

ABERFORD & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday, 18th January 2011 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs D. Howson (Chairman), Mrs G. Broadley, I. Forster, P. Hancock, Mrs R. Reed, Mrs A. Roberts.

Also Present: 5 members of the public, LCC Conservation Officer Mr M. Bentley plus the Clerk

Apologies Cllrs R. Alderson, D. Gluck, Mrs J. Jeffrey, D. Stainton

11/01 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the previous meeting, held on Tuesday 21st December 2010 had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs R. Reed, and seconded by Cllr Mrs A. Roberts that they were a true record. This was agreed.

11/02 LCC CONSERVATION OFFICER REPORT

Mr Bentley outlined the work carried out so far to review the Conservation Area, it having been 30 years since it had last been done. When finalised, the document produced would be used to inform everyone involved in planning matters within the area covered. As the Officer progressed he would be liaising with the PC to keep Councillors informed and eventually a public consultation period would be held, with residents being invited to the Hall, documents on line etc. Residents would have the opportunity to comment on the final draft.

11/03 POLICE MATTERS

The Chairman reported there had been a theft from an elderly resident in Beech View by two men posing as Water Board officials. He had warned the other elderly people in the area and asked everyone to spread the word to any other elderly residents they knew.

Arrangements for the Hunt had gone very well and a letter of thanks had been sent to Wetherby Police and to the Hunt. Cllrs agreed they would like to especially thank Cllr Mrs Jeffrey for her help with the cones. The police had indicated that they would bring a small supply of notices to Cllr Howson for residents to put on their doors to deter callers but, if a larger supply was wanted, then the PC would have to pay for them.

A PACT meeting had been held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 11th January at no notice and unknown to the PC. The original arrangement was that 4 meetings would be held and paid for by the PC with the position being reviewed and, if thought to be worthwhile, the meetings would be rotated around the villages involved with their PCs paying for their share. Posters had been printed by the police already with arrangements re Aberford Village Hall and dates on them, although one only was delivered to the Chairman on the day after the actual meeting. It was resolved that the police be told Aberford PC would not pay for these meetings unless there was adequate publicity well in advance and subject to a review of effectiveness and rotation around the villages involved so that their residents did not always have to travel.

11/04 MATTERS ARISING

- (a) Minute 10/233(a) War Memorial – ongoing
- (b) Minute 10/233(b) Final Streetlight – Lights to be moved on Cattle Lane – ongoing
- (c) Minute 10/233(c) School field – ongoing

- (d) Minute 10/233(d) Cock Beck – The Chairman had been in touch with Mr Porritt of the Environment Agency and Mr Booth of Connect. No work had been done on overhanging trees to the East of the motorway bridge and Mr Porritt had agreed that, if the Chairman would mark up those requiring work, he would send a gang to deal with them. Mr Booth had agreed to schedule work to remove the silt build-up under and around the motorway bridge and the Chairman had asked to meet the gang on site to discuss what was required.
- (e) Minute 10/233(f) Annual LCC/Parish & Town council meeting – rearranged for Monday 24th January at 6.30pm in the Civic Hall. Clerk to inform Cllrs D. Stainton and Mrs Jeffrey although it was thought Cllr Stainton would be unavailable.
- (f) Minute 10/233(i) Fencing repairs Play Area – a quotation of £180 had been received from a contractor. Cllrs agreed to accept this.
- (g) Minute 10/225 (c) LCC draft document Natural Resources & Waste Development – Mr Cliff offered to look through this document as he was a co-opted member of the Master Plan sub-committee. He would let the PC know if there were any implications for the parish.
- (h) Leeds Spending Challenge – Cllrs had been circulated with the response from Thorner PC which they considered to be very good. The Clerk was asked to respond in the same way.
- (i) Minute 10/225 (d) RAY AGM – 12th January – it was not known of Cllr Gluck managed to attend.
- (j) Minute 10/227(b) Meeting venue – it was decided to hold the February meeting in the Village Hall and then to make a final decision. The implications of using school with regard to appointing a Key Holder were such that the PC felt unable to hold meetings there in future.
- (k) Minute 10/228(a) Traffic counting facility on speed signs – ongoing
- (l) Minute 10/228(b) Faded road markings around Junction 47 – Highways had acknowledged the request – ongoing.
- (m) Minute 10/228(d) Refuse collections – Cllr Mrs Roberts had been pursuing this with the City Council and liaising with Cllr Robinson. It appeared to have become satisfactory at the moment but some residents had not had notification about brown bin collections.
- (n) Minute 10/228(e) Bus Service – Metro had acknowledge the complaint – ongoing.
- (o) Minute 10/229 – Resident wanting footpaths map – this would be supplied.

11/05 REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES

(a) Master Plan

A meeting to discuss the Draft Plan from the consultants was to be held on the 1st February. Cllr Mrs Broadly reported on her section of the consultation – housing. Focus groups, drawn from different sections of the village, had been consulted and the results would be incorporated in the draft plan for residents to comment on.

(b) Footpaths – Ongoing

11/06 CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Leeds Branch meeting of YLCA – as this was scheduled for the 15th February, Councillors would be unable to attend. Apologies would be sent.

(b) Library Service changes – Cllr Mrs Reed pointed out that the Mobile service was to be expanded as some permanent library sites were closed and that this would have a knock-on effect on current schedules. In the case of Aberford it could mean just one site stop being made at Beech View which would be a very long way for some residents to walk. The Clerk was asked to respond to the City Council on this matter.

(c) Potholes - Cllr Robinson had asked that the PC compile a list of potholes and report them both to Highways and to him and monitor the situation. Some had already been filled in, having been reported by the Clerk but the quality of the repairs was poor. Clerk to report on the situation to Cllr Robinson.

(d) The organisation SELRAP has asked for the PC's support in getting the stretch of railway line from Colne to Skipton reinstated. Cllrs agreed to send a letter of support.

11/07 PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Details of a forthcoming Planning Conference would be passed to Cllr Stainton – the Chairman indicated he would attend with Cllr Stainton. Cllrs would be notified if more places became available.

Applications

(a) P/10/04707 – 1 The Dale, driveway – refused on Highways grounds. Cllrs Mrs Reed pointed out the PC had not had sight of this application.

(b) P/10/05604 – Retrospective application for removal of a condition – 11 Cedar Ridge, Garforth – the applicant had altered an integral garage and open porch into a room and closed porch, as had several properties around. Cllr Forster had looked at this and had no objection.

Decisions

(a) P/10/05289 – Time extension on a plot at White Horse Farm, Bunkers Hill – pending

(b) P/10/05396 – New house at Bunkers Hill adjacent to Lilac Cottage – pending.

(c) P/10/03891 – Green Meadows, Greystones Park – various alterations and new drive – the applicant was appealing the refusal of the City Council Planners.

11/08 ACCOUNTS

(a) The proposed Budget for 2011/2012 had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. It was agreed that this would be adopted.

(b) VAT had been claimed for the period to 31.12.2010. A portion of this would be transferred into the Master Plan account as it was from a large invoice paid from this account.

(c) A report was given on the Barclays Bond which had matured on 7th January. Cllrs discussed the timescale in which the money would be required and it was felt that it could be re-invested for a 12 month period. The Barclays offer was for a Bond to commence on 4th February at 1.10% fixed for 12 months term. Cllrs considered this and information supplied by the Clerk on other offers/Banks and it was decided that, unless Cllr Forster could find a better rate of interest elsewhere, the Barclays Bond would be taken up.

Balances

In HSBC Current a/c	£ 1,906.51
In HSBC No 1 Int a/c	£16,960.35
In HSBC No 2 Int a/c	£38,850.61

In Barclays Bank c/a	£ 423.20
In Barclays Bond	£40,329.99

In Master Plan a/c	£10,798.56
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To Pay

From PC Current a/c:

(a) Cheque number 100305, in the sum of £797.04, for 3 grit bin refills was agreed and issued to Leeds City Council.

(b) Cheque number 100306, in the sum of £170.90, was agreed and issued to the Clerk for salary.

(c) Cheque number 100307, in the sum of £649.69, being reimbursement of VAT claimed against an invoice (Bluefish Regeneration) was agreed and issued to the PC Master Plan account.

From Master Plan a/c:

- (a) Cheque number 100007, in the sum of £8,753.75, being 50% of the contract sum, was agreed and issued to Bluefish Regeneration Ltd.,
- (b) Cheque number 100008, in the sum of £50.00 for hire of the School for a public meeting, was agreed and issued to Leeds City Council.

11/09 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- (a) Cllr Forster reported that fly-tipping along the Garforth/Lotherton Hall road had been dealt with. He was pursuing rubbish build-up along the Fly Line. If any Cllrs had fly-tipping issues he would be happy to get in touch with the LCC Officer and Cllr Robinson as necessary.
- (b) Cllr Mrs Broadley reported the Pantomime in the Hall had been very badly attended but she felt this was due to lack of publicity and to the price of the tickets during a week in which many other events for families were taking place. She felt that, in future, it would be better for the Hall Committee to pay a fee direct to the company and then publicise and sell tickets themselves at a price they chose. The new Hall committee was working well.
- (c) Cllr Hancock reported that beer cans and bottles were to be seen around the Play Area and he wondered if the police could be asked to pay attention to this specific area during the evenings. The Chairman would mention this to the police and attention would be drawn to this on the website.
- (d) There was discussion about the lack of parking and parking changes in Garforth and that notices about this had been put up there asking people to make their views known to the City Council. Cllr Forster would liaise about this matter as Aberford residents went there so much to shop and to use the community facilities.

11/10 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- (a) A resident asked that LCC Highways be informed if potholes were not being dealt with properly as he thought the work was being done by contractors and Highways should be made aware.
- (b) Cllr Mrs Roberts said that the flagstones on the bridge were moving in the adverse weather and the mortar joints were breaking up. Highways would be informed that the PC was monitoring the situation and would let them know if the pavement needed attention.
- (c) The Chairman drew attention to the careless parking of some parties of walkers – the Ramblers Association would be contacted and asked to inform their groups to park responsibly with regard to the busy centre part of the village.

11/11 CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for the presence and closed the meeting at 9.05pm.

The Parish Council complies with the Mandatory Publication Scheme under the Freedom of Information Act. Information about the Council can be obtained from their website at: www.aberfordonline.com or by contacting the Clerk.