

ABERFORD & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 16th June 2009 in Aberford Church of England School.

PRESENT: Councillors D. Howson (Chairman), I. Forster, D. Gluck, P. Hancock
Apologies were received from Councillors R. Alderson, Mrs G. Broadley
and D. Stainton

Also Present: Eighteen members of the public, one Police Officer and Clerk

09/49 MINUTES

(a) The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 19th May 2009 had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Hancock and seconded by Cllr Forster that the same were a true record. This was agreed.

(b) The Minutes of the last ordinary Parish Council meeting held on the same date had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Hancock and seconded by Cllr Forster that the same were a true record. This was agreed.

09/50 POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Dan Sillers gave his report – whilst there had been a spate of burglaries and attempted burglaries and a theft from a car plus timber taken from a Lotherton farm yard, there were suspects for all these offences who were being dealt with. There was good liaison with residents and police contact details were given out to those present who were urged to telephone if they had concerns such as children misusing the Play Area or cars racing down Main Street. The numbers are: Wetherby NPT ‘phone number 0113 2855374, non-emergency ‘phone number 0845 6060606. Residents were reminded that Charity Collectors should carry photo I.D. Bikes left anywhere should be chained. Doors should be locked to avoid ‘sneak in’ burglaries. The areas which would be concentrated on during June would be speeding through Main Street, reducing the number of burglary crimes and being on the alert for poaching/farm crime. There was a very active Farmwatch organisation in the area who received alerts via their mobile phones.

09/51 MATTERS ARISING

(a) Referring to Minute 09/42(b) the Chairman had had a meeting with Miss Anderson from LCC who said that the Lengthsman was scheduled to spend all day Thursday in the village but a member of the public later said he actually only spent half a day. Clerk to report this. No litter bin could be provided down Kingfisher Lane. There was no money centrally to supply bins but they could be purchased by the PC at a cost of £450 plus £50 for fitting and these would have to be sited on a flagstone or concrete base. Cllr Gluck said one had disappeared from Cattle Lane which should be replaced free of charge and he assumed that those which had been attached to streetlights would be replaced on the new lights in due course.

(b) Referring to Minute 09/42(c) War Memorial – still waiting contact from LCC.

(c) Referring to Minute 09/42(d) Streetlights – a meeting was scheduled for Friday 19th June with Mr Brummitt from SEC to go over the plan for Main Street. Some positions had been identified to discuss. The Chairman gave out the contact details for individual residents to use

if they had concerns. A 'show of hands' by residents present on the question of having heritage treatment to some Main Street lights produced the result of 13 out of 18 in favour.

(d) Referring to Minute 09/42(f) School Field – a meeting with someone from LCC Parks Dept was scheduled for Thursday 25th June to progress matters.

(e) Referring to Minute 09/42(g) Litter/School involvement – in Cllr Alderson's absence there was nothing further known on this.

(f) Referring to Minute 09/42(h) CCTV – the Chairman reported that Bramham, Thorner and Boston Spa villages had decided to have CCTV. There would shortly be a meeting (Monday 6th July) attended by senior Police Officers with the subject of 'designing out crime' and Cllrs Howson/Forster would attend this. It would be followed by the LCC N.E.Outer Area regular meeting.

(g) Referring to Minute 09/42(i) Cattle Lane Speed Sign – ongoing.

(h) Referring to Minute 09/42(k) Provident House doorway – Compliance Officer indicated this was within planning requirements but the building work at Humphreydale was not. She had told the builders to cease work immediately and to remove what had been done. An enforcement order would be served - Clerk had reported further work being undertaken since the Compliance Officer's visit. LCC would be pursuing this matter.

(i) Referring to Minute 09/42(j) Grants Policy – Councillors agreed and approved the figures on this document which applicants could obtain from the Clerk.

(j) Referring to Minute 09/42(m) Play Area – LCC did not have the metal bushes required and these would have to be ordered from PPL. As that company had a minimum order value of £25 the Clerk was instructed to order 16 which would give a reserve of 8. LCC would fit these and would replace the bolts on the roundabout as soon as they could.

(k) Referring to Minute 09/42(p) Noticeboards – Clerk to chase.

(l) Referring to Minute 09/43(a) Training Courses – Clerk to raise at the next meeting.

(m) Referring to Minute 09/43(f) Consultation paper on possible changes to LCC leadership – to be circulated and brought to next meeting if anyone wished to comment.

(n) Referring to Minute 09/43(g) Leeds Festival Tickets – Cllr Broadley had taken on this task. The Chairman understood she had emailed Cllr Alderson with certain details and that some posters would be put up in the Arabian Horse and noticeboard(s). Applicants would be advised to go to the shop for an application form.

(o) Referring to Minute 09/47(a) Pump Hill trench – The Chairman to inspect the trench reinstatement works and grates and speak to the property owner as necessary. A site meeting had been offered by Mr Robinson from Parks Dept to investigate fencing materials. It was felt that better fencing would enhance the area, particularly in view of the efforts being made by the In Bloom group there.

(p) Referring to Minute 09/47(d) Raper View road surface – this had been attended to.

(q) Referring to Minute 09/47(e) Parking of a Horse Box Main Street – the Clerk had copied some information from the Highway Code and PCSO Sillers was asked to look at this and see if he could do something further as more and more complaints were being received. The shop had generated extra traffic movements in that area.

(r) Referring to Minute 09/47(g) Footpath restrictions during festival at Lotherton Hall – this had been mostly acceptable but the path in some places was overgrown where people had to walk during the festival. Clerk awaited some detailed information to report to LCC.

(s) Referring to Minute 09/47(h) Surface Water drainage north end main street – a site meeting was awaited – Clerk to chase. There was a blocked gully at the top of Pinfold Rise which required reporting.

09/52 REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES

(a) Parish Plan – Cllr Gluck had nothing further to report at this time. It was confirmed that LCC were going to have a presence at the School Summer Fair. An LCC Youth Service bus for young people had started to come into the village on Monday evenings – nothing having been notified to the Parish Council despite requests some months ago. It was not known how this service was being publicised – Cllr Gluck requested details of the Youth Leaders of the bus to be sent to him by the Clerk.

(b) Aberford in Bloom Group – the Chairman congratulated the members present on their hard work in planting up 2 beds at either end of the village. He was arranging for the roots of bushes on Pump Hill to be gouged out. Plans were for planting in that area to have colour all year around. LCC were giving many plants this year to the Group. Some sponsors had come forward for 2 beds – the Arabian Horse wanted to sponsor one on Pump Hill in particular. Volunteers details had been recorded and people would be contacted as and when required throughout the year. A leaflet drop to local businesses was in hand to ask for sponsorship. The Chairman said the P.C. was ready to help as it was not possible to have hanging baskets this year due to streetlight replacement. The Group was asked to consider what they might need help with and to submit a Grant form which the Clerk would email to them. A Bank account had been opened and LCC were giving £500 which it was hoped to keep over for next year. People who had previously sponsored hanging baskets were willing to sponsor Aberford in Bloom this year instead. The question of improving the fencing around Pump Hill was discussed.

09/53 CORRESPONDENCE

(a) A letter had been received from a resident expressing disappointment at the lack of hanging baskets this year – Clerk and Cllr Hancock had explained about the streetlight replacement going on.

(b) Another resident had written expressing the hope that the P.C. would have some heritage style streetlights installed in the centre of the village. A show of hands amongst residents present resulted in 13/14 out of 18 being in favour.

(c) Rev Fray had approached the P.C. to ask for help in dealing with overgrown vegetation in the graveyard. It was agreed in principle to grant the sum of £910 but Rev Fray would be asked to complete an Application Form.

(d) A letter and up to date information had been received from Mrs Louisa Street on the progress of the Youth Group. The P.C. were being asked to help with costs and it was agreed to have a separate meeting as the request had only been received on the day of the meeting.

There was to be another meeting between Mrs Street and the Village Hall Committee on 6th July and Mrs Street was hopeful of getting a start date when building works could commence.

09/54 PLANNING MATTERS

Decisions

Application P/09/01135/FU – Brackenridge House, Ridge Road – alterations to triple garage to form accommodation annex – APPROVED.

Applications

(a) Application P/09/01786/FU/HE – Lyndhurst, Greystones Park – 2 Storey Side Extension with Juliette balcony to front and alterations inc. Cladding to front to form 5 bed detached house – Cllrs. had been to look at the site and had no objections.

(b) Application P/09/02323/FU/HE – S/s rear extension 5 Moule Rise, Garforth – Cllrs had no objections.

(c) Application P/09/02366/FU/HE – Removal of certain conditions set out in a previously granted application 08/02842 – Silver Hills, Collier Lane. The conditions related to the hours of use of grain drying machinery and the noise output from same. Cllr Howson to investigate further before the P.C. made comment to the Planning Dept.

(d) Application P/09/02385/FU/HE – Conservatory to rear 6 Silkstone Close, Garforth – Cllrs had no objections.

(d) Application P/09/01580/FU/HE – Detached double garage and workshop, 5 Greystones Close – Cllrs undertook a site visit and decided to object on grounds of projecting in front of the building line of the neighbouring property/blocking light to two of that property's side windows. The removal of a workshop to the rear would allow a double garage to remain in the same position as the present one.

09/55 ACCOUNTS

(a) Clerk reported the current balances which were:

In HSBC current a/c	£784.66
In HSBC no 1 Hi Int a/c	£33,648.27
In HSBC no 2 Hi Int a/c	£38,809.73

(b) Cheque number 100233 in the sum of £136.47 for Clerk's remuneration and expenses was agreed and issued.

(c) Subject to adequate paperwork being submitted by Rev. Fray, it was agreed that a cheque in the sum of £910 should be issued to him in between meetings.

09/56 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

(a) The Clerk had attended a financial training course at the Yorkshire Local Councils Association in York and had found this very helpful.

(b) Cllr Forster had several matters. He would continue to monitor the compliance with planning conditions at Makins farm. The footpath from junction 47 to Wakefield Lodge still required restoring to proper width and a sign knocked down at Lotherton Hall needed

replacing. He asked if a litter bin could be provided free of charge at the old bus stop on the Garforth Road close to Hook Moor. This was a very well-used unofficial stopping area. The fences at junction 47 required repairing.

(c) Cllr Hancock had received reports of rats being seen around the Royal Oak pub – this had been reported to Environmental Health by the clerk and they had promised action within 5 days.

(d) The Chairman reported he would deal with getting overgrown vegetation cut back between the Royal Oak pub and the next property going north.

09/57 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

(a) A resident reported the difficulty of drivers coming to the junction of Main Street from Cattle Lane caused by parking near the Swan Hotel. The question of having yellow lines extended around the bend was discussed. It was agreed to ask Highways Dept to look at the problem.

(b) It was reported that a culvert exiting near the Play Area had an open end with the cover in the river. The Chairman reported that one was supposed to be being brought from Selby but in view of the fact that a child might become fast in this drain it was agreed to urge the Environment Agency to act as swiftly as possible.

(c) It had been noticed that the grass cutting team did not trim on the edges of the curbs – particularly going towards Lotherton and at the top end of the village and Pump Hill. Clerk to pursue.

09/58 CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone present before closing the meeting at 9.35p.m.