange for an annual service for the VH CH boiler.

### Precept – Budget for 2010/2011

Cllrs had been provided with a draft budget prepared by the Clerk. Questions and comments were invited. A small increase in grants had been accommodated whilst keeping the Precept demand the same as last year. The Clerk was thanked for producing the draft budget, which was accepted. Resolved to ask for a Precept of £25,000 for 2010/2011.

**17. Date of next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 20th JANUARY 2010 at 7.30pm in Tockwith Church.**

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending, wished everyone a Merry Christmas and declared the meeting closed.