

TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Council meeting held on Wednesday 26th May 2010 in Tockwith Church

Chairman: Councillor C Saunders

Present: Councillors N Waller, S Harrison, M Algar, Mrs J Wardman, N Alliot, C Billenness

In attendance: Cllr Savage (District/County Cllr), PC Haydon, Cllr Smythe (B?B PC), T Grant (B/B Clerk), Mrs G Firth (Clerk to the Council), 2 members of the public

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the May Council meeting.

Apologies for absence – were received from Cllrs Mrs Chasney and P Pick (prior commitments) and the VHMC Chairman, Mrs Unsworth.

Cllr Ward-Campbell had resigned. The Chairman had written, thanking him for his service and wishing him well.

Cllrs Alliot and Billenness both said they would have to leave the meeting early due to work commitments.

2. Declarations of Interest – Cllr Billenness would declare a personal interest in the grant to Cowthorpe Church.

3. Public Questions or Statements There were no matters other than items already on the agenda.

4. Minutes of the last meetings

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting, having been circulated and taken as read, were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. The Minutes of the April meeting, having been circulated and taken as read, were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes/business remaining from the last meeting

(i) **Traffic calming** – Cllr Algar agreed to continue with his brief in this regard and would liaise with Cllr Savage. He would try and get information on speed lines as a means of speed reduction. James Malcolm and Donna Hodgson were to be invited to a future PC meeting to discuss Highways issues.

(ii) **Dog fouling** – the Clerk to chase up the provision of leaflets, which Cllrs had volunteered to deliver in the Parish. Cllr Savage to be copied in to the correspondence with HBC. There is now a problem on the ginnel which has just been re-surfaced. The Dog Warden has agreed to attend a future PC meeting. The Clerk to contact HBC to get the dog waste bin on Westfield Green moved to the end of the new footpath near the School.

8. Police matters

PC Haydon reported that there were no crime figures this month as there had been trouble with the computers.

- It had been a slow month, crime wise, with the odd commercial burglary.
- The speed-gun had been used locally but there had been no prosecutions.
- The entrance to Marston Moor Business Park, on Rudgate, caused a problem as sight lines

are poor. It was suggested some traffic calming measures/ warning signs would be appropriate in this location.

Other rural villages have traffic calming but not Tockwith. Rumble strips should be provided at Rudgate cross-roads.

- There have been recent problems with youngsters lighting fires on the airfield. The site operator had been spoken to and some names obtained. These were being followed up. This was considered to be a particularly dangerous development as there are very many tyres stored on the airfield.

The Chairman reported that there had been further instances of youngsters playing on the School grounds and graffiti had been noted.

Standing Orders were suspended.

A resident endorsed the traffic problems on Rudgate, especially entering and leaving the Rudgate Business Park.

The problem of fires and the tyres was a concern because a recent fire in the Durham area is going to be left to burn for 10 to 12 weeks as it cannot be put out. It is believed 30,000 tyres per month are being collected on the airfield.

Standing Orders were resumed.

Cllr Savage will take up the matter of the tyre firm with NYCC.

6. Report from the TRA Cllr Algar stated that there was nothing further to report at this time.

7. Report from the Clerk

i) **Village Hall** – the new roof and wall are complete. Quotations for a new water supply will be discussed in Exempt matters. Quotations are being sought for work to the parquet floor. There had been a recent infestation of bees, which had been dealt with as a matter of urgency as it occurred on the day of the Village Hall Fund Raiser.

(ii) **Adopt a kiosk** – the Clerk has spoken with NYCC and a Licence is awaited.

(iii) **Commuted sums** – information from British Recycled Products was passed to Cllr Algar

(iv) **Register of Interests form** – the Clerk to obtain another form for Cllr Harrison to complete.

(v) **Ginnel footpath** – work is complete but on contacting NYCC to ask for adoption it was discovered that this footpath is already adopted! The Clerk had written to express dismay that the PC had expended sums on doing work which was the responsibility of NYCC. Negotiations are continuing with NYCC about the other ginnels from Crawford Close to Fleet Lane and PRD.

vi) **Code of Conduct Training** – a provisional date of 30th June had been agreed. The Clerk is finalising details of venue and time and will let Cllrs know. Of 16 PC's contacted there had been positive responses from 5 including this PC.

vii) **Bilton bridleway** – The Clerk reported on progress.

viii) **Westfield Lane/Springfield Terrace** – the Clerk reported on the status. The road is adopted from the junction with Fleet Lane/Westfield Road for a distance of 100 yards. This means there is only a small area, outside Hewson House/5, Springfield Terrace, which is not adopted. The potholes are in the adopted length of road and are therefore repairable at public expense

(NYCC).

9. Village Hall

In the absence of the VHMC Chairman, the Clerk updated Cllrs on VH matters. Of particular concern was the state of the VH after the recent Beer Festival. This was being followed up between the parties involved. The recent use of the VH as a Polling Station had resulted in damage to the walls, as the Polling Clerks had stuck notices on the walls with sellotape. The Clerk had written to the Returning Officer about this.

10. and 11. Report by County/District Councillor Savage

On behalf of the PC and Cllrs, Cllr Saunders thanked Cllr Savage for arranging the recent Conference at Allerton Castle. Cllr Savage replied and said that a further Conference is planned for the autumn.

- Cllr Savage spoke of a recent successful visit to County Hall by local schoolchildren.
- BCB possible Appeal – NYCC have heard nothing further.
- Waste Disposal in North Yorks. – an announcement is expected on 1st June, when a local site for an incinerator will be announced.
- Recycling – HBC has a poor record and has the lowest rate in the North of England, 30%.
- Cllr Savage has written to the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, George Osborne and the 3 local MP's asking for the PFI initiative to be abandoned.

Standing Orders were suspended.

Residents questioned Cllr Savage on whether Allerton would be the preferred site and whether incineration or anaerobic digestion was being planned and if a preferred operator had been chosen. Cllr Savage was asked why HBC does not adopt more kerbside recycling eg plastics and cardboard.

Standing Orders were resumed.

Cllr Savage said the matter of Waste treatment in North Yorks. would be an agenda item at the July NYCC Council meeting. HBC has allegedly been looking into additional recycling facilities, but it is taking a very long time.

12. Report back from Working Party – BCB possible Appeal

Cllr Billenness reported that several PC's were offering financial support but there was nowhere near enough money to fight an Appeal. The political angle is being pursued. A question had been sent to the Secretary of State about the Policy of community consent being required for such developments and the local MP has been involved, as this matter is very urgent. It is understood NYCC have employed a Pollution expert, Dr Mark Broomfield of Enviros Consulting.

Cllrs requested that the TRA website should be looked at with a view to making donations of pledges easier.

Standing Orders were suspended.

Cllr Smythe spoke about an email from TLDP to a resident which had advised that Amanda from Gair Consulting cannot act for the TRA at an Appeal since she would have a conflict of interest. Cllr Billenness said the TRA could use her evidence but she would not appear personally as she could be attacked. Given that NYCC will be putting up a robust defence at any Appeal, it was questioned if the TRA could use the same Consultant as NYCC.

Cllr Savage is working closely with the TRA and NYCC and will check with NYCC Officers what is possible. Standing Orders were resumed.

Cllr Alliott left the meeting.

13. Commuted sums

It was stated that it was disappointing that other village organisations, which had been made aware of the strict time constraints, had not come forward with projects and quotations for tonight's meeting. The Sportsfield Trust is aware of the urgency of providing projects and quotations as money has to be spent before 30th June. Three quotations are being sought for their preferred projects having had a meeting between all groups on the Trust to agree the priorities. If the Clerk hears back from the Trust, she will e mail Cllrs with the outcome. Cowthorpe – Cllr Billenness spoke of the impossibility of finalising the land purchase before the deadline. The Cllr will be appealing to Cllr Savage for additional time to spend the commuted sum applicable. The Clerk reported on historical information about valuation of the land, current land values and the opportunity to get an official valuation from Thomlinsons at a cost of £100. The Clerk will contact Sean Wright to inform him of negotiations and the stated intention of the PC to purchase the land as a community asset. Cllr Algar provided details of quotations he had obtained for seats and bins. The Clerk provided information about the Brown Bear waste bin. Resolved to purchase the Glasdon Brown Bear bin for the Marston Road Play Area and a replacement bench, if possible; also to purchase replacement bench seats for Cowthorpe village.

14. Correspondence

Additional letters, e mails and planning applications/decisions were made known to Cllrs.

- Memorandum of understanding
Standing Orders were suspended.

Cllr Smythe spoke about the memorandum of understanding he had prepared in regard to communication between the TAAG (Tockwith against the airfield Group) and other bodies/consultants. B/B PC had approved the wording of the document. It was suggested the wording should be amended to ensure all unauthorised activities on the airfield were included, for example the planning issues, and not just the noise nuisance caused by the motor sports. It was also queried how long it was projected that the working group (TAAG) would be in existence. It was also suggested there was a lack of professionalism on the part of the Consultants, especially with regard to sending out incorrect invoices and communication with both PC's. Cllr Smythe spoke about the background to events, especially with regard to the PC's being asked to do things, particularly provide funds, when they had not been involved with formulating the original ideas. The paper was an attempt to organise a method of working, in a controlled manner, to support the residents. The B/B PC should not be leading on the issue but will support the action group as the activities impact on both parishes. The Clerk mentioned her concern about the last sentence as no other party should be committing the PC's to expenditure. It was stated that it was confusing for TLDP to be commissioned by both PC's and it would be preferable to have a single body dealing with the consultants. Neither PC could commit to future funding and the action group must be made aware of this. Any future expenditure must be subject to prior agreement of both PC's. Keith Wilson spoke at length about the issue and the background. The problems have been ongoing for 20+ years and now seemed to be the best opportunity of getting a resolution once and for all. The recently served Planning Contravention Notice mentioned 14 activities and the site operator has to provide evidence on all of these. The action group is pursuing this. Residents alone were not able to get the responses which have been forthcoming since the PC's and the Consultants became involved. Mr Wilson said he was willing to continue to lead the action group and agreed there could be no commitment to further expenditure without prior agreement of both PC's.

Standing Orders were resumed. Cllr Smythe agreed to amend the wording of the memorandum and email an amended version for acceptance.

Following debate, the following action points were resolved:

- **HBC Members Training on Code of Conduct** – the Clerk is trying to arrange a venue for 30th June as there are enough Councils/Cllrs and Clerks who have expressed interest in attending a local seminar.
- **Skewkirk Bridge** – a comment was made that, interestingly, the map shows the path alongside the Sandbeds which has always been disputed
- **Youth Club – use of VH** – the Clerk provided the background to the recent notification that the 4 Youth Service intended to discontinue the Friday night meeting of the Youth Club, allegedly due to lack of interest by young people in Tockwith. The way of communicating this decision and the manner of it were most unsatisfactory, especially bearing in mind the restrictive covenants on the VH. Having spoken to the Chairman, the Clerk had written to NYCC requesting a meeting between interested parties so that the matter could be fully discussed.
- **Waste Management in North Yorks.** – the Clerk to write to endorse withdrawal of the PFI projects and recommend anaerobic digestion as a preferred choice. Strategy should be to concentrate on the 3 R's, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.
- **Crawford Close ginnel footpaths** – the Clerk to follow up this matter with NYCC and obtain specifications and quotations for work required. The Clerk to reply to the concerned resident explaining what the PC intends to do.
- **HBC community bulb scheme** – the Clerk to reply and order a sack of bulbs, to be collected in October.
- **HBC Community Resilience Scheme** – the Clerk to reply and invite an Officer to attend a future PC meeting.
- **SNG meeting** – Cllr Algar requested that Cllrs let him know of any issues before the next meeting, especially with regard to policing priorities.
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15. Planning, including standing item: BCB application

BCB application – nothing further to report.

37, Westfield Road – erection of single storey rear extension *The PC had no objections to this application, following neighbour notification.*

The Old Malt Kiln, Westfield Road – conversion of joiners workshop to form 6 residential units including 1 affordable unit, office accommodation, 2 workshops (Use Class B1 – offices/workshops) and 3 garages to lower ground floor and associated car parking spaces. *The Parish Council had no objections, following neighbour notification.*

198, Prince Rupert Drive – conversion of garage to form additional living accommodation and erection of single storey rear extension. *The PC had no objections, although the neighbour had commented that contractors should not stray onto the other side of the boundary between properties during the works.*

53, Fleet Lane – erection of porch to side. *The PC had no objections subject to neighbour notification.*

22, Westfield Green – conversion of loft space to form additional living accommodation, erection of 3 dormer windows and installation of 2 roof lights. *There were no objections, subject to neighbour notification.*

Planning decisions – approved with conditions

East House Farm Barn – application to discharge conditions 3 and 4 of previous planning

permission for installation of glass screen to form reveal on south elevation and additional skin of bricks on west elevation.

Land comprising OS Field 6122, Blind Lane – erection of replacement office and workshop building

7, Prince Rupert Drive – erection of single storey side extension

Skewkirk Hall – application to discharge condition 4 of previous permission to allow installation of French windows.

Planning decision – refused

232, Prince Rupert Drive – erection of single storey side and rear extensions and extension to the front.

Planning Enforcement – result of investigation – erection of stable Kirk Lane – no further action.

16. Accounts

<u>Bank balances</u>	(as at 26.05.10)
Lloyds TSB current a/c	2,500.00
Lloyds TSB deposit a/c	16,190.80
Loan (ring fenced for specific purposes)	18,038.63
<u>A/c's to ratify/pay</u>	
PWLB (D/D)	3,783.64
Nick Spence (ginnel)	3,055.00
R M Contracts (VH roof)	26,631.37
Tockwith Parish Church (hire)	250.00
TLDP (letter to HBC)	117.50
Allied Westminster (VH Insurance)	1,028.35
Brenmore Electrical (VH rear room)	199.75
Rural Action Yorkshire (annual subscription)	35.00
Mrs G Firth (salary & expenses of Clerk)	946.80

The Clerk had prepared a list of grant requests received and proposed amounts which would fall within budget allocations.

The following proposals were resolved:

Grants:

Tockwith Church	500.00
Methodist Church	450.00
Sportsfield Trust	500.00
Tockwith & District Show	250.00
Tennis Club	200.00
Scouts	500.00
Cowthorpe Church	150.00
VHMC	600.00

TRA – resolved to set aside a sum of £500 to be granted as a contribution if BCB go to Appeal.

Receipts

Allotment rents	22.50
HBC – Precept (1)	12,500.00

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

Resolved that the Clerk obtain the necessary form from the Bank to alter the cheque signatories to remove Rob Ward-Campbell and add Cllr Norman Waller.

17. Date of next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 16th JUNE 2010 in Tockwith Church commencing at 7.30pm.

There being no further business to discuss in open session, the Chairman read out the resolution for exempt matters and thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed to the public.