

## **ABERFORD & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2010 in the Methodist chapel

**PRESENT;** Cllrs. D. Howson (Chairman), Mrs G. Broadley, I. Forster, P. Hancock, Mrs R. Reed, Mrs A. Roberts, D. Stainton

Apologies were received from Cllrs. R. Alderson and D. Gluck

**Also Present:** 5 members of the public, 2 police representatives and the Clerk

Before opening the meeting the Chairman announced that Mrs Broadley had agreed to stay as a Parish Councillor and there had been a misunderstanding about her wishing to resign. She was welcomed to the meeting.

### **10/128 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010 had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Hancock and seconded by Cllr Forster that these were a true record. This was agreed.

### **10/129 POLICE REPORT**

PC Katkowski introduced PC J Ripton, who was to replace him, to the meeting. There had been 3 burglaries from sheds/outbuildings and prevention of this would be a priority for the coming month, together with anti-speeding measures. Speed seemed to be creeping up again through Main Street, the buses had also been speeding through at times. Residents should watch out for any quad bike activity as one had been stolen.

### **10/130 MATTERS ARISING**

(a) Min 10/120(a) War Memorial – ongoing

(b) Min 10/120(b) Streetlights – A start date of mid March had been given by SEC. Heritage treatment parts had caused the delay. Cattle Lane lights would be moved as agreed and SEC knew one or two extra lights would be required at the northern end of the village. The matter of hanging baskets was raised as it would soon be time to order these from LCC Parks. Cllr Stainton said he would liaise with SEC on this with a view to fixing the number required at the next meeting.

(c) Min 10/120(c) School Field – ongoing negotiations were at a high level between LCC and the Estate. The Chairman asked for agreement to allow a local farmer to tidy up the area so it would be more attractive and usable for this summer – this needed to be done before the birds started nesting. It was agreed to pursue this - in consultation with LCC – and to obtain a price. Cllrs would then be informed if this could be taken forward.

(d) Min 10/120(d) Speed Sign – nothing to report

(e) Min 10/120(e) Humphreydale Cottage – see under Planning.

(f) Min 10/120(f) Lotherton Lane – ongoing.

(g) Min 10/120(g) Parish Footpaths – A document had been received from Rosie Watts and LCC Officer – Cllr Hancock had studied it. Cllr Stainton said that the information coming to the PC now was not what the original understanding had been. It was felt the best way forward was to ask Ms Watts if she could come to the next meeting for a discussion.

(h) Min 10/120(h) Footpath Makin land – Cllr Forster would progress when weather conditions improved.

(i) Min 10/120(i) Old Watermill – The Enforcement Officer would be making a site visit shortly. Later in the meeting the owner informed the PC he had full planning permission, obtained in 2003 and this was noted. The Chairman explained the PC had acted on information given to it on a possible planning breach, as it was obliged to do.

(j) Min 10/120(j) Cock Beck – not know if Cllr Gluck had been able to remove some rubbish. A walk over by the Environment Agency was awaited.

(k) Min 10/120(n) Noticeboard north end – Clerk reported planning permission would not be required according to information from LCC – it was agreed to obtain design/costings for the next meeting. Cllr Stainton said that the Church was looking into replacing their existing board but siting it lower and on the opposite side of the entrance into the churchyard. Mrs Heggie had expressed a wish to put an indicator on it to show the way to the school. There was discussion as to whether this might be a joint board instead of having one at the northern end of the village but Cllrs still wished to have an additional one at the northern end.

(l) Min 10/122(a) LCC plans for Waste etc – ongoing – Cllr Gluck was studying this document to see if there was anything which would affect the village.

(m) Min 10/122(b) Village Hall financial assistance – no further information had been supplied to the Clerk so Cllrs were unable to progress the matter.

(n) Min 10/123(c) Lotherton Lodge – Mr Andrew Gledhill of LCC had undertaken to forward this enquiry about possible sale/land exchange to the relevant LCC Department – reply awaited.

(o) Min 10/125(c) Gritting by Local Farmers – Cllrs Gluck and Mrs R. Reed had raised this matter at the NE Forum meeting and other PCs had wanted to pursue this. The Chairman of that meeting said it was a matter to put before another Committee and that he would do so.

(p) Min 10/126(c) Tree in Cock Beck – the Chairman would be dealing with this when ground conditions allowed.

## **10/131 REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES**

### **Almshouse Trust**

Cllr Stainton reported that 3 or 4 quotations had been received for roof repairs and the cost would be around £40,000. Unfortunately the leaky roof had had knock-on effects on some ceilings. The Trust would be seeing what funding they could get from outside bodies. They had spent a considerable amount on the new building and the Trust had been building reserves back up before the problems with the roof. One or two flats were vacant but there was a waiting list.

## **10/132 CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) The Clerk had the 'Country Air' publication from Rural Action Yorkshire – this again had useful information for community buildings such as the Village Hall.

(b) A letter from LCC Democratic Services informed the PC of the setting up of a Joint Working Group Highways and invited those interested in serving to put forward their names. Cllrs Mrs Reed explained that this had been discussed at the NE Forum meeting and she knew that some good qualified people were prepared to serve which should cover things for the Parish Councils.

(c) The Agenda and Minutes for the next Leeds Branch meeting of the YLCA were with the Clerk. These were read by the Clerk for relevant matters.

(d) A letter from LCC Environment Dept concerning the extension of city-wide Dog Control Orders had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. Whilst dog fouling was again becoming a problem in the village, Cllrs felt the prosecution of enforcement was best left in the hands of the City Council. Cllr Hancock asked for some notices he could again put up round the village and residents were urged to report anyone failing to clear up after their dog.

(e) The Clerk had received updated Standing Orders recommended by YLCA. It was felt the best way forward was for the Clerk and Cllr Forster to study these with a view to adoption at the next meeting.

(f) Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill – the Clerk to Thorner PC was asking all PCs to write in support of this Bill – it was agreed to do this.

## **10/133 PLANNING**

### **Applications**

(a) Application P/10/00568/FU/HE – Alterations inc. raised roof, to form second floor with windows at first and second floor level to both sides and entrance canopy to front – Humphreydale Cottage, Kingfisher Lane, Aberford. Cllrs felt the proposed roof would be too high - the Chairman said he understood the LCC Chief Planning Officer was to make a site inspection shortly.

### **Decisions**

(a) Large development of houses Church Fields, Boston Spa – to go to public inquiry.

(b) Application P/09/052565/FU – Weigh House Extns. Garforth Road – Approved.

(c) Wind Farm – this is to go to public inquiry – Clerk to ask Micklefield PC for more information. Cllrs confirmed their opposition to the Wind Farm.

### **10/134 ACCOUNTS**

The Clerk reported the balances as follows:

In HSBC current a/c	£ 775.83
In HSBC No 1 Int a/c	£27,663.76
In HSBC No 2 Int a/c	£38,830.21
In Barclays Bank c/a	£ 489.80
In Barclays Bank Bond	£40,000.00

Note: The last 3 amounts can only be spent on capital projects.

### **To Pay**

- (a) Cheque number 100255, in the sum of £65.00, was agreed and issued to Richard Parkinson Joinery for works at Cock Beck.
- (b) Cheque number 100256, in the sum of £300.00, was agreed and issued to DB Tree Services for rubbish clearance and tree pruning on PC land at the northern end of the village.
- (c) Cheque number 100257, in the sum of £148.19, was agreed and issued to the Clerk for remuneration (being 8p extra to round up the yearly remuneration) and expenses.
- (d) Cheque number 100258, in the sum of £15.00, was agreed and issued to the Methodist Chapel for Hall hire.

### **Estimated Budget 2010/2011**

This had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting and it was agreed that this would be adopted for the coming year.

### **10/135 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

- (a) It was noted that 4 gully lids were again missing from Kingfisher Lane – Clerk to report
- (b) Cllr Mrs Roberts was concerned about the amount of litter at the northern end of the village – Clerk had asked for a litter pick. Cllr Hancock reported that the Aberford in Bloom Group were willing to do a litter pick and had asked if this was acceptable to the PC. This was welcomed by Cllrs on the understanding that there would be no liability on the part of the PC and Cllr Hancock would convey this to the Group. Clerk was asked to find out when the Lengthsman should be in the village and a request was to be made for the footpath sweeper to come to the village. Cllr Forster was pursuing the litter problem in the southern part of the Parish.
- (c) Concern was expressed about the Royal Oak public house which had been standing empty for some time. Clerk was asked to write to Enterprise Inns expressing concerns.
- (d) A skip had been standing in Field Lane for some months – the Clerk was instructed to request the owner to remove it.
- (e) The Chairman undertook to examine the village seats to see if any required repairs.
- (f) A suggestion was made that short items of interest be added to the PC Website after each meeting and this was felt to be a good idea. Some items were suggested.

### **10/136 CLOSE OF MEETING**

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.50p.m.