

## **ABERFORD AND DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the Parish Councillors held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2009 in the Methodist Chapel.

**PRESENT** Councillors: D. Howson (Chairman), R. Alderson, Mrs G. Broadley, I. Forster, D. Gluck, P. Hancock, D. Stainton

**Also Present:** Clerk and 5 members of the public.

### **09/12 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009 had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr. Stainton and seconded by Cllr. Forster that the same were a true record.

### **09/13 POLICE MATTERS**

A representative was unable to attend this meeting.

### **09/14 MATTERS ARISING**

(a) Referring to Minute 09/02 Leeds in Bloom – Cllr Hancock reported on an initial meeting between himself and 4 residents. A committee had been formed with a Chairman and Treasurer. The group intended to walk the village to get an idea of areas which could be improved with planting. A bank account would be opened and approaches made to various organisations for funding, such as local businesses. Grant and sponsorship monies would also be investigated. Pump Hill was felt to be one area which could be improved by taking out the circular beds of bushes and planting more colourfully. Mr Richard Gill of LCC would be approached to see if there were any funds he could allocate to the group. Cllrs Hancock and Forster would act as a sub-committee reporting to the Parish Council on progress from time to time. Later a member of the public asked about the protocol between the ‘in Bloom’ group and the Parish Council and it was felt that any proposals for planting/landscaping etc. should be brought to the Council meeting prior to action being taken. The ‘in Bloom’ group would be made aware of this.

(b) Referring to Minute 09/04 (a) Parish Plan – Cllr Gluck reported that himself, Messrs Toone and Archer had a successful recent meeting – they were to meet again on 2<sup>nd</sup> March. They proposed to split the Plan so the Review Section would stand alone, as would the new Action Plan. The first section would be presented to the Parish Council at the next meeting for them to endorse the outcome and then move on to roll some projects forward for the 2009 Plan. Cllr. Stainton pointed out that more up-to-date traffic counts could be obtained from data within the new speed signs. Cllr Gluck asked for the company’s contact details to take that forward. Cllr Alderson said that if LCC wanted to be given such information then they should be charged for it as they had not contributed to the cost of the speed signs.

(c) Referring to Minute 09/04 (b) Dog Fouling – Notices had been put on the approach into ‘the estate’. Cllr. Alderson had found a website from which hard-hitting notices could be obtained and it was agreed that the cost should be investigated with a view to ordering a quantity to put around the village as the problem was widespread. Later in the meeting a member of the public asked that more litter bins be obtained to aid disposal of waste and notices could be displayed on them and maybe on some streetlights, particularly in areas prone to dog fouling. It was agreed to investigate obtaining more bins.

(d) Referring to Minute 09/04 (c) War Memorial – Chairman to progress and report at the next meeting.

(e) Referring to Minute 09/04 (d) Street Lights – No plan for Main Street etc. had been received and Clerk had emailed Messrs Brummitt/Moore. Councillors had several concerns such as the pavement along Cattle Lane being obstructed for the passage of motorised wheelchairs. These would be raised at a meeting to be arranged. Cllr. Stainton reported that the zigzag markings at the bottom of School Lane were due to be done over the half term break – perhaps delayed due to the bad weather. Expected to be completed very soon.

(f) Referring to Minute 09/04 (e) Footpath to Lotherton Lane – LCC Highways not yet replied to request to widen for motorised wheelchairs.

(g) Referring to Minute 09/04 (f) Access to School Field/Tennis Court – a good meeting had been held with Mr D. Varley (LCC Solicitor) and Mr A. Gledhill (LCC Asset Management Division). There was to be a further attempt by LCC to negotiate the reinstatement of access for children from school into the School Field area. The P.C's aspirations for the whole area were communicated to the Officers for them to put before the appropriate Departments and a letter setting out matters would be sent by the P.C. in support of those aspirations. Clerk to send Mr Varley a copy of the old Conveyance when the school was transferred to the Diocese of York.

(h) Referring to Minute 09/04 (g) Manhole Covers Kingfisher Lane – Clerk had enlisted support from Ward Councillor and forwarded proof of adoption to the Street Registry section of LCC. Action was expected shortly.

(i) Referring to Minute 09/04 (i) Damaged Bushes Play Area Swings – the work had been ordered and would be carried out shortly.

(j) Referring to Minute 09/04 (k) Overhanging Vegetation Main Street – as contact with the owners was proving difficult, Clerk asked to write to them.

(k) Referring to Minute 09/04 (l) Parking St Johns Garth – it was noted that parking had now been dealt with for the disabled resident. Mr Lyttle had not contacted the Clerk but was assumed to be working on a solution.

(l) Referring to Minute 09/09 (b) Youth Group – Cllrs had heard nothing further about this matter but the Chairman informed the meeting that the police had asked Mrs Street if she could start a group in Barwick.

(m) Referring to Minute 09/09 (c) Railings Pump Hill – Chairman had spoken to the horse owners but there was some confusion as to whether the refuse lorry had broken the fence. This was to be further investigated.

(n) Referring to Minute 09.10 (b) Seat Cattle Lane – to be progressed.

(o) Referring to Minute 09.10 (e) Letter from Village Hall Committee – Clerk had replied.

## **09/15 REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES**

(a) Cllr Gluck had reported on the Parish Plan [Minute 09/13 (b) ]

(b) Cllr Stainton reported on an Almshouse Trust meeting. There had recently been two flats vacated and subsequently filled and the Committee was looking very carefully at the waiting list. They wanted to make sure that people with relatives in the village would get priority and that the policy was operating properly. The new section of Parlinton House was now completed to the satisfaction of the Committee.

## **09/16 CORRESPONDENCE**

(a). By email from Steven Wood – if the PC has any problem it wishes to refer to the LCC Scrutiny Board he suggests we liaise with other PCs to see if they have experienced the same problem.

(b) By email from Metro – W.Yorks.Rural Transport meeting – Clerk has details.

(c) LCC Standards Committee Meeting 17.2.2009 – Clerk has details.

(d) Rural Action Yorkshire competition – details passed to Cllrs. Forster and Hancock

(e) Yorks. Rural Transport Conference 18.03.09 – Clerk has details.

## **09/17 PLANNING MATTERS**

### **Applications**

(a) Number P/09/00198/FU/HE – Single Storey Extension to rear 26 Greystones Close. Councillors had no objections.

(b) Number P/09/00473/FU/HE – Raised roof and Staircase to detached double garage to form habitable room, Rowan House, Main Street, Aberford. Councillors objected on the grounds of overpowering to neighbouring properties and concern that it would lend itself to commercial use.

### **Decisions**

(a) Number P/08/06753/FU – 27 Greystones Close – approved with one or two conditions.

(b) Number P/08/06656/FU - Depot House, Main Street – approved with one or two conditions.

(c) Number P/08/06502/FU – Turbine at Whitewell Farm, York Road – approved subject to colour finish submitting in writing to Planners for approval.

(d) Number P/08/056230/FU – 2 Detached Livestock Buildings, Silver Hills. Approved with many conditions. These had been advised to Councillors prior to the meeting and the Clerk was asked to request sight of schemes of planting and landscaping which were to be submitted to Planners before these were approved so that the Parish Council might have some input.

### **For Information**

(a) The meeting of the East Leeds Planning Committee scheduled for 12<sup>th</sup> February had been postponed but Councillors had indicated their comments had already been given on the Newhold Development so it was not planned to attend this meeting. A decision was awaited.

- (b) Aspen House - a resident had raised with the Chairman a planning matter. It was thought that Aspen House off Cattle Lane had been formed into flats and plans had not been seen by the Parish Council. Clerk had made enquiries and the Enforcement Officer was investigating the matter.

**09/18 ACCOUNTS**

- (a) Cheque number 100218 in the sum of £40,000 had been issued to Barclays Bank Plc. as agreed at the previous meeting. This was to open a new account to spread the Parish Council's risk and a 6 month Bond had been entered into for the full amount.
- (b) Cheque number 100219 in the sum of £12.00 was agreed and issued to the Methodist Chapel for hire of the hall.
- (c) Cheque number 100220 in the sum of £155.04 was agreed and issued for the Clerk's salary and expenses.
- (d) The sums in hand were:

|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| Barclays Bank   | £40,000.00 |
| HSBC cheque a/c | £ 4.603.18 |
| HSBC no. 1 a/c  | £25,641.91 |
| HSBC no. 2 a/c  | £38,793.25 |

**09/19 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

- (a) The Clerk asked for permission to add information about the areas of the village held in trust by the Parish Council to the website. This was agreed.
- (b) Cllrs. Stainton and Gluck asked that Highways Department be contacted about repairing the roadway over the bridge and the Environment Agency about reinstating the ford area.
- (c) Cllr Hancock raised the matter of litter around the village. A one-off litter pick had been requested from LCC but he suggested that a small competition could be held amongst the school children – perhaps asking them to design a poster with book tokens as prizes. Hopefully this would get them more aware of the problem of litter and encourage a tidier village. Cllr Alderson volunteered to speak with Mrs Heggie.
- (d) The Chairman had attended a Farmwatch meeting at which the idea of CCTV had been raised. Three of the villages locally had indicated their willingness to contribute to the cost and he felt this should be considered for Aberford. Such a camera could cover the central area from the Church, over the Play Area, up towards the north end and would be a valuable tool for the Police to deter and catch criminals using the village as a cut-through etc., Ward Councillors would be involved in this matter but Councillors should keep it in mind as it may be brought to a future meeting by the Police.

### **09/20 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

- (a) In reply to a question about the Wind Turbine site, it was confirmed that no further communication had been received but the Clerk would investigate.
- (b) There was discussion about further speed signs – Cattle Lane and Lotherton Lane were mentioned. The Chairman and Cllr Stainton were to have a meeting with Highways Dept about the Cattle Lane speed sign being moved as it was once further back towards Barwick. Cllr Stainton had come across a different type of flashing sign which looked like a conventional one but actually flashed if a car was speeding. This might be a possible cheaper alternative for further ones.
- (c) A question was asked about possible CCTV cameras as to whether any Councillors had objected to the idea. Whilst no formal vote had been taken, no Councillors had objected during discussions so far.
- (d) A member of the Village Hall Committee present stated that she was not satisfied with the way in which a letter she sent to the Parish Council had been dealt with. A reply had been sent and Councillors considered this matter was now closed.

### **09/21 CLOSE OF MEETING**

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone present before closing the meeting at 9.00p.m.

The Parish Council complies with the Mandatory Publication Scheme under the Freedom of Information Act. Some sections of the Scheme are under development but information about the Council can be obtained from their website at: [www.aberfordonline.com](http://www.aberfordonline.com) or by contacting the Clerk.