

TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Council meeting held on Wednesday 18th July 2012 in Tockwith Church

Chairman: Councillor C Saunders.

Present: Councillors , Mrs S Corbett, Mr N Waller, Mrs J Wardman, Mrs B Smith, Mrs J Thompson, Mrs L Gill.

In attendance: Cllr J Savage (District & County Councillor), Mrs H Algar (Clerk to the Council), Mrs A Unsworth (Chair Village Hall Management Committee) and Seven members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence Cllr Mr S Harrison – Illness, Cllr Mrs A Wilson – Work commitments, Cllr Mr C Billenness – Holiday.

2.Declarations of Interests None received.

3.Chairs announcements None.

4.Minutes

All were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5.Outstanding Actions Arising form Minutes of last Meeting – to discuss /follow up

Cllr Wardman discussed clerks report over the complaint from a member of the public involving the hedge height of one of the hedges as you pull out of Kendal lane onto Marston Road. Cllr Wardman to talk to local residents involved.

6.Public Questions

The chairman suspended standing orders.

A member of the public raised the issue of pedestrian and cycle safety from Cattal Station to Tockwith and proposed a cycleway from Tockwith to Cattal station. The member of the public had also contacted NYCC to ask why the recent widening of an adjacent properties drive to the station had moved the verge back so steeply. A member of the public heading towards Tockwith from the station now has no other option than to walk on the road. Cllrs were aware that there had previously been fatalities on the road. John Savage (District and County Councillor) commented that getting funds to put in a cycleway could be very difficult in the current climate but would make some enquiries and potentially pass comments onto Kirk Hammerton PC.

A second member of the public stated that they had a problem with the contents of the last Parish Council meetings minutes. Whilst accepting that the minutes were accurately recorded, they questioned that what was reported to the meeting was not a true representation. This was with respect to a meeting that they had attended in Cowthorpe

Church regarding Bert's garden. They were not happy with the report that is held on the Parish Council's website regarding that meeting. The resident asked that the report and the minutes of the last meeting be changed. If this was not to be the case then they wanted to submit their own report to be put on the website in response. The particular information in question was related to having a Christmas tree in the space. The reason in the report states that this is because of the fear of vandalism, residents feel this is inaccurate the reasons for not having a Christmas tree in the space is as follows;

1. It would not be seen because of the high hedge height.
2. It would not be seen as there is little passing traffic.
3. It would not be ideal to have low voltage cables running across the floor of a children's play area.

Cllrs commented in response that the protocol of communication was the problem in this case and that if it were a public meeting then an outsider should have potentially chaired it. Method of communication needs looking at as a lesson for the future. Cllrs decided to remove the link to this document on the website and keep the minutes of the last meeting as they were. The original document would remain as part of the Parish Council's documentation along with the noting of the residents comments under public questions in the July minutes.

The chairman resumed standing orders.

7. Police matters

No Police present, monthly crime report was read by the Clerk.

Tockwith and Wilstrop have had NO crime at all – there have been one or two anti social behaviour incidents but nothing significant. The Business parks have not had any crime either which is excellent and is probably a combination of the new CCTV at the entrance/setting up of the Business Watch/Catalytic Converter marking kits being issued to interested businesses and new posters being issued.

8. Village Hall

Standing orders were suspended. Report was given by Mrs Unsworth main points of which were:-

- Their last committee meeting was not quorate.
- The business plan was presented and Cllrs have been sent a copy.
- Computer courses have been confirmed to go ahead in September.
- There was a leak in the Village Hall due to heavy rain. A roof tile had slipped on the section of roof at the back of the building.
- The wall down the side of the garden that joins to the neighbours needs to have some ivy removed. This is hopefully going to be done through the new gardening plans with Gorgeous Gardens and the under 5's. Want to remove the fence at the back of the garden as weeds are growing through it would be best to remove the fence. Want to know whether they have authority to remove it.
- The gardening club will be creating designs for the space. So hopefully it won't be long until a plan is in place.

The chairman resumed standing orders.

9. Reports by County & District Cllr

The chairman suspended standing orders. Report was given by Cllr Savage the main points of which are shown below;

- Floods at Warfield lane in Cowthorpe it is a farmers drain which is causing the flooding in the lane, Cllr Savage will report the farmers details.
- Tree trunks under the bridge at Hunsingore have been reported.
- Cowthorpe Nevis house and area is not in a good state for local residents. Potentially Harrogate Borough Council can put tenants into properties that are 85% finished. Cllr Savage to inform relevant authority of this and see what can be done.
- Refuse collection service, in the main the roll-out has been good but has had its issues here and there. In our area mainly problems in Wilstrop and the lane end collections. These are not only difficult for residents but also bin staff too particularly in Wilstrop near the main road. It was noted at this point by the chairman that all complaints have to be made about the refuse collection by individual residents having problems. It was also noted that recycling in HBC is still limited and it seems unreasonable that the council would expect individuals with limited mobility to carry a full box of bottles to the end of their drive. Councillor Savage will report this information back to those implementing the scheme.
- Allerton Park Energy from Waste application. Cllr Savage brought a hard copy and disc of all the alterations to the application. NYCC have extended the date for comments and objections to August 30th. NYWAG are to consider the information in conjunction with the Land and Development Practice and they have asked for as many councils as possible to respond. Cllr Savage urged the council to consider submitting a second response.
- Have 25m available to provide ultra fast broadband in the area.
- Area 6, Cllr Savage has asked for a full report of what is to be spent by Highways in each parish which he will pass on when received.
- Cowthorpe Play area noticed that as yet it has no signs in place.

Cllr Wardman raised the fact that there had been flooding on New Row on the way out of Tockwith towards Long Marston due to heavy rain. Can Cllr Savage ask the local drainage board if there are any substantial issues with this as the water had to be pumped out of the drain as the water was not able to get away?

Standing orders were resumed.

10. Wilstrop Issues

Cllr Smith reported the following issues

This month there had been a number of near misses on lane at Wilstrop that crosses the A59. Would it be possible to have some signs to slow down the traffic or change the speed limit.

Standing orders were suspended and Cllr Savage responded that it was unlikely that there would be a reduction in the speed limit but potentially Area 6 may allow a slow down or concealed entrance sign. Cllr Savage to try and ask about it.

Standing Orders were resumed.

Chairman asked that cllrs approve that we move to item 14 on the agenda.

14. Cowthorpe Bert's Garden – Report from Cllr Saunders. Approval of payment for hedge cutting.

Cllr Saunders met with the grounds maintenance contractor and local residents on site and it was agreed that;

- Hedge in front of the property opposite to continue to grow at height but the width and all verges need to be tidied.
- Benches do not need moving.
- Hedge along the lane side to be dropped so that farm vehicles can see. Should be sloped to look aesthetically pleasing.
- The hedge by the gate should also be trimmed to a nice height.

The chairman suspended standing orders

AH will take over the cutting of the grass after the next cut by the contractor.

AW suggested a grant to the Cowthorpe resident's but they would need a name in order to have a grant paid to them. Clerk to check the insurance implications of volunteers cutting grass on the space.

It had been agreed with the grounds maintenance contractor that he would now only maintain the hedges at the open space in Cowthorpe and no longer cut the grass.

Clerk to ask Harrogate Borough Council for brown bin and black recycling box.

Standing Orders were resumed.

Cllr Saunders requested that councillors approve £140 for the cost of sorting out the hedges and cutting the verges by New Wood Gardening. All councillors agreed to this payment.

The chairman asked that we move to item 13 on the agenda all agreed.

13. Cowthorpe Bert's Garden – to discuss and decide on payments for works to be carried out prior to it's official opening.

Commuted sums toward the cost of the signs at Bert's Garden have been applied for. If funding did not come through Commuted sums Cllrs all agreed to continue with the project. They want to get the space open as soon as possible. The clerk informed the

Council that the spend should be approximately £250.

The chairman asked that we move to item 12 on the agenda all agreed.

12. Marston Road Playground – to discuss playground, report from Cllr Wardman

Cllr Wardman reported that during the recent spell of rain the bin which has no lid was full of water and difficult to empty. Wanted to know if councillors would consider replacing it with a cover and if we could put commuted sums on the agenda for September to get a new bin with a lid.

She also reported that there are some overhanging ash trees that may need trimming at some point in the future. Think that they are actually in the conservation area and not sure if we own the trees or if it is the drainage board.

It was decided that the clerk should try and ascertain who owns the trees and whether they are in the conservation area and that this should be discussed once these facts have been ascertained.

The chairman asked that we move to item 11 on the agenda all agreed.

11. Clerks Report

- Commuted Sums – Bench at bottom of Ralph Garth.

As requested got a quote from Park Lane Services for moving benches at Cowthorpe and for installing one on Ralph Garth £250 per bench. If one bench then £320 plus VAT. This figure does not include fittings. Another option is a reconditioned wooden bench fitted for £300 by HBC this would leave extra for something else. Cllrs agreed that the Clerk should contact Sean Wright for a reconditioned bench and potentially a bin with a lid for Marston Road play area.

- Commuted Sums Bert's Garden – residents shown a mock up of the Bert's garden signs and agreed it was suitable for the space with minor wording changes.
- Tockwith Airfield – Meeting with Barry Gill 26th July.
- Acorn House Cowthorpe – Need dates for meeting with Pat Costar from Cllrs.
- New Code of conduct update – To be done.
- Speed Monitoring – Report not come through for Tockwith yet but the data logger was deployed on a telegraph pole on Marston Road between Ralf Garth and Kendal Lane on the 14th - 25th May 2012.

Speed monitoring forms for Cowthorpe have been requested.

- Village Hall roof – discussed in Village Hall report. Insurance reclaim has been paid into account and Wren return of balance match funding has arrived.
- Grit Bin –land owner has no claim and has repaired his fence. He did query why the grit bin needed to be there now that the water leak on the corner has been fixed.
- Cowthorpe Issues to be put on the agenda – Wanted to look at this in more detail with how items to be discussed can be displayed prior to the meeting under such a heading.
- Freedom of information requests – Council now have a log for enquiries and responses. We also now have standard forms to use when requests are made and

responded to.

Correspondence of relevance

- a. YLCA information for meeting.
- b. Planning meeting incinerator new information.
- c. Environment Agency letter for drop in clinic Allerton incinerator.
- d. Notices for Police Commissioner vacancy.
- e. Arch Mediation for neighbourhood disputes.
- f. Cowthorpe correspondence weight of it getting out of hand for clerk to deal with.

15. Planning – to discuss and decide on /ratify.

23B Fairfax Crescent YO26 7QX – Full permission for erection of a conservatory application for neighbour notification with Cllr Harrison.

25 Kendal Gardens YO26 7QR – Full permission for erection of detached garage with home office and conversion of garage to form additional living accommodation to include bay window. No objection was returned and ratified by all cllrs.

Eastfield Grange application – Cllr Wardman informed that this was approved at chamber.

200 Prince Rupert Drive YO26 7PU – Application for a single storey extension was approved by HBC subject to conditions.

16. Accounts

Bank balances (as 26 June 2012)

Lloyds TSB Current account		<u>2,500.00</u>
Lloyds TSB deposit account		30,542.62
less o/s cheques		
	828	3.81
Scouts Grant	888	250.00
HA Salary	899	410.86
New Wood Gardening	896	35.00

New Wood Gardening	900	35.00	734.67
			<u>29,807.95</u>
			32,307.95

receipts

reimbursement VH Insurance		17.51	
reimbursement VH Insurance		1066.02	
Wren Overpayment		1003.57	2,087.10
			34,395.05
Loan (ring fenced for specific purposes)			20,469.00
Working Balance			13,926.05

Accounts to Pay/ratify

Mrs H Algar Salary & Expenses (353.16 +7.16)	£360.32
New Wood Gardening (Hedges)	£140
New Wood Gardening (Grass)	£35
VHMC Match funding refund	£1003.57
Tockwith Church room hire	£200
PC Insurance	£850
Bert's Garden sign	£180
Bench sign	£ 28
H&S sign	£ 55
Auditors fee	£ 480
Salary & Expenses Mrs H Algar (Aug)	£360
Information Commissioner	£35

17. Summer Break Period - to approve the formation of a quorum of cllrs to make decisions on it's behalf over the summer break period.

Five Cllrs confirmed that they would be able to make decisions over the summer period as they were not away. This was deemed enough to make a quorum and decisions will be ratified at the September meeting.

18. Date of next Meeting: Wednesday 19th September 2012 in Tockwith Church at 7.30pm.

19. Exempt Matters None

The chairman thanked all for attending and declared the meeting closed.