

TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Council meeting held on Wednesday 15th September 2010 in Tockwith Church

Chairman: Councillor C Saunders

Present: Councillors N Waller, Mrs J Wardman, Mrs L Chasney, S Harrison, P Pick, N Alliot

In attendance: Mrs Audrey Unsworth (VHMC Chairman), 7 members of the public

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the September Council meeting.

1. Apologies for absence – were received from Cllr Algar (work), Councillor Billeness (work) and the Clerk to the Council Mrs G Firth (holiday)

Minutes taken by Cllr Waller.

2. Declarations of Interest – none

3. Public Questions or Statements

A member of the Public asked that the Parish Council write to NYCC suggesting a more appropriate site for the NYCC incinerator at Allerton Park would be the old steel works at Teeside. It was pointed out the Parish Council had made it's comments and that our County and District Councillor had made strong and robust representations regarding the inappropriate location and huge cost which we will all be liable for for years to come.

4. Minutes of the last meeting and Exempt Minutes

The Minutes and Exempt Minutes of the July meeting, having been circulated and taken as read, were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. The Exempt Minutes referred to the Clerks office costs and security of data.

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

From the exempt matters – A secure Flash Drive has been purchased by the Clerk and processes were now in place to ensure the security of data. Adjustments had been made to clear extraneous data from the computer and it was now running more efficiently. Steps were being made to have some of the council records archived.

Matters from the main minutes:

- It is understood that the Clerk had raised issued with HBC regarding notification of planning applications in adjoining parishes that might also might affect our council area.
- Long Marston PC had decided not to hold a presentation by Allerton Waste Recovery Park as people had sufficient opportunities to attend public meetings elsewhere to find out all the information available.
- Highways matters – it had not been possible to meet with Highways officials – the clerk has already included a 'wish list' re highway improvements in Tockwith, Cowthorpe and Wilstrop.
- The Environmental Agency is finally taking steps to have the tyres removed from the old airfield. The person responsible has been told to make fire breaks and the EA has ordered

that the tyres should be removed by the end of November. A meeting is to take place with the EA, Simon Moore, R J Howard, HBC Environmental Health, Fire and Rescue and the HBC Contingency Planner.

6. Community Resilience Scheme

There had only been one offer to assist Councillors in drawing up a Community Resilience Scheme for Tockwith. This was despite the clerk putting details in the Wetherby News and information going in the Village and Parish News. HBC had been asked for posters but they do not have any suitable ones and in any case they did not believe it was the best way of obtaining community support. Whether we should continue will be examined next month. It was stressed the incident with BCB illustrated how disjointed action had been and it was desirable to have a CRS in place as distinct to an Emergency Action Plan for major incidents.

7. BCB fire

The Parish Council had asked several questions of the various agencies and the EA was taking a lead role in guiding the administrators of BCB as to what steps need to be taken to clear the site and decontaminate it. Progress was very slow and it is understood that the EA has given the administrators a strict deadline to adhere to. The Chairman expressed an expectation that there would be a report/enquiry regarding the whole incident which would include how the Fire and Rescue, HBC, NYCC, and EA dealt with the incident at the time and post incident. The feeling was that the community had not been kept informed.

There would have to be a controlled demolition of the site. This would appear to be preventing an investigation of the site to establish the cause of the fire. There was concern the longer it is left the greater the chance of evidence being lost.

Cllr Pick said he had crops within the vicinity of the fire and had received no advice whatsoever. Debris had fallen into the field from the fire and he had had to condemn the crop because of the uncertainty of the risk.

8. Report from the TRA

It was reported that with the potential threat of BCB expansion plans appearing to have disappeared, after three years of intensive campaigning TRA members were exhausted, in the short term it had been decided to reduce activity to a minimum. They would keep a watching brief on the BCB clear up plus threats to the village from unsuitable planning applications or other matters. Councillors hoped that they would still continue to assist concerning the action regarding the airfield noise and issues concerning unauthorised development. The Chairman said in view of what was being said it may well be worth taking the TRA off the agenda as a standing item after next month.

9. Proposed North Yorkshire Incinerator/NYCC Waste Strategy

The date for decision had been put back. The Council had discussed and made comments on this issue and expected County Councillor Savage to keep the Council informed of developments.

10. Report from the Clerk

- The External Audit has been completed and everything was OK.
- Sale of Land at Cowthorpe is progressing.
- Adopt a kiosk – has written to CE Electric re outstanding issues.
- Reminder Group 2 Consultation Meeting to take place on 11th October – change of

venue Arkendale Community Hall. The question re 'chewing gum tax' has been asked. (Cllr's Saunders and Waller to attend)

- Nothing has been heard about Commuted Sums.
- There has been no response from NYCC Youth Service regarding the Youth Club.

11. Police Matters

PC Haydon was not present. The police had already been advised of young people drinking alcohol on an evening in the play area of The Green and that young people were congregating in the spinney leading between Prince Rupert Drive and Southfield Lane, under age drinking and lighting fires.

He is also to be advised that youths are congregating in the schools grounds on a night.

A member of the public expressed concern about people riding cycles on the footpath. It is known that this is not considered a high priority by the police and sometimes there were safety issues where it was more appropriate for children in particular to ride on the footpath.

The council would appreciate feed back on the issues previous raised by them.

12. Village Hall Matters The VHMCA Chairman, Mrs Unsworth gave a report.

- There was to be an entertainments evening on 18th September tickets were selling well.
- The revamp of the additional meeting room was complete and there was optimism that the hall could be used more during the day.
- The floor had been examined following concerns and it was found that it was not in danger of imminent collapse.
- Permission had been granted for a mobile fish and chip van to use the Village Hall car park during early Friday evenings but will be subject to review.

13. Wilstrop issues Cllr Mrs Chasney reported:

That there had not been any further progress regarding highway matters reported in July. The issue regarding the footpath was urgent since the Ripon to York bus service was going to be withdrawn.

14. Report by County/District Councillor Savage

In the absence of Cllr Savage, due to ill health, there was no report. A member of the public asked whether any progress had been made regarding business rate exemption for the Sports Field Trust Building. Advised that the Parish Council had no information.

15. Report from TAAG (Tockwith Airfield Action Group)

It was appreciated that a substantial amount of evidence had been submitted to HBC and that it will take time to consider. The concern about some of the evidence being put into the public domain before a decision regarding enforcement is made has been allayed following confirmation email by HBC. TAAG is to continue monitoring the activity on the old airfield.

16. Standing Orders

Councillors agreed to the amended standings orders as produced by the Clerk – It was accepted that the use of the phrase Chairman was not gender specific. It was agreed to amend Rule 1e as suggested by Cllr Waller to insert the line "the period of time shall NOT ordinarily exceed 15 minutes but can be extended at the Chairman's discretion"

17. Correspondence

Additional letters, e mails and planning applications/decisions were made known to Cllrs. Following debate, the following action points were resolved: A request for a shoe recycling bank would be approved for a trial period of six months.

18. Planning

Planning applications

Skewkirk Hall – conversion of garage block to staff accommodation – no objections

Planning applications – withdrawn

New House, Niddway, Kendal Gardens (Garage)

Skewkirk Hall – Listed Building consent

Skewkirk Hall – as above under FUL application

Planning decisions – approved with conditions

Whiteoaks, 75, Marston Road – erection of two dormer windows

Planning Enforcement notification

Land comprising Field at 447864 453453 Kendal Lane, Tockwith – erection of 2 x stable blocks

Notification of on-going case, following investigation – Costcutter, Tockwith Result of investigation – Costcutter – number and size of signs on the premises The outcome of the investigation is as follows:- New signs have recently been added to the internal surfaces of the shop front windows at the above location. Signs of this type do not require the permission of the Local Planning Authority and consequently no action can be taken concerning these. The other signs present on the shop frontage benefit from deemed consent under the advertisement regulations and also do not require the consent of the Local Planning Authority. However there appears to be a proliferation of signage extending beyond the shop frontage area about the archway entrance that serves as an entrance point to the building. Discussed these with the shop owners and required that they be removed. The owners have agreed to this.

Notification of ongoing case – following investigation East House Lodge. Marston Road Tockwith Claim that agricultural land had been made part of garden. The outcome of the investigation is as follows:- The area of land immediately to the South of East House is being used as a paddock for horses and did not have the appearance of an extension to the domestic curtilage at the time of the site inspection. No garden swing was on the land. Some hedging and trees have been planted along the boundary of a neighbouring residential property to provide a screen, this is not considered to constitute a change of use of the land. The grass was several inches long and was not mown short like a garden lawn. In view of this no further action will be taken in the matter at the present time.

Planning Appeal notification 232, Prince Rupert Drive – erection of single storey side and rear extension and extension to the front Appeal dismissed as it relates to single storey side and rear extension. Appeal allowed in respect of extension to front – with conditions.

Appeal against Planning Enforcement Notice Goosemoor Stud, Warfield Lane, Cowthorpe – alleged breach of control – without planning permission the unauthorised material change of use of the land and an extension to domestic cartilage of the residence known as “the Barn” including

provision or construction on the land of the various items of a domestic nature referred to in the Notice requirements.

19. Accounts

<u>Bank balances</u>	(as at 17.08.10)
Lloyds TSB current a/c	2,500.00
Lloyds TSB deposit a/c	7,419.44
Loan (ring fenced for specific purposes)	18,038.63
<u>A/c's to ratify/pay</u>	
R Humphreys (VH skylight repair)	20.00
Zurich Insurance (annual premium)	1,119.02
Yorkshire Water new supply	2,327.68
Mazars (external audit)	470.00
AQ Ltd (email web fwding)	11.75
WARDEN (annual subs)	10.00
Mrs G Firth (Clerks salary and expenses)	986.09
New Wood Gardening (grounds maintenance)	770.80

The Clerk was given authority to pay the invoices for repair to the noticeboards, Play Area Inspection

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

Cllr Chasney to contact the Clerk with details of a person who might be able to give a competitive quote for the grounds maintenance.

20. Date of next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 20th October 2010 in Tockwith Church, commencing at 7.30pm.

The Chairman gave his apologies in advance of the meeting.