

ABERFORD & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 19th July 2011 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

PRESENT Cllrs D. Howson (Chairman), R. Alderson, I. Forster, D. Gluck, P. Hancock, Mrs J. Jeffrey, Mrs R. Reed, D. Stainton
Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs G. Broadley
Also Present 9 members of the public, a Police Officer, the Clerk

11/61 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the previous meeting, held on Tuesday 21st June 2011, had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllrs Mrs Reed and seconded by Cllr P. Hancock that these were a true record. This was agreed.

11/62 POLICE MATTERS/COLD CALLING

The Officer reported there had been 8 minor crimes over the last month – 5 being within the wider Parish area. Cllr Hancock asked that attention be paid to vehicles being parked on pavements, especially at narrow points which impeded the progress of pushchairs/disabled people. He also asked for attention to be paid to speeding vehicles in Main Street, particularly during the time of 5.00pm – 6.00pm.

Mr Basharat from W. Yorks. Trading Standards gave a very informative talk on setting up Cold Calling Zones to protect vulnerable people from bogus or ‘hard sell’ callers. These zones were managed by Trading Standards. The zones were detailed on their website so that companies could clearly access them. Such a zone could be as small as a single property but usually a street or streets. The zone had to be justified by reason of instances of vulnerable residents have had trouble with cold callers. Much information on how to deal with cold callers was available which the PC would look into obtaining and distributing. Cllrs would gather information on potential areas for setting up a zone.

11/63 LOTHERTON HALL

Cllrs had received no prior consultation/information other than that available to the public. A meeting of Cllrs was held separately on 30th June to discuss the proposals. The original Deed of Gift had been obtained. Cllrs Howson, Stainton, Gluck, Forster and Mrs Broadley attended. Various points were raised – proposed road layout/new exit, parking, visitors on foot/public transport, public footpath entry, charging levels/policy, operation of deer park, use of buildings etc. Micklefield and Barwick & Scholes PCs had been contacted for their views. Barwick & Scholes were in agreement with the points raised by Aberford PC and wanted to be supportive. Ward Cllrs had been involved to get the consultation period extended. A meeting had been arranged with LCC Officers, Aberford Cllrs and a Cllr from Barwick & Scholes, for 21st July so that all concerns raised could be put to Officers.

11/64 MATTERS ARISING

- (a) Minute 11/54(a) Ware Memorial – Clerk was trying to progress
- (b) Minute 11/54(b) School field – a meeting had been arranged with LCC Officers on site to progress this. Clarification had been obtained about the PTA aspiration for a MUGA next to school.
- (c) Minute 11/54(c) silting Cock Beck – ongoing – a meeting would be held with all parties.
- (d) Minute 11/54(e) Library service – Cllr Mrs Reed said that the new arrangements were to start on the coming Sunday. There would be 3 stops. There would be no-one from the service on duty who could telephone residents if the service had to be cancelled for any reason. Cllr

Stainton was to inform residents of Parlinton House and it was hoped to advertise the new arrangements – the website would have a bullet point. The service would be monitored.

(e) Minute 11/54(i) Parking Lotherton Lane – Clerk chasing for work to be done. The LCC Officer had been made aware of the proposed new Exit arrangements for Lotherton Hall but it was not thought this would impact on the work LCC had already indicated they would do.

(f) Minute 11/54(j) Fly tipping Kingfisher Lane – Clerk chasing

(g) Minute 11/54(n) Royal Oak – waiting for the Planning Enforcement Officer's report.

(h) Minute 11/54(o) Christmas Lights – the new charges proposed by LCC Lights were outlined and Cllrs accepted the quotation of £440.00 plus VAT. They noted that the original set purchased would need to be replaced, if required for the 2012 season, as it was now several years old.

(i) Minute 11/58(a) – Skip – Clerk to enquire if one could be provided.

(j) Minute 11/59 – Traffic Signs – the faults had been rectified. Clerk to chase Dambach's successors to supply an extension connection and lower the socket on the northern sign.

11/65 REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES

(a) Master Plan/Village Design Statement

Cllr Gluck reported that copies of the full Master Plan document had been sent out to various people. The summary for all residents had been delayed as Cllr Gluck wanted to insert a questionnaire into it rather than have to make two deliveries around the parish.

The Clerk had distributed a Briefing Note for Cllrs to consider about the way forward now that the first phase of the Plan had been almost completed. Cllr Gluck would be arranging a final Event to allow residents to be kept up to date and to encourage participation in the spin off projects as they began to take shape. This Event would be in September and probably at the School. Following this Event the accounts for the Master Plan could be finalised to draw to a close that part of the exercise.

Cllr Gluck was now heading the Village Design Statement Committee with Cllr Stainton and others assisting. A range of work activities was taking place across the group of people involved. It was hoped to present the final version to LCC Officers in the Spring of 2012.

For some of the spin off projects there would be a need to form a Sub Committee or Committees but for others they would be encouraged by the PC but carried out by other parish organisations. To date, the Village Hall Committee was undertaking a feasibility study into new uses for the lower level and refurbishing works together with possible extensions to the rear. With regard to Broadband, Cllr Gluck reported having held a meeting with several businesses in the Parish and this was another project to be taken forward separately to the PC. Good progress had been made so far and a questionnaire would ask residents for their views. There were other projects such as Highways/traffic improvements, more uniform street signage/seating etc., improving some common areas which might be taken forward by a Sub Committee of the Parish Council. Cllrs agreed to give some further thought regarding what Sub committees should be set up for the next meeting.

(b) LeedsFest

Completed – final money awaited from Cllr Mrs Broadley

(c) Footpaths

Cutting back of vegetation at Hook Moor had started. There was discussion as to whether the existing contractor had to be used and Cllr Mrs Jeffrey said she would look into that.

However she pointed out that she felt any contractor would wish to charge the stipulated rates as they would be able to find those out. Regarding the bridleway to the A64 where there was confusion as to whether this had been stopped up in some way, Cllr Mrs Jeffrey was to investigate. The Clerk had received a further instalment from LCC for footpaths work and was keeping a running total of money spent.

(d) Allotments

Cllr Mrs Jeffrey reported that sight of the leasing agreement was awaited from LCC. She had done a lot of research on various matters such as tenancy agreements and possible insurance implications for the PC and, if taken forward, she felt that a yearly charge to allotment holders would be of the order of £30. An entry path into the area would have to be made. There was much still to be ironed out between the PC and LCC.

11/66 CORRESPONDENCE

(a) A training schedule had been received from YLCA and it was agreed that Cllrs Mrs Jeffrey and Mrs Reed would attend a session on the Thursday 18th August in the Village Hall.

(b) A letter had been received from LCC Social Services concerning major changes to services for elderly people. Cllr Mrs Jeffrey drew attention particularly to Firthfields at Garforth. The Clerk was asked to investigate and make known the PC's comments that adequate alternative arrangements must be made before any action was taken.

(c) Ward Cllr Mrs Castle had asked about the PC's attitude to the bus stop which was proposed for the service to Lotherton Hall. However, this was only a temporary one for about 6 weeks during the summer and this was communicated to Mrs Castle. Had it been of a permanent nature then the PC would have wished to comment.

(d) Cllrs had been forwarded an exchange of emails concerning a notice of the creation of a Bus Clearway at a stop in Main Street. Cllrs asked the Clerk to point out to Officers/Metro that no separate notice of this intention had been given to the PC and it was only through seeing a notice and residents that it had come to light. Some residents present pointed out their concerns and it was agreed that the PC would investigate and make their comment to Officers in due course. In the meantime the Clerk was instructed to ask that no action should be taken by Metro.

(e) An email enquiry about the availability of an allotment had been received by the Clerk and passed to Cllr Mrs Jeffrey to reply.

11/67 PLANNING

(a) Application P/11/02387 – Amendments to previously approved plan 10/03891 – 2 Stry Extn with Balcony to Rear, Dbl grg with dormer and Pillars with Gates to Front – Green Meadows, Greystones Park. The Clerk was instructed to reply with observations to Planners.

(b) Application P/11/02597 – Dtchd Garage to front, Cnsvtry to Rear – Swan Mill Barn, off Cattle Lane. The PC had no objections.

Decisions

Approved: P/11/01801 – Bankfield House, Main Street
P/11/01887 – Ridge Road Farm, Ridge Road

Pending: P/11/02154 – Cnsvtry to School
P/11/01915 – Gates – 2 The Gables/Forget Me Not Cottage
P/11/05396 – New House, Bunkers Hill
P/11/00349 – Becca Farm Development

11/68 ACCOUNTS

Balances

In HSBC Current a/c	£ 565.40
In HSBC No 1 Int a/c	£21,965.86
In HSBC No 2 Int a/c	£38,864.10
In Barclays Bank c/a	£ 938.54
In Barclays Bond	£40,000.00
In Master Plan a/c	£ 1,860.75

To Pay

From PC current account:

- (a) Cheque number 100332, in the sum of £170.90 for Clerk's salary, was agreed and issued.
- (b) Cheque number 100333, in the sum of £17.37, for Clerk's expenses was agreed and issued.
- (c) Cheque number 100334, in the sum of £456.00, for footpath work off Cattle Lane, was agreed and issued to D Y Watson.
- (d) Cheque number 100335, in the sum of £95.00, for hire of the Village Hall, was agreed and issued to the Village Hall Committee
- (e) Cheque number 100336, in the sum of £70.00, for two Cllrs to attend a YLCA training event, was agreed and issued to York. Local Councils Assn.
- (f) Cheque number 100337, in the sum of £20.00, for hire of the Methodist Chapel, was agreed and issued.

From Master Plan account:

- (a) Cllrs ratified the issue of cheque number 100011, dated 22nd June 2011, in the sum of £260.00 for the hire of a marquee for the Master Plan launch event. This had been issued to Cllr D. Gluck to reimburse him.
- (b) Cheque number 100012, in the sum of £780.00, for printing of brochures and maps, was agreed and issued to Zebra Print Management.
- (c) Cheque number 100013, in the sum of £275.00, for printing of summaries, was agreed and issued to Zebra Print Management.

11/69 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

- (a) The Chairman had been asked by a resident to help to get a blocked drain dealt with in Abbots Close. Clerk was dealing.
- (b) The Chairman had been asked to open the new Art Room at Aberford Interiors on 30th July and said it would be appreciated if any other Cllrs could attend.
- (c) Cllr Hancock asked that the Clerk investigate the removal of the yellow metal advertising sign on the standard near the Church.
- (d) Cllr Alderson asked for a letter of thanks to sent to the Head Mistress. He stated that the post had been advertised and it was expected that someone would be appointed to start from January 2012. In the meantime the Deputy Headmistress would act as temporary Head.
- (e) Cllr Gluck drew attention to the speed of vehicles using Becca Lane. This Lane is a public bridleway. The speed regulations would be investigated.
- (f) There was discussion about the new seat which had been placed on the verge opposite the Aberford stone sign at the south of the village. Some adverse comments had been received that it was not in keeping with the placement/orientation of existing seats. It was felt that, for the future when the Village Design Statement was more developed, then some adjustment of such features might be appropriate to give a uniform look throughout the parish.
- (g) Cllr Mrs Jeffrey asked that the PC consider giving an 'annual citizenship award' which was something she had learned of at the recent Training Event. Such an award could encourage community volunteering and reward people for their service. Cllr Gluck seconded this proposal and it was something the PC would consider for the coming year.
- (h) Cllr Mrs Reed drew attention to the frequency of cars parking on the concrete apron near the stone trough at Pump Hill. This was causing damage to the area.

11/70 CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their presence, and closed the meeting at 9.50pm.