

TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Council meeting held on Wednesday 20th July 2011 in Tockwith Church

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

<u>Chairman:</u>	Councillor C Saunders
<u>Present:</u>	Councillors Mrs L Chasney, N Waller, P Pick, W J Bowyer, S Harrison (late arrival), M Algar, C Billenness
<u>In attendance:</u>	Mrs Unsworth (VHMC Chairman), Mr J Muir (part) (advocate obo PC), Mrs G Firth (Clerk to the Council), 3 members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the July Council meeting.

1. Apologies for absence – were received from Cllr Mrs Wardman (hospital) and County/District Cllr Savage

2. Declarations of Interest - none known about at this time.

3. Police matters – resolved that the order of business be changed as a Police Officer was expected to attend the meeting later, when this agenda item could be discussed.

4. Public questions or Statements Standing Orders were suspended.

- A member of the public had observed R J Howard wagons and an excavator on the airfield, material had been deposited in the compound adjacent to Rudgate.
Standing Orders were resumed

5. Minutes of the last meeting of the Council – having been circulated and taken as read were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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

Tyres on the airfield – Cllr Bowyer reported that tyres are still being brought to the airfield. The Cllr to liaise with the Clerk to inform The Environment Agency.

7. Village Hall – report by Chairman of VHMC

Standing Orders were suspended.

- A meeting had been held on site with a representative from WREN. Nothing further has been heard yet about progress of grant applications. It is likely to be September before we hear whether we have been successful.
- A Coffee Afternoon was held. 8 people attended, including members of VHMC and PC Chairman. A lively discussion took place though it was very disappointing there appeared to be so little interest from village residents.
- Taster sessions are to be held on Wednesday afternoons – suggestions included i) a Tea Dance; ii) Table Games; iii) Gardeners Question Time; iv) Keep Fit for the Over 50's.
- Films will be shown in the VH three times in the next 6 months as an experiment to see if a cine club or the like is worth pursuing.
- An Entertainment Evening will take place on 17th September.
Cllrs suggested ideas of a wine tasting or beer tasting session.

Standing Orders were resumed.

The Chairman thanked the VHMC Chairman for her report and all the hard work done by the VHMC on behalf of the Parish Council.

8. and 9. Report by County/District Cllr Savage In the absence of Cllr Savage there were no reports.

10. Wilstrop issues

- Cllr Mrs Chasney reported that there had been no feedback on Cllr Savage's site visit or meeting with the Drainage Board.
- Concern was again expressed about the use of an unauthorised mobile home.
- Other issues are the same as before and will be pursued.

Resolved that the Clerk follow up with HBC the siting of the caravan.

11. Report from the Clerk

Land at Cowthorpe - Planning application for change of use now approved Meeting held on site with contractor to discuss a scheme for planting/seeding etc Cllr Billenness made the offer of a bench seat currently being stored in St Michael's Church – this could be provided for the POS. He also suggested a sub-terranean cable be investigated so that lighting for a Christmas Tree could be provided in the POS. He stated that the people who opened and closed the Church in the morning and evening would be prepared to open and close the locked gate to be provided at the POS.

Resolved that the PC delegate authority to the Clerk to organise the planting scheme and discuss other issues with the grounds maintenance contractor.

Village Hall - Planning application for Plan B submitted and validated – awaiting decision. WREN agent visited the Hall and confirmed that:

- if we are successful in receiving a grant, it could be used for either Plan A or Plan B as they both refer to the same basic project.
- To be successful with WREN, Yorventure would have to award the grant applied for also and match funding would have to be found.
- Any such grant funding will not cover the new build element only the internal fixings.
- Once the WREN panel has decided on a grant the amount and timing would be discussed at a later date. Unlikely a decision will be made before the end of September.

It was confirmed that any plans to extend the Village Hall or do other building works should have the approval and support of the Parish Council before being implemented.

Hammerton Mill Sandbeds – NYCC has sent us copies of submissions from Kirk Hammerton PC, which has misunderstood the application to register common land, residents at the other side of the river and the new land owner. Mr Muir will be speaking to NYCC on our behalf.

Westfield Road nameplate – I have been stopped in the street and a nameplate for Westfield Road has been requested. I have taken this up with HBC and await developments.

Church Row allotments access – I've had long conversations with the Housing Dept at HBC. The PC is warned to expect legal correspondence regarding this matter. If any comes it will be directed to HBC, as the landlords, to sort out. This is not a PC matter.

UPVC windows in a Conservation Area – having been asked the question I have found out from HBC that, as long as the building isn't listed and is not a block of flats there is little HBC can do in the way of planning enforcement, notwithstanding the views expressed in the Conservation Area leaflet for Tockwith.

Marston Moor Airfield: – received update from HBC Officer

- both HBC and the appellant have submitted their initial statements of case to the Planning Inspectorate, neither have chosen to make any further comments.
- The next step in the process is to produce ‘proofs of evidence’ but this will not be done for some time.
- Whilst the Appeal is being heard, the Council is not able to take any action against the activities that may currently be undertaken at the site that are subject to the enforcement appeals.

12. Speeding through Tockwith

Several e mail messages had been received from a resident who had also taken this matter up with the Police. The Clerk had obtained the monitoring request forms, from the Police.

The PC wished to support the resident in being pro-active and trying to get a resolution to the longstanding problems. The PC has never been informed of the need to request speed monitoring be done by the Fire & Rescue Service at any time before the present.

Delegated authority given to Cllr Mrs Wardman and the Clerk to complete the forms. The Clerk to write to the MP, County Cllr and Inspector Chapman asking for support in resolving the issue. Cllr Algar mentioned the potential sum of £4,000 held by Area 6 NYCC Highways for traffic calming on PRD, or elsewhere in the village if it could be proven to be more useful/justified. Cllr Savage to be asked to assist with this.

13. Marston Road Play Area

HBC had contacted the PC and advised that commuted sum money needed to be spent soon. Cllrs had seen the options available. Resolved to go with a revised and amended Option 1 – the stepping stones were not liked due to the problems with maintenance around them. A ‘hopscotch’ area would be preferred. Delegated authority given to the Clerk to progress the matter.

3. Police issues

In the absence of an Officer there was no report. It had been noted the Police were present during the past week doing radar speed checks in Tockwith. Matters to be raised in a monthly report to the Police: -

- speeding through Tockwith – the PC should have been told about requesting speed monitoring
- there has been a large increase in the number of heavy and overweight vehicles using the road through Cowthorpe village
- ringmaster messages are not being sent to the Clerk – she is receiving them from a contact on the VHMC!

14. Correspondence

Councillors had previously been forwarded a list of correspondence. Additional correspondence since the list was circulated was made known. Action points were as follows:

- **Libraries** – The VHMC is looking into providing a community library/pick-up point in the VH, but the cost quoted so far would be prohibitive.

NYCC to be asked what is happening to the computers previously used on the mobile library

service. A donation of such a machine would be a big help. A cheaper way of accessing broadband could be looked into either as an extension from the School or a cellular connection may be adequate.

- **Wilstop canvasser** – there had been no volunteers
- **Website development** – nothing further needed. The PC website is DDA level 1 compliant, the full address is www.tockwith.gov.uk and advertising is not appropriate.

Cllrs and the Clerk were receiving lots of spam e mails. Cllr Billenness agreed to set the spam filter higher.

- **HBC Consultation meetings** – Cllrs Saunders and Waller agreed to attend the meeting in October. Agenda items/questions to be sent to the Clerk before the end of August for passing on to HBC.
- **YLCA Training seminars** – no takers
- **Hammerton Mill Sandbeds**

Standing Orders were suspended. Mr Muir was invited to speak. Recent activity and a meeting with the new land owner had been positive. Although the land is currently leased for a period of 5 years the land owner has no objections to the villagers using the land for 'recreation by the river' in the future. Mr Muir's suggestion was that a meeting between himself, acting for the PC, along with a Cllr of long standing with local knowledge and the land owner might prove beneficial. If an agreement can be secured with the landowner the application may be adjourned in the short term and withdrawn in the longer term. If the land owner was prepared to provide an amenity of benefit to the village that would achieve the aims of the PC. Standing Orders were resumed. Resolved that Cllr Pick and Mr Muir would meet with the land owner to discuss the matter.

- **Use of Community Field by Junior Football Club (JFC)**

Cllrs Algar and Harrison declared a personal interest in this matter. (as Cllr Algar's son is a member of both organisations and Cllr Harrison is an assistant Scout Group Leader). The PC was surprised that the request had not come from the Sportsfield Trust (as the umbrella organisation for all the sports clubs associated with that area of the village). The intention had been for representatives of both the JFC and the Scouts to meet and discuss whether a compromise was possible. Unfortunately the two proposed uses of the same piece of land were deemed to be incompatible. There are 175 members of the JFC of whom 142 live within the Tockwith boundary. There are 120+ Scouts and Cubs. It was stated that, because the PC accepts the JFC is an important part of the Community, the JFC has already obtained sole use of the smaller community field, at a nominal annual rent. Other than football orientated organisations could complain of favouritism if the footballers were the only ones seen to benefit from a legacy left to the village for the benefit of all inhabitants. If football pitches were formally laid out and ground works done the land would not be able to be used for more casual open space activities. At present the Scouts have an environmental project on-going, which includes planting of trees, hedges and provision of fencing. Wild flower meadow land is to be created with low environmental impact. Provision of additional football pitches would involve ploughing, re-seeding and drainage – all works alien to the natural environment. Once this work had taken place the land would be lost to the community for informal use. It was suggested the JFC should investigate purchasing adjacent land to accommodate the healthy numbers involved. As Cllrs had been able to speak on behalf of the JFC, Scouts and Sportsfield Trust it was left to Cllrs to get people together to discuss the issue in detail in order, hopefully, to avoid rancour/disagreement.

viii) **Cllr Billenness** had, since the last meeting, asked questions and received answers about the June meeting, from which he was absent, but wanted these to be included in the minutes of this meeting. The Chairman asked if all Cllrs had seen a copy of the questions and reply. On being told that they had it was stated that it was not necessary to record these in the meeting minutes. On the Cllr continuing to raise a question, the Chairman gave Cllr Billenness specific details of The Local Government Act, chapter and paragraph and how it had been complied with. Cllr Billenness still tried to raise a question/make comment about Standing

Order 1d) and stated that he noted the conflict with the Standing Order and would be seeking advice.

15. Planning - applications

Village Hall – erection of single storey rear extension *The PC supported this application and neighbours had no objections.*

Gowlands Farm, Wilstrop – conversion of garage to form additional living accommodation and replacement garage doors to windows. *No objections*

51, Prince Rupert Drive – erection of single storey rear extension. *No objections subject to neighbour notification.*

Planning decisions – approved with conditions

Unit 12, Rudgate Business Park – change of use of industrial unit (Use Class B1 – Business) to MOT and testing and vehicle service unit (Use Class B2 – General Industry).

6, Marston Road, Tockwith – request to discharge planning condition – approval of details required by condition 3 in relation to brickwork sample

Land at Cowthorpe – change of use of unused land to recreational public open space.

Tomlinson Antiques, Moorside – change of use of industrial unit (B8) to soft furnishing manufacturers with ancillary storage and office space (B1) to include the installation of new windows

Paddock House, Moor Monkton – redevelopment with extensions to form 5 bedroom dwelling and 1 bedroom annex (revised scheme)

16. Accounts

Bank balances

(as at 18/7/11)

Lloyds TSB current a/c		£2,508.00
Lloyds TSB deposit a/c	£24,277.85	
Recent deposits:		
VH reimbursement	£219.45	
VAT reclaim	£7,382.65	£31,879.95
Also received, included in bank balances:		
VHMC reimbursement of Insurance premium	£1,029.09	
Allotment rent £17.00		
Tockwith Players reimbursement for electrics at VH £65.00		
Loan (ring fenced for specific purposes)		£20,469.00
Working balance		<u>£13,918.95</u>

A/c's to ratify/pay

Wilson Kennett Partnership (Cowthorpe land application)	363.38
New Wood Gardening (Land clearance – when presented)	816.00
Mrs G Firth (salary & expenses)	1,206.18
Tockwith Players (overpayment)	3.81
Grants covered by Section 137 legislation	
1st Marston Moor Scout Group	250.00
Tockwith Church (burial ground extension)	250.00
Tennis Club	250.00

Sportsfield Trust	500.00
Hunsingore DCC (Cowthorpe churchyard)	150.00
Insurance – before the end of August	

Cllr N Waller declared a personal interest in the grant to the Church. Cllrs Billenness and Harrison declared prejudicial interests in the grants to the Scouts and Hunsingore DCC and left the room during deliberation thereon.

Insurance: – the Clerk had prepared a paper comparing the quotes received. Following discussion, it was resolved to stay with Zurich if they could match the other quotation for an extended period of three years. Authority was delegated to the Clerk to arrange this.

Grounds maintenance issues/ additional grant to Church: - following recent discussion it was suggested the contract should be changed to remove the maintenance of the addition to the Church burial ground and the Church be paid an additional grant direct to help with this.

Resolved that the Clerk write to the Church setting out the new basis for the additional grant.

Once the POS at Cowthorpe has been cleared a possible extension of the contract to cover this area would be discussed.

Requests for grants had been received from the Scouts, Tennis Club and Sportsfield Trust.

Resolved that the bank balances be accepted, accounts to pay/ grants to be awarded be agreed/ratified as above.

17. Date of next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 21st SEPTEMBER in Tockwith Church, at 7.30pm.

If anything occurs requiring attention before the next meeting delegated authority was given to Cllrs, a panel of whom would be available via a ring round system.

18. Exempt Matters None.

There being no further business to conduct, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.35pm.