

Aberford & District Parish Council

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 15 April 2008 in the School Hall.

PRESENT: Councillors: D Howson (Chairman), D Stainton, P Hancock, D Gluck & G Broadley.

APOLOGIES: Cllr R Alderson, Cllr I Forster & P.C. A Katkowski.

IN ATTENDANCE: 6 members of the public and the Clerk.

08/31 POLICE MATTERS

In his absence, PC Katkowski had submitted a written report which showed the March crime figures as 5 compared to 6 the previous year. Following a recent spate of incidents in neighbouring areas he asked that people be made aware of the need to report any suspicious vehicles.

08/32 MINUTES

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 March 2008 had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr D Stainton & seconded by Cllr P Hancock that the same were a true record and were approved.

08/33 MATTERS ARISING

(a) Referring to Minute 08/23 (a) South Lodge footpath. Cllr D Stainton was pleased to report that the necessary work to the footpath had now been done. The only outstanding matter remained the donation of the plot of land.

(b) Referring to Minute 08/23 (b) Speed Awareness Signs. Cllr D Stainton confirmed having spoken to LCC Highways Dept to be told that the information cables would be installed within 7/10 days for a 7 day period. A letter received from Highways Services dated 9 April 2008 had been circulated to Councillors. A copy of a letter from National Grid indicating the predicted number of extra vehicles its project would cause had been sent to Highways Services in support of the Parish Council's application and the Chairman proposed to obtain relevant traffic information from P.C. Andy Katkowski.

(c) Referring to Minute 08/23 (c) Lengthsman. There still being no response from LCC the Clerk proposed to take the matter to the next Harewood Forum where the guest speaker was the Principal Officer of City Services.

(d) Referring to Minute 08/23 (d) N.E. Area Management Team proposals. Cllr D Gluck reported that it was proposed to hold a Planning for Real event on 28 June to coincide with the school

fête. He was continuing to work with Jeremy Keates from the Area management Team but agreed to bring a review of the Parish Plan to the May meeting to enable forward planning for the June event.

(e) Referring to Minute 08/23 (e) Pump Hill trees. Quotes had been received since the March meeting and a majority of councillors had accepted the one from DB Tree Services. The work had been undertaken making the area much improved and many appreciative comments had been received from residents.

(f) Referring to Minute 08/23 (f) Web Site. Cllr G Broadley reported that this matter was still ongoing.

(g) Referring to Minute 08/23 (g) Hook Moor Wind Farm. Cllr G Broadley reported that the proposed fact finding trip to the North East had been cancelled due to lack of support.

(h) Referring to Minute 08/29 (d) Street Lighting. The Clerk reported to be still awaiting a response from the contractors.

08/34 REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES

(a) School Matters. Cllr D Howson reported on his meeting with the headteacher which he felt had been very productive. The headteacher was keen to see the tennis courts tidied up and the disputed access to the area for school children was being given top priority. Mrs Heggie had indicated a wish to see a school sign erected at the bottom of School Lane but was referred to the Planners.

(b) Paths Partnership Scheme. Cllr D Stainton reported that a meeting with Rosie Watts, LCC Footpaths Officer, had been arranged for 14 May.

08/35 CORRESPONDENCE

• Audit Commission	Appointment of External Auditor
• Aberford C of E School PTA	Fundraising donation request (this item to be taken forward to May meeting)
• National Grid	Aberford to Pannal pipeline; increased traffic
• Allianz Insurance	Annual reminder notice.
• N E Area Management Team (e-mail)	Community Engagement Event suggested date
• LCC Senior Minerals Planning Officer (e-mail)	Hook Moor Wind Farm
• YCLA	Membership renewal notice
• LCC Highways Services	Vehicle Activated Signs

08/36 PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Applications:

App P/08/01283/FU/NE	Attached new house to side of Kennimar, Lotherton Lane.	Objections lodged on the grounds of overdevelopment and inadequate sewerage provision.
App P/01242/DAG/NE	Agricultural store @ Whitewell Farm, York Road.	No objections.
App P/08/01118/FU	Hook Moor Wind Farm	Unanimous objection lodged.
App P/08/01160/FU/HE	Exts @ Humphreydale, Kingfisher Lane.	No objections.
App P/08/01099/FU/NE	Change of 4 to 5 bed (previously approved); new dwelling @ White House farm, Bunkers Hill	No objections
App P/08/01833/FU/HE	Ext @ 26 Greystones Close	No objections
App P/08/01603/FU/HE	2 new houses opposite 7 Southern Cottages, Main Street (north of Markham Cottages).	Objections lodged on the grounds of inappropriate development within the conservation area, parking problems, loss of green/garden area, not enough site area, under a 3m high retaining wall, predominantly blank frontage. Ward Councillors requested to log the application for Panel decision.

(b) Planning decisions received.

App 08/01242/DAG	Agricultural storage building @ Whitewell Farm, York Road.	Permission granted.
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08/37 ACCOUNTS

(a) Cheque No 100192 for £116.66 in favour of the Clerk for agreed monthly payment was approved and issued.

(b) Cheque No 100193 for £358.00 in favour of Yorkshire Local Councils Association for annual membership was approved and issued.

(c) Cheque No 100194 for £250.00 in favour of DB Tree Services for work on Pump Hill was approved and issued.

(d) The balance in the Treasurer Account was recorded as £1229.39 as at 5 April 2008.

(e) The balance in the BMM I Account was recorded as £35002.87 as at 5 April 2008.

(f) The balance in the BMM II Account was recorded at £77391.07 as at 5 April 2008.

(g) The Local Councils Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2008 was approved and signed.

(h) The Statement of Assurance within the Annual Return was approved and signed.

08/38 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

(a) Youths had been caught destroying flowers on Pump Hill by a local resident. Their names to be given to P.C. Andy Katkowski.

(b) Complaints were received regarding the standard of driving by the milkman. The Chairman to speak to him.

(c) It was requested that a schedule of the areas covered and the frequency of visits be requested of LCC City Services following observations of the street cleaners work.

(d) Following the addition of a new circular bus service, complaints were recorded by local residents regarding the overcrowding of the bus turn around at the north entrance of the village. As many as 5 buses were recorded at one time, especially at 11:00 a.m. which appeared to be a change over time, and were blocking the 64 service bus and damaging the verges. Cllr D Stainton confirmed having spoken to the operators Geldards who were endeavouring to remedy matters. The situation to be monitored.

(e) Cllrs D Howson, D Stainton, I Forster & R Alderson had all attended the inaugural Parish Council Conference held at LCC and it was generally agreed that the event had been rewarding.

08/39 OPEN TO PUBLIC

(a) The owner of 'West Winds' adjacent to the bus turn around produced photographic evidence of the congestion and misuse of the area as reported in Minute 08/38 (d).

(b) A resident felt the information cables referred to in Minute 08/33 (b) should also be installed on Lotherton Lane and near the Village Hall, but was informed the proposed sites had to be as close as possible to the designated speed awareness sign locations.

(c) The offer of a new memorial seat by a resident was recorded. Sites to be considered.

(d) A resident felt that LCC were still not being pro-active regarding the speed signs but it was felt that the results of the Parish Council's application be awaited before involving the media, although it was suggested that the media be invited on 'opening day' to encourage other parish councils experiencing similar situations.

(e) Queries raised re access to, and development of, the tennis courts and surrounding playing field.

08/40 CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no further business the Chairman thanked those in attendance before closing the meeting at 9:30 p.m.