

## **TOCKWITH WITH WILSTROP PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of a Council meeting held on Wednesday 16th January 2013 in Tockwith Church**

**Present:** Councillors; Mr N Waller (Chair), Mrs J Wardman, Mrs A Wilson, Mrs L Gill, Mrs B Smith, Mrs S Corbett.

**In attendance:** Mrs H Algar (Clerk to the Council), Cllr J Savage, Mrs A Unsworth (Chair village hall management committee), PC Sue Brookes and 4 members of the public.

**Apologies:** Councillor Mrs S Pearce, Mr C Billenness, Mrs J Thompson, Louise Jackson (Environment Agency)

#### **13/1. Apologies for absence**

Cllr Waller opened the meeting

RESOLVED that all apologies were accepted for Councillors absent.

#### **13/2 Parish Council Vacancies**

Cllr Waller and Clerk confirmed their had been no interest in the current councillor vacancy

RESOLVED that the vacancy remain open and continue to advertise.

RESOLVED that Cllr Corbett become the parish Council representative on the Sportsfield Trust committee.

#### **13/3 Internal Auditor Vacancy**

No interest had been shown locally. RESOLVED that the clerk contact the internal auditors supplied by YLCA to see if they were interested in the position and to find out their current rates.

RESOLVED to contact Cllr Wilson and pass on the details of what an audit would entail.

**13/4 Declarations of Interests** None were declared for items on the agenda.

#### **13/5 Environment Agency Representative.**

The Environment agency representative had sent apologies for the meeting and had asked councillors to consider whether they wished to meet at another time. Councillors discussed possible dates. Councillors also discussed the Waste Transfer Notice that had been issued to Mr Moore and the fact that on the Environment Agency website it also appears that Mr Ketteridge still holds one.

RESOLVED that the Environment agency be asked to attend the February Parish Council meeting, this way members of the public will also have an opportunity to put their questions to the representative. Also the decision was made as it would be after the 9th of February enforcement date. It was thought it was unlikely that the approximate 102 thousand tyres would not have all been moved by this date and it would be a good opportunity to ask about next steps once the Feb 9th date had passed.

RESOLVED that the Clerk should enquire to the Environment agency if their website is up to date regarding waste transfer notices and query why Mr Moore has been issued one and ask

why Mr Ketteridge still has one even though he has faced prosecution over illegal dumping of tyres.

RESOLVED that Councillors would send the clerk queries or questions for the Environment agency prior to the February meeting.

The chairman and council agreed to move to item 13/9 on the agenda. Standing orders were suspended

### **13/9 Police Matters**

PC Sue Brookes was in attendance and gave the following report:

- 4th January Car theft on Marston Road
- Oil and Diesel thefts have been a bit quieter this month
- Catalytic converter thefts appear to have increased on Marston Moor business park and the police are trying to set up a meeting of traders but the response has been poor so far. The Chairman queried the security of the estate at night and police believe that since CCTV has been put in the security is not as stringent.
- PC Brookes said how nice it was to go to the Cowthorpe surgery and see so many people attend (25-30 people) they had a good meeting and helped resident's improve their security.

The chair asked if members of the public or cllrs had a question for PC Brookes

- A member of the public asked with the removal of tyres on the airfield if the police could look out for tyres accumulating anywhere dumped onto the business park to ensure that no illegal dumping of the tyres is taking place.

Standing orders were resumed.

The chairman and council agreed to move to item 13/6 on the agenda.

### **13/6 Minutes**

Minutes of the November and December meetings were discussed.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the November 21st meeting be signed and dated as a true record.

RESOLVED that the exempt minutes of the November 21st meeting be signed and dated as a true record.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the December 19th meeting have the North and South in section 4.3 swapped around. Then the minutes were signed and dated as a true record.

The chairman and council agreed to move to item 13/8 on the agenda

Standing orders were suspended.

### **13/8 Public Questions, Comments or Representations.**

- A member of the public raised that at the last meeting the emergency plan was discussed for Tockwith. It was mentioned that Cowthorpe would have to produce their own plan which was designated to Cllr Billenness. The resident was under the impression that the details of the

plan were to be passed onto the Cowthorpe forum. Cllr Waller agreed to send details of what information is required to form such a plan to the resident.

- Another member of the public asked if the Christmas lights had been erected in Cowthorpe as they had not seen them.
- Another member of the public noted that the lights in Tockwith were minimal and looked a little sad. It was suggested that in both villages fewer lights but bigger lights be purchased.

Standing orders were resumed.

### **13/7 To receive information on ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary.**

#### **13/7.1 Flooding New Row**

Cllr Gill gave an update that the problem lies in the main with highways who have as yet not contacted the land owners as promised. Standing orders were suspended and Cllr Savage gave an update on the matter.

- Cllr Savage is currently trying to get all agencies involved (Drainage Board, Yorkshire Water, Harrogate Borough Council, North Yorkshire County Council and the landowners) together to have a one stop shop to solve the problem. He is at County Hall this week and can try and move things forward. It is not only New Row but also problems with 44-46 Marston road who are also worried that if changes to the drainage are made at one end of the village that this will effect them or indeed other villages down stream.
- Cllr Gill noted this and stated that it did not help find the landowners who have not yet been party to discussion so far. It was decided that Land Registry should help Highways identify the landowner.
- Cllr Gill also wanted Cllr Savage to note that one of the resident's at New Row is 78 and vulnerable it is vital that something is done to protect his home.

Standing orders were resumed.

#### **13/7.2 Tockwith Airfield – progress with dialogue and correspondence**

Cllr Waller discussed with Cllrs the outcome of a meeting with Harrogate Borough Council's Officers at Knapping Mount on Monday 14th January 2013. The main reason for the meeting was to provide an opportunity for HBC to advise the Parish Councils of progress made since the last meeting and action taken to resolve issues with the planning enforcement. The main points of the meeting that were reported to councillors are shown below:-

- Letters had been written by HBC to R Howard, N Moore and S Moore reminding them of the enforcement dates for the tyres.
- Copies of the Leases and a letter to the Environment agency regarding removal of the tyres were also shown to the Parish Councils.
- HBC enforcement section is being reorganised in April and future enforcement information should be sent to Mr G Bell.
- The enforcement date for tyres is 9th Feb 2013. Tyres were being removed from the site to Credential Environmental Ltd at Brighton Airfield near Selby. EA have checked that all licences are in place. A figure of 102,000 tyres are to be moved off site this number was noted in correspondence from Mr Moore to the Environment Agency.
- It was noted by the PC's to HBC that there were a number of tyres in the west field area of the site adjacent to Rudgate lane and HBC were asked to ensure that these tyres are also removed.
- The PC's also made HBC aware that Mr Moore had been registered as a recognised waste carrier to be able to take the tyres off site. The expiry date of this licence is 2016. Concern was raised that this could lead to products being imported onto Tockwith Airfield in the future.
- PC's also reported to HBC that Tockwith Karting School (TKS) a business that had been set

up in June 2012 was now operating on the owner driver go kart track. When the Pro-am go-karts were removed in July 2012 the TKS opened the following weekend on the owner driver track. It appears to the PC's and resident's that the Pro-Am operation had simply transferred with a new name to the owner driver track. It has in effect changed use from driver training to leisure/commercial activity. It is alleged therefore that the current TKS operation is unlawful and should be stopped by HBC. The Head of planning services confirmed that HBC would look into the matter and would advise what action they intend to take.

- The old Pro – Am site still has barriers at the eastern end of the East/West runway and also at the Northern side of the pro- am site there are tyres which should be removed from site, the head of planning confirmed that they would look into why they are there and inform the PC's as to what action they will take.
- It was reported by the PC's that there had been water filled polymer barriers on the Ginetta track for over 14 days into the new year. This being the case any motor sport activities taking place after January 14th would be a failure to comply with the enforcement notice and it was thought that HBC should consider commencement of prosecution.
- It was noted to HBC that users of TKS are parking on the Ginetta track HBC took note of this .
- HBC asked that the PC's and resident's help with the future monitoring of the activity on the site with respect to the 14/28 day permitted use rights. A monitoring form has now been agreed for resident's to use to record activities. It was also noted that resident's sent evidence of events for 2012 with photographic evidence of when events were held that HBC had not made the best of that information provided.
- It was agreed with HBC that PC's and resident's will inform HBC of any scheduled dates they can find for planned events advertised on the Ginetta track.
- PC suggested that HBC make regular unannounced check visits to the site as local resident's are being discouraged from entering the airfield with claims that they are trespassing.
- HBC confirmed that they will not be pursuing further enforcement in relation to the alleged unauthorised development of the Ginetta track in 2009.
- The PC asked if HBC had made any progress with the use of the Agricultural building on the site being used as a repair shop for buses and HGV's. HBC were reminded that in 2009 the chief planning enforcement officer had said HBC were intending to regularise and control the use of this building through retrospective planning. This has not been done. As HBC believe the building has been used for repairs for over 10 years they do not believe that the site operator would submit a retrospective application. The PC's noted this and asked HBC to consider the matter further.
- Noise abatement was also mentioned by the PC's to HBC. Local resident's are very disappointed by HBC's turnaround in notifying resident's that they do not intend to start legal proceedings against Mr N Moore.
- HBC have promised to keep the PC's informed of progress relating to the outstanding issues on the airfield and a further meeting is planned in due course.
- It was also noted during the meeting that the lease Mr N Moore has with Mr Howard is very comprehensive and does not allow noise or dumping of materials on site, potentially in future the PC's could write to Mr Howard about problems with the site and see if this has any effect.

After discussion councillors; RESOLVED the agricultural building should be having business rates applied, the clerk is to write to the Inland Revenue valuation department and ask if business rates are being charged for the current activities on the site.

RESOLVED that a leaflet be produced by Tockwith Parish Council and in Tockwith Parish Council's name which will be sent to all houses in the village and surrounding areas informing resident's of the current state of play on the airfield and also asking resident's to get involved with the monitoring of activities on the site. It will ask them to contact the clerk of Tockwith PC for monitoring forms. The leaflet is to be paid for by Tockwith PC.

RESOLVED that at the next meeting with HBC that they are reminded to take photo's of the airfield at regular intervals so that for example the owner driver track cannot be allowed to expand and then over time be allowed to remain as have so many other uses on the site over the

years (e.g. the agricultural shed).

### **13/10 Village Hall**

The chairman suspended standing orders and the chair of the VHMC Mrs Unsworth gave a report the main points of which were;

- The Xmas fair was a big success made approximately £240.
- Informed the council that there are potholes in the car park.
- Heating behaving better but the water heater going out in windy conditions and hot water running cold was a complaint from user groups.
- Had a blocked toilet as wipes being flushed down the toilet.
- People in the village are filling the Village Halls green bin as it is near the recycling centre.
- Currently the village hall are conducting a health check on their activities and so far everything is looking good.
- VHMC want some information on employment of the cleaner and what they should be doing as her employer.
- Upcoming event for fund raiser is a 1970's disco and quiz.

The chairman thanked Mrs Unsworth and resumed standing orders.

RESOLVED that the clerk try find some information on employment for the VHMC with respect to their cleaner.

### **13/11 Report by County and District Councillor.**

The chairman suspended standing orders and Cllr Savage gave a report the main points of which were;

- Flooding problems in Cowthorpe eventually sorted with the landowner who has now dug the drains out and hopefully solved the problems on Warfield lane.
- Tockwith School Eco-warriors had contacted him with respect to a H&S issue with parents turning around in the school entrance to the car park putting children getting into school at risk of being run over. NYCC advised them to shut the gate morning and night.
- Pot holes from Angram to Cowthorpe have been filled in resident's to email him if any are not done.
- Kendal Gardens resurfacing has tried in vain to get a date but nobody can commit to when this work will be done.
- Cowthorpe Acorn house site, had tried to get a housing association to take on the new properties at the front of the site but now are looking at light industrial units at the back of the site. Will have to keep an eye on the situation moving forward.
- NYCC have announced they need to save an additional 24 million pounds on top of the 69 million already announced over the next 3 years. It was also noted that HBC are in a better financial situation at the moment than NYCC.
- Refuse and re-cycling have been a few glitches with the new systems but nothing major, the prices for plastic and paper re-cycling have gone down whilst metal prices have increased.
- No update on Skewkirk bridge.
- Footpath from Prince Rupert Drive to Southfield lane to be resurfaced by local resident's and NYCC are to provide the bark.
- Reminded resident's and PC to just send any issues that we have with highways to him.

The chairman thanked Cllr Savage for his report and resumed standing orders.

### **13/12.Matters Requested by Councillors**

13/12.1 To discuss Southfield Lane problems with flooding and potholes during heavy periods of rain (Cllr Pearce) Cllrs discussed that this is the case

RESOLVED that the clerk write to Highways to alert them that this is the case.

13/12.2 To provide any questions for the next Safer Neighbourhood Group meeting on January 22nd (Cllr Gill)

RESOLVED that Cllr Gill ask for an update on the progress and process of mobile speed cameras being available in the county.

13/12.3 To discuss problems with the path that runs from the top of Prince Rupert Drive through to Southfield lane and potential methods to resolve them with NYCC (All)

This work has already been agreed directly between resident's and NYCC without consultation with the parish council and the work is set to be done tomorrow. NYCC have provided tree bark and a limited amount of membrane to go on the path, resident's are to complete the work. Cllr Pearce visited the site this week with the resident heading up the workforce and suggested the best way to lay the path in such muddy conditions. It was thought by cllrs that this was not a permanent solution and it appears that not enough bark would be provided to complete the whole path but it was better than nothing.

### **13/13 Clerks Update**

13/13.1 Commuted Sums Clerk read a list of all the current available commuted sums and discussed her meeting with Cllr Corbett who agreed to move the matter forward in the community at a future date. The Clerk informed councillors that the way commuted sums is calculated may well change in the near future and that the council may want to think about spending what it does have.

RESOLVED that Cllr Corbett think about moving forward the commuted sums allocated in various parts of the parish and that the clerk write to the Church and the Methodist church to let them know that they have funds allocated to spend. With this an explanation should be sent to inform them what it can be spent on and why.

13/13.1 Risk Assessments No progress has been made in this area this month.

13/13.4 Volunteer policy No progress has been made in this area this month.

13/13.5 Highways issues A receipt of all the highways issues that were sent out of the November meeting has been received but no updates as to progress of the issues as yet.

13/13.6 Movement of the Footpath at the back of Warfield Lane Written to the management company and have as yet had no response. Clerk has also written to NYCC. They will inform us should there be an application.

13/13.7 Village Hall boiler service Village hall boiler needs to be serviced along with the water heater

RESOLVED Clerk to get 3 quotes .Council agreed spend of up to £250 to go ahead and get it done this month.

13/13.8 Clerk Training to approve purchase of book local council finance and WWYC course at £95.

RESOLVED that the clerk go ahead and purchase these items.

13/13.9 Speed Monitoring Cowthorpe and Tockwith. Contacted Area 6 and Cowthorpe is still on the waiting list (currently number 4 on the list) all being well the monitoring should be done in the next 4 weeks but will slip should there be a snow delay.

13/13.10 Relevant Received correspondence

- Rural Action Yorkshire Winter Weather Agent scheme – passed to the chairman to look at.
- Receipt from Highways agency previously discussed 13/13.5
- Complaint about firework night noise from anonymous resident noted by councillors but not a council issue more a police issue.
- Email regarding bulb planting in Cowthorpe. No bulbs had been delivered this year. Conceded that when previous chairman left he was in charge of getting these delivered and this slipped the net.

RESOLVED if bulb scheme is offered again this year that it be brought to council and clerk to organise delivery of bulbs.

### **13/14 Planning.** 1

**3/14.1 18 Fairfax Crescent Tockwith North Yorkshire YO26 7QX erection of single storey side and rear extension.**

RESOLVED that the Parish Council ratifies the decision that the Parish Council does not object or support the application but makes comment.

**13/14.2 23A Fairfax Crescent Tockwith York North Yorkshire YO26 7QX Permitted Development/UCO rights removed Retention of canopy over front door.**

RESOLVED that the Parish Council ratifies the decision that the Parish Council does not object or support the application but makes comment.

**13/14.3 19 Westfield Road Tockwith York North Yorkshire YO26 7PY Erection of a single storey side extension.**

RESOLVED that the Parish Council ratifies the decision that the Parish Council does not object or support the application but makes comment.

**13/14.4 Broadoak Farmhouse Tockwith York North Yorkshire YO26 7PY Retention of conversion of holiday cottage to form offices with bin store.**

RESOLVED that the Parish Council ratifies the decision that the Parish Council does not object or support the application but makes comment.

### **13/15 Planning decisions received**

The Council were informed of the following decisions.

**13/15.1 Longfield House 27 Marston Road Tockwith York North Yorkshire YO26 7PR- Appeal decision dismissed.**

**13/15.2 The Barn Skip Bridge Farm Moor Monkton York North Yorkshire YO26 8EZ -Application approved.**

### **13/16.Accounts**

13/16.1 To approve Clerks Salary and expenses.

RESOLVED that the clerks salary and expenses are approved.

13/16.2 To ratify Xmas raffle prize for village hall provision up to a value of approx £20.00

RESOLVED that the decision made by quorum over the Xmas break be ratified to a spend of approx £20.00

13/16.3 To receive and approve a bank reconciliation.

### **Bank balances (as 28 Dec 2012)**

Lloyd's TSB Current account			<u>2,500.00</u>
Lloyd's TSB deposit account		34,038.25	
less o/s cheques			
	828	3.81	
			3.81
			<u>34,034.44</u>
			<b>36,534.44</b>

### **receipts**

none		0	<b>36,534.44</b>
Loan (ring fenced for specific purposes)			20,469.00
Working Balance			<b>16,065.44</b>

### **Accounts to ratify/pay**

Mrs H Algar (353.16 +24.59) Sal + Ex			377.75
Service on Village hall boiler		up to	250.00

Tockwith Church Room Hire	approx	~200
purchase of training material clerk	approx	~110
RATIFY £20.11 village hall raffle prize		£20.11

RESOLVED that the council approve the bank reconciliation.

### **13/17 Information Exchange by Councillors**

- The Clerk informed Councillors that the current Grounds Maintenance contractor will no longer be in a position to continue with the contract from April this year. To be put on the agenda for next month's meeting.
- The Clerk informed councillors that she had information from HBC that the council tax base rate would be matched this year through a grant that ensures the gap in this reduction is met for this coming year. This may not be the case in future years and should be considered when setting next years precept.
- Cllr Wardman had mentioned to her by a resident that they had, had a near miss when driving on the bend by the beck on Fleet Lane just before the turn off to the airfield. A car was on the wrong side of the road and she wondered if anyone knew if there were road markings visible.

### **18.Date of Next Meeting**

RESOLVED that the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th February 2013.

### **19.Exempt Matters**

None

The chairman declared the meeting closed.