

TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Council meeting held on Wednesday 16th NOVEMBER 2011 in Tockwith Church

Chairman: Councillor N Waller

Present: Councillors Mrs J Wardman, Mrs L Chasney, W J Bowyer, S Harrison and C Billenness

In attendance: County & District Cllr Savage, Mrs G Firth (Clerk to the Council) 2 members of the public.

In the absence of the Chairman Cllr Waller took the Chair and welcomed everyone to the last meeting of 2011.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Saunders (hospital), the Police and Mrs Unsworth (holiday)

2. Declarations of Interest – none known about.

3. Police matters

A report was read out by the Clerk.

Crime figures from July to November were made known.

Speed monitoring had been done by PC Lacey on visits to Tockwith. He has been educating motorists regarding speed limits.

The 30mph sign is missing from the Fleet Lane entrance to the village. A new sign should be erected in the next 2-3 weeks, following which speeding tickets can be issued.

The majority of speeding motorists are local residents. It was suggested that additional signage, eg "Police speed check area" and possibly red triangle markers for the road surface should be investigated.

Main areas of crime concern at the moment are the Business Parks and poaching.

Information of organised hunts would be appreciated and any activity by hunt saboteurs.

The Police passed on Yuletide wishes to the PC members.

Cllr Savage spoke of the Harrogate Area meeting when Police issues and speeding in rural areas had been mentioned.

Standing Orders were suspended.

Further concern was expressed about traffic speeding along Rudgate and large vehicles reversing into Rudgate Business Park. Residents have video/photographic evidence. Lorry drivers exiting the Marston Moor Business Park are often seen using mobile phones whilst driving.

Standing Orders were resumed.

The Clerk was asked to pass on concerns in her monthly report to the Police and ask for a breakdown of crime detection rates.

4. Public Questions or Statements None.

5. Minutes of the last meeting – 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

- Community Field – Representatives from the Scouts and the Junior Football Club (JFC) had met on site to try and agree a way forward for non-exclusive joint use of the field. Progress was very slow. Any additional Lease would have to be with the Sportsfield Trust and not the JFC.

The Clerk was asked to write to all parties and encourage them to come back to the January PC meeting with firm proposals. Cllr Harrison agreed to take up with the Scouts the matter of litter, pallets, nails and broken bottles remaining on the field following the recent bonfire.

- Bulbs – the Clerk to check with Cllr pick to see if the bulbs had been collected from Harrogate – then to be divided between Cowthorpe and Wilstrop for planting. The Scouts to be asked to help with this.
- Westfield Road nameplate – ongoing with HBC. Suggested a dual plate be placed adjacent to the wall of the VH next to the Electricity pole/streetlight.
- Youth Club – disturbing news about the possible future of the NYCC Youth Service from 2012. The Clerk to write and ask for confirmation, regret lack of communication/consultation and ask what effect this might have on the Restrictive Covenant at the VH.
- The PC Group ref Allerton proposals had asked local PC's for permission to include them in a signed letter going to the Secretary of State to ask for call-in and a Public Inquiry. The PC agreed to be included in the letter.
- Marston Road Play Area – Cllr Mrs Wardman reported that excrement had been smeared down the slide. She had cleared this up and cleaned/disinfected the area but asked Cllrs to be aware and keep an eye out for troublemakers.

The PC expressed sincere thanks to Cllr Wardman for her public spirited action and suggested the Police be informed so they could also keep a watching brief.

7. Village Hall – Standing item - report by Chairman of VHMC

In the absence of the VHMC Chairman the Clerk gave a brief report.

- Following the 6 taster sessions, the new Wednesday Group would be meeting fortnightly to start with to see if there was sufficient interest.
- Saturday 10th December will be the date of "Santa's Grotto" – a new look Christmas Fair this year. The PC agreed to donate a raffle prize, value £20.
- Sunday 11th December – a visit and performance of "A Yorkshire Christmas Carol with a twist" by the Badapple Theatre Company.

The Clerk was delegated authority to deal with the blocked drain and the central heating system before winter sets in.

- VH Extension Project – there was also an exempt item about progress.

8. and 9. Report by County/District Cllr Savage

Cllr Savage spoke to the following:

- Cowthorpe enforcement case – the COE had become involved – ongoing
- Wilstrop – a meeting between all parties will be held this Friday to try and resolve the flooding
- Airfield – work is ongoing prior to the Public Inquiry to be held in January.
- Allerton – all documents are available in hard copy
- Footpath B1224 – works arranged to re-do a third of the footway but with a membrane this time to deter weed growth at extra cost to ratepayers.
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Cllr Savage was asked for and agreed to offer help in the matter of the future of the Youth Service – the Clerk to copy Cllr Savage into correspondence. Three years ago a critical report had been produced on the Youth Service – nothing had been heard on whether problems had

been addressed. Cllr Savage agreed to follow this up and ask questions at NYCC.

Cllr Savage was thanked for his attendance and report and wished the compliments of the season.

10. Wilstrop issues

Cllr Mrs Chasney looked forward to Friday's meeting and a resolution of the flooding problems. Cllr Chasney agreed to organise the planting of the bulbs in Wilstrop.

11. Report from the Clerk

- **Adopt a kiosk – npower invoices** – ongoing saga.

After receipt of final invoices, demands and threats the Clerk had obtained forms for an application to disconnect the electricity supply to the kiosk – seemingly the only way to resolve the issue. Npower have advised verbally that they will not send any more invoices or demands and will cancel those already sent and the disconnection of the supply should end the matter. Authority was given for the Clerk to progress this and pay the requested fee. Cllrs expressed concern and suggested referring the matter to the Energy Ombudsman, seeking full reimbursement of costs in due course and seeking legal advice.

- **Land at Cowthorpe** – alternative quotation of £700 + VAT obtained for turf laying rather than seeding. Authority was given to the Clerk to progress matters, arrange turf laying, provision of gate, seat, bin and single item of play equipment..

The Cowthorpe Carol Service will be held on December 16th. Cllr Billenness asked for a sunken plate to be included so that a permanent base for a Christmas tree would be available and a post (metpost) provided for the catenary cable to be run from the Church so that Christmas lights could be provided in the POS.

- **Lloyds TSB** – advance notice received of changes to system – no longer able to use BACS payments.

12. Airfield

- The Clerk gave a resume of meetings held with HBC and information received since the last meeting.
- A request was made that any residents who had local knowledge of Airfield activities between 12th April 2001 and 12th April 2011 should come forward with that evidence to put to the Public Inquiry. People did not have to appear in person if they didn't wish to but written evidence, especially photographic evidence, would be very helpful. An appropriate message would appear on the PC website.
- HBC wishes the PC/TAAG/TRA and residents to appear as independent witnesses at the Inquiry.

Evidence should concentrate on the 6 Enforcement Notices and Appeals. The basis of the Appeals would be continuous use over a period of greater than 10 years and the legitimacy of the 1962 and 1970 permissions.

The Clerk was delegated authority to speak on behalf of the PC and the Chairman and Cllr Bowyer would each provide witness statements.

The Clerk was asked to contact The Environment Agency in December to ascertain the progress of the Eco Terra Tyres case.

Cllr Billenness wanted it minuted that he felt the PC would fall into disrepute if the PC did not work together with TAAG on this issue.

Standing Orders were suspended. Mr Wilson spoke on behalf of TAAG. A meeting would be held to identify people who would act as witnesses at the Inquiry and TAAG would help them with their submissions. Bob Power at HBC would read all witness statements. Standing Orders were resumed.

13. 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:

- **HBC – Commuted sums to be spent before 31st March 2012** – in the New Year a list of preferred projects would be prepared by the Clerk and brought forward for action
- **HBC – Draft Policies on village facilities/open spaces/village halls** – the Clerk and Cllr Mrs Wardman had conferred and the completed survey was returned to HBC
- **Two vacancies on the PC** – notification from HBC had been received that it was in order to co-opt a Cllr for Cowthorpe and one for Tockwith
- **A resident** was to be asked to send future correspondence to the Clerk and not to admin via e mail
- **Cllr Billenness agreed to look again at the spam filter on emails** as the Clerk was getting large numbers of unsolicited messages
- **Telephone kiosk** – BT to be asked to take it back, pending successful outcome with npower and electricity supply

14. Christmas arrangements

A Tockwith resident had kindly offered to donate and erect Christmas lights in Tockwith churchyard. Cowthorpe has the required lights etc.

15. Planning - applications

Responses on Planning applications seen since the last PC meeting were ratified.

Cromwell House, Marston Road – conversion of storage area above garage to form home office with erection of dormer window and installation of 2 roof lights *No Objections*

Lingcroft Grange, Cowthorpe – erection of first floor extension, single storey extension and porch. *No objections.*

127, Prince Rupert Drive – erection of single storey extension. *The PC does not object to or support the application but wishes to make comments or seek safeguards as follows: Whilst the PC does not object to the principle of development for this modest extension, the following comments are made: 1. The Plans appear to show the front and side elevations wrongly named as the existing front door leads into the front porch and hall and the existing door into the kitchen is at the side of the property (not as shown on the plans); 2. Is it safe to have only one external door to the property if the proposed plans are approved? There will be no front door anymore, only a side door leading directly into the kitchen as the only means of access/egress to/from the property; 3. There does not appear to be a door onto the newly created bedroom (in place of the study/dining room); 4. With such basic and wrongly marked plans it is difficult to imagine how an informed decision can be made by the Local Planning Authority.*

NYCC – Planning application accompanied by an Environmental Statement for a Waste Recovery Park (Allerton Waste Recovery Park -AWRP) Details of the application can be

found on-line at www.northyorks.gov.uk/allertonwrp or otherwise via the County Council's online planning register ref no NY/2011/0328/ENV

Planning application – withdrawn Moorside – erection of 36m high wind turbine

Planning decisions – approved with conditions/decisions on discharge of planning conditions

Rose Cottage, Westfield Road – replacement planning permission for conversion of attached store to form additional living accommodation and formation of first floor over.

Planning Enforcement - notification 152, PRD – erection of extension

Planning Enforcement – result of investigation Former Parish Hall, adjacent bungalow and garages to rear, Oak Road, Cowthorpe *“The properties are both substantially completed and it is considered that the condition of the land does not adversely affect the amenity of the area to warrant formal enforcement action at the present time. In view of this the case will be closed.”* 152, Prince Rupert Drive – *“The erection of the extension between the two properties is permitted development and did not require planning permission. As there has been no breach of planning control no further action will be taken”.* Opportunity to Speak at Planning Committee meeting: As the recommendation was to confirm the provisional TPO's on trees on both sides of the road to the east of Cowthorpe, it was not considered essential to attend the meeting.

Westfield Green POS – following contact from an adjacent resident it was agreed the Clerk would ask HBC Arboricultural Officers/Bartlett Tree Experts to have a look at the trees to recommend any pruning that may be required. The grounds maintenance contractor was to be asked to look at the hedge with a view to pruning/maintenance work.

The Clerk was asked to chase HBC with regard to enforcement cases not resolved.

16. Accounts

<u>Bank balances</u>		(as at 26/10/11)
Lloyds TSB current a/c		<u>2,500.00</u>
Lloyds TSB deposit a/c	34,837.44	
Less o/s payments:		
PWLBD/D	3,791.93	
		<u>31,045.51</u>
Recent deposits:		
BACS – HBC grant	212.78	
Total of both a/c's		<u>33,758.29</u>
Loan (ring fenced for specific purposes)		20,469.00
Working balance		<u>13,289.29</u>
<u>A/c's to ratify</u>		
Play Safety (to ratify Playground annual Inspection)		90.00
Mrs G M Firth (salary and expenses)		1,017.81
Northern PowerGrid (disconnect supply)		430.25
Raffle prize (VH Xmas Fair)		20.00

Agreed expenditure before next meeting:

Drain clearance at VH
Cowthorpe POS clearance, turfing, gate, seat, bin, play equipment etc

Resolved that the draft Precept, as prepared by the Clerk, be accepted and a Precept of £25,000 be demanded for 2012/2013 ie no increase on current year's budget.

Resolved that the bank balances be accepted and accounts paid/to pay be ratified as above.

17. Date of next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 18th JANUARY 2012 in Tockwith Church at 7.30pm.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attendance, wished everyone the compliments of the season, declared the meeting closed to the public and moved the resolution for exempt matters. Cllrs agreed.

18. Exempt Matters A letter concerning the VH extension was made known to Cllrs. There is also an exempt minute for this item.