

## **TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of an Extraordinary General Council meeting held on Wednesday 27th June 2012 in Tockwith Church**

**Chairman:** Councillor C Saunders

**Present:** Councillors Mr C Billenness, Mrs S Corbett, Mr N Waller, Mrs J Wardman, Mrs A Wilson, Mrs B Smith, Mrs J Thompson, Mrs L Gill.

**In attendance:** Mrs H Algar (Clerk to the Council).

**1. Apologies for absence** None

**2. Declarations of Interests** None received

#### **3. New Code of Conduct**

Cllrs discussed that they had the following options open to them when deciding a code of conduct to adopt.

- Adopt the code proposed by Harrogate Borough Council
- Adopt the code proposed by NALC
- Keep the code we already have and make amendments to it.

Cllrs debated the best way forward and it was mentioned that following HBC's proposed code would make it easier when dealing with the code with HBC as they would understand it being the authors of it. Concern was also raised as to whether the code was geared more to a local council than a parish council however.

When discussing the NALC code then it was thought that there were a number of ambiguities in it especially with respect to the "interests of a friend" as a friend in a small council could be construed as many things.

The third option of keeping the current code was ruled out due to the complex nature of the Localism Act and the fact that HBC and NALC have spent so much time with their experts constructing the new codes that as a council we are not best placed to do this for ourselves.

Cllr Waller proposed a motion that the council adopt the code of conduct used by Harrogate Borough Council and insert our details into the model code. This was seconded by Cllr Saunders and all voted in favour of adoption.

#### **4. Register of Interests**

It was agreed by all Cllrs that the information displayed on our website should be consistent with what is displayed on Harrogate Borough Councils website. The information to be displayed will be received by the monitoring officer and then it can be published on the Parish Council website. Every Cllr will have an opportunity to check what is sent before it is published on the Parish Council Website.

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

**19. Exempt Matters**

One exempt matter was discussed in the absence of the public.

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