

## **TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of a Council meeting held on Wednesday 16th March 2011 in Tockwith Church**

**Chairman:** Councillor C Saunders

**Present:** Councillors Mrs L Chasney, Mrs J Wardman, Mr P Pick, Mr N Waller and Mr S Harrison

**In attendance:** County and District Councillor J Savage. PC Sue Brookes and PCSO Alistair Graham-Merritt

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the March Council meeting - He especially welcomed PC Brookes and PCSO Graham-Merritt. He said that he proposed to change the running order of the agenda so that the police officers would not be delayed.

**Apologies for absence** – were received from Clerk Gill Firth (illness), Cllr C Billenness and Cllr M Algar both due to business commitments.

**In the absence of the Clerk Cllr Waller agreed to take the minutes.**

#### **2. Declarations of Interest**

none

#### **3. Public Questions or Statements**

Standing Orders were suspended. - No questions were raised Standing Orders were resumed.

#### **4. Minutes of the last meeting**

The Minutes of the 16th February 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**

**Library Consultation** Cllr Wardman has completed the consultation document based on the comments she had received, people overwhelmingly thought that the library service was of immense social importance and alternative solutions to closure should be looked at, like reduced hours or volunteer manning. Councillors were pleased that NYCC had delayed any decision for a year.

**Sandholes - Bilton Bridle Path** Councillors noted correspondence from a local farmer outlining various access agreements to the field South of the allotments and the general use of vehicles on the lane adjacent to the allotments. There had clearly been some break down in communications between the allotment holders and the local farmer. Cllr Pick to liaise with the farmer with a view to carrying out some repairs to the track. The Clerk to write to allotment holders reminding them to keep access routes clear. Cllr Pick to look at the hedge maintenance around the allotments and report back to the Clerk.

#### **6. Police Matters**

PC 1300 Sue Brookes introduced herself as the new Safer Neighbourhood Team officer along with PCSO Alistair Graham-Merritt who would be working with PC Brookes but on opposite shifts. PC Brookes explained that she was the nominated officer for Marston Moor Ward but also had Scriven and Claro Wards to oversee. She admitted it was a large area. This was also a

concern to Councillors who hoped that the officers would maintain a high profile in the area.

PC Brookes gave an update of reported crime in the area – there had not been a great deal going on in the area although a number of thefts had occurred on the business park.

She encouraged councillors to have representation at the Safer Neighbourhood Consultation meetings as that is the forum for the voice of local people to be heard.

The Knaresborough Area Response Team will now operate out of Knaresborough as opposed to Harrogate and it is hoped that this will benefit the local community.

Standing orders were suspended - a local resident brought to the attention of the police the dangerous practise of large goods vehicles reversing out of Rudgate Business Park on the apex of a bend – it was an ‘accident waiting to happen’.

PC Brookes was advised that, whilst it was not expected that she would come to every Parish Council Meeting, it was hoped when she could not attend that she would provide an update of crime matters and report back on issues raised by the Council. This she agreed to do.

Both PC Brookes and PCSO Graham-Merritt are to write an introduction in the Tockwith Village and Parish News. Standing Orders were resumed.

## **7. Report from County and District Councillor**

- Councillor Savage said that he had made enquiries about the business rates for the Sports Field Trust – he advised that the issue should be raised with the District Valuation Officer and a request be made to review the rates.
- Enforcement action re the old Airfield concerning noise nuisance and planning matters was being vigorously pursued.
- The condition of the footpath between Prince Rupert Drive and Southfield Lane was appalling and a quagmire during inclement weather and although some old road planings had been sourced there was some concern that environmentally they are not appropriate for that path. In the mean time the path is just deteriorating so that it is little used. Negotiations are on going to rectify the situation.
- The Library service has had a stay of execution for 12 months whilst different ideas are explored as to how libraries can be kept open. In this area it is the mobile library which, although it might be maintained, the visits could be less often.
- Both County and District Councils have to manage substantial cuts to income owing to reduced grants from the Government and cuts in council house building subsidies will hit the council.
- The clearing of the old BCB site is slow and methodical but they appear to be doing a good job.
- It was suggested that, rather than ask for a dog bin near to Dalton Joiners, a request be made for a litter bin.

## **8. Report from the Clerk**

**Tyres on Airfield** Nothing heard from the Environment Agency regarding enforcement of the illegal dumping of tyres. The Clerk was asked to write to the EA asking for an update and to also ask for an update re the BCB site.

**Purchase of land at Cowthorpe** This has been completed – the Clerk was given authority to proceed with making a planning application for change of use for the land. Approval given for Mark Kennett to assist with making the application.

**Commuted Sums** The Frog Bin has arrived – authority given for the Clerk to pay the invoice. A site meeting is to take place with the Sportsfield Trust Committee, the Commuted Sums officer and the Clerk to discuss what funds can be spent from the Commuted Sums policy.

**Youth Club and the use of VH** NYCC are to draw up a 'form of words' to formalize the changes the Youth Service has made to the use of the Village Hall.

**Telephone Kiosk – Cowthorpe** The inferred costs of electricity for the kiosk are extortionate and there was no indication that we would have so many problems when the sale of the kiosk was offered to the Council – some Councils are asking BT to take back responsibility for the lighting. It was agreed that we should try this as well.

**HBC Grounds Maintenance Grant** It appears that the PC has been paid this twice – the Clerk has reimbursed HBC and asked in turn to be reimbursed for the Clerk's costs in time, stationery and postage costs in making good their error.

**PC Vacancy** Following the resignation of Nick Allott notices have been displayed on parish notice boards. If there is no request for an election from 10 or more electors then the PC will be given permission to co-opt.

**Wesfield Green POS** The Clerk had been advised that some fence posts are broken – delegated authority given to arrange repair.

## **9. Village Hall**

Audrey Unsworth sent her apologies for non-attendance as she was on holiday. There had been an entertainment evening held on the 12th March - feedback received indicated that it was a successful evening. Alternative plans for the toilet refurbishment, disabled toilet and additional storage facilities are being considered.

One of the things highlighted at the recent hygiene and safety inspection was the need for work to the window frame/reveal and sill in the kitchen. The Clerk was given authority to arrange for the repair to be carried out by Steve Tebbutt as an urgent matter.

**10. Wilstrop issues** Cllr Mrs Chasney said there were no new issues to report.

**11. Report from T.A.A.G** No new information to report

## **12. Correspondence**

Councillors had previously been forwarded a list of correspondence.

Councillors noted that there would be a change of operator for the Wetherby to York bus service on the 17th April. The service was to be shared between Eddie Brown's and Harrogate Travel. There were to be minor amendments to the service.

Confirmation from HBC that the new system for the collection of recyclables and domestic waste, with the provision of an additional wheelie bin, will be phased in from 2012.

## **13. Planning**

### **Planning applications**

**3 Westfield Green** – Protected tree works application – crown clean, remove ivy and reduction of one ash tree. – no objections

**Tomlinson Antiques Moorside – amended description – Full Application – Major** – change of use of industrial unit (Class B8 Storage and Distribution) – to soft furnishing manufacturers with ancillary storage and office space (Use Class B1 – Business) to include installation of new windows. – Councillors unclear of the difference between original application but were minded to approve with the exception of the amended operating times.

**Rose Cottage Kendal Lane** – erection of rear extension – approved subject to neighbour notification.

#### **Planning Decisions – approved with conditions**

**83, Prince Rupert Drive, Tockwith** – erection of two storey extension.

**Rudgate Brewery, Unit 2, Centre Park, Marston Moor Business Park** - erection of replacement industrial unit for use as a brewery.

**Planning Enforcement – notification and result of investigation** Marston Moor Business Park – siting of large sign at entrance to Business Park (for company in the Business Park) *Sign would appear to be on Highway verge – Planning Enforcement has contacted the local highways authority and asked that they take action to remove the sign as soon as possible.*

**Planning Appeal** – The Barn, Goosemoor Stud, Warfield Lane, Cowthorpe – Appeal dismissed but notice varied.

#### **14. Accounts**

Bank balances (as at 16.03.11)

Lloyds TSB current a/c	2,500.00
Lloyds TSB deposit a/c	5,789.72
Loan (ring fenced for specific purposes)	16,368.63

A/c's to ratify/pay

Ware and Kay LLP	910.80
New Wood Gardening	787.20
Glasdon UK	434.44
Mrs G Firth (salary and expenses)	992.92
Steve Tebutt (sill work VH)	155.00

#### **15. Date of next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 20th April 2011 in Tockwith Church, immediately following the Annual Parish Meeting which commences at 7.30pm.**

Following discussion it was agreed to continue using the facilities of the Church during the next financial year at the agreed reduced rate of £20 per letting.

**17. Exempt Matters** No matters for consideration.