

TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Extra-Ordinary Council meeting held on Thursday 4th February 2010 in Tockwith Church

Chairman: Councillor C Saunders JP

Present: Councillors N Waller, C Billenness, R Ward-Campbell, P Pick, Mrs L Chasney, Mrs J Wardman, S Harrison

In attendance: District/County Councillor Savage, Mrs G Firth (Clerk to the Council), 10 members of the public

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Extra-Ordinary Council meeting.

1. Apologies for absence – were received from Cllrs Algar (work commitments) and Alliott (parents' evening)

2. Declarations of Interest – none

3. To discuss commissioning a letter to Harrogate Borough Council from the Land and Development Practice concerning activities on the airfield and approval of a Parish Council contribution of £200 to pay for the letter and associated work (in conjunction with Bilton-in-Ainsty with Bickerton Parish Council)

The Chairman gave a summary of the background to recent events, correspondence with Harrogate Borough Council and residents, and alarming information available on various web sites about the proposed escalation of activities.

He summarised a recent forum meeting, which representatives of Bilton-in-Ainsty with Bickerton PC, Cllr Savage, concerned residents and himself attended, and thanked Mr Wilson for hospitality and preparing minutes of that meeting which had been circulated to Cllrs.

Concerned local residents had contacted the Land and development Practice for advice/assistance and the draft letter to HBC had been prepared as a result. It was felt that the letter would carry more weight if it was commissioned by both local PC's and therefore both PC's had called extra-ordinary meetings this week to consider their response. It was stressed that the PC would not be committed to any further action if agreement was reached on commissioning the letter and work involved in producing it.

A full debate ensued.

Whilst Cllrs agreed that escalation of activities was a cause for concern and HBC had not given satisfactory replies to concerns over many years about enforcement of unauthorised activities, concern was also expressed that the PC was being asked to respond to action instigated by others, which would incur expenditure and which concerned correspondence addressed to the PC.

Standing Orders were suspended.

- B/B PC hoped both PC's could liaise over action to be taken and correspondence received on this matter.
- A concerned resident explained all unauthorised activities had been mentioned in the draft letter. It was hoped that HBC would be urged to re-look at activities on the airfield. The proposals for escalation of activities were alarming and might be considered to be replacement for activities at Elvington and Croft.

Standing Orders were resumed.

The Clerk advised that the PC would need to formally commission TLDP to act on behalf of both PC's in conjunction.

The PC's should request that individual invoices were sent to each PC so that legalities were in order.

The PC's should state that this was a single tender action, so as not to commit to further expenditure.

Reference to the Ombudsman should be clarified as PC's cannot make complaints only residents, and then only after the full complaints procedure of HBC has been gone through.

Amendments were suggested to the draft letter:

- i) The date of the letter should be changed to Friday 5th February;
- ii) The first sentence should include reference to letters to both PC's and residents, not just the letter to this PC;
- iii) A demand should be made that a Stop Notice be put immediately on current activities and further development until the outcome of the investigations is complete.

Cllrs resolved, by a majority vote of 7:1, to commission the letter from TLDP to HBC with the above amendments and agree to pay half the costs of preparing and sending the letter, a cost of £200 + VAT. Cllr Billenness wished it to be recorded that he had voted in favour of the motion. T

The Clerk agreed to prepare a letter and contact TLDP tonight so that the letter could be sent tomorrow.

The Chairman said that the reply from HBC would be awaited and much would be expected of Cllr Savage after HBC received the letter. He would be expected to involve the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transport.

It was stated that B/B PC had been contacted by the Press for comment. It was suggested both PC's Clerks should refer any such requests to HBC's Press Officer.

The public were thanked for attending and they all departed at this point.

4. Planning applications

Skewkirk Hall – Listed Building application for external alterations including replacement of window with French doors, replacement doors and siting of oil storage tank and various internal alterations to include new WC, shower room, cloakroom and staff kitchen. *The PC did not object to this application subject to the integrity of the Listed Building being maintained.*

East House Farm Barn – erection of rear conservatory (revised scheme) *The PC did not object to this application, subject to neighbour notification.*

228, Prince Rupert Drive – erection of rear conservatory.

Cllr Billenness declared a personal interest and took no part in the deliberation or voting thereon. *The PC did not object to this application, subject to neighbour notification.*

Broadoak Farmhouse – discharge of section 106 agreement to allow the development to be sold or assigned separately to the land.

Resolved to leave the decision on this application until the February meeting of the Council, by which time neighbour notification would be completed.

The Chairman thanked Cllrs for their attendance and declared the meeting closed.