

ABERFORD & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 15th March 2011 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillors D. Howson (Chairman), R. Alderson, I. Forster, D. Gluck, P. Hancock, Mrs J. Jeffrey, Mrs A. Roberts, Mrs R. Reed, D. Stainton

Also Present: 7 members of the public, 5 Young Men (part), the Clerk

Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs G. Broadley

11/22 MNUTES

The Minutes of the previous meeting, held on Tuesday 15th February 2011, had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Gluck and seconded by Cllr Mrs Roberts that they were a true record. This was agreed.

11/23 POLICE MATTERS

The Chairman invited 3 residents to speak about the nuisance and vandalism they and other residents had been experiencing recently from youths. Many incidents were mentioned to illustrate bad behaviour taking place. Whilst the Police had been contacted and attended and talked to the youths, residents were still having problems and asked for any help the PC could give, as people were being put in fear of behaviour escalating to real damage. The Chairman said that the Police had recently been up to speak to the younger children in school and he was to have a meeting shortly with the Police and some of the youths in an effort to engage the young people and draw them away from bad behaviour. Later, after the 3 residents had left, a group of youths came to the meeting and a discussion was held with them. They expressed their dissatisfaction with the Police when they were not the ones causing trouble. They were asked to make a list of facilities they would ideally like to see provided in the village and asked to come to the forthcoming 3-way meeting by the Chairman in an effort to engage them. The PC would do all it practically could to overcome the problems being experienced. A letter had been received from Wetherby & District Crime Prevention Panel regarding setting up a Cold Calling Zone and it was agreed to ask for someone to make a presentation at a PC meeting.

11/24 MATTERS ARISING

(a) Minute 11/14(a) Conservation Area consultation open meeting – this event, run by the LCC Conservation Officer, had been reasonably well attended. Some comments had been made – about extending rather than diminishing the proposed area. The final decision would be made shortly. Cllr Gluck was to give an article to the Wetherby News on the exercise.

(b) Minute 11/14(b) War Memorial – ongoing

(c) Minute 11/14(c) Streetlights – Cllr Stainton would chase the contractors for the remaining work, in particular on the remaining heritage light.

(d) Minute 11/14(d) School Field – Cllr Stainton was chasing for completion of legal matters. Cllr Alderson reported negotiations had gone well regarding creating a permissive footpath for school use only across the New Graveyard. LCC would draw up the legal documents.

(e) Minute 11/14(e) Debris Cock Beck – ongoing, Cllr Howson dealing and he reported there was more debris in the Beck due to the recent high winds.

(f) Minute 11/14(g) Meeting Venue – Cllr Alderson asked the Clerk to formally write to the school concerning future meetings.

(g) Minute 11/14(h) Traffic Counting facility on Speed Signs – Cllr Stainton reported that the cost of smaller signs – if wanted as part of any traffic management scheme brought in as a

result of the Master Plan – would be £3000 each. He had now obtained details of the equipment he would need, to link his laptop, to enable him to extract information from the existing signs and it was agreed that the PC would pay against receipts for it. Both existing signs were in need of attention and the Clerk had already contacted Dambach about them.

(h) Minute 11/14(i) Markings around Junction 47 – Highways had acknowledged the markings needed repainting and would do them but no timescale was given.

(i) Minute 11/14(k) Problem with Bus Drivers North End – a letter had been received assuring that action would be taken.

(j) Minute 11/14(l) Library Service – no acknowledgement of the PC’s response had been received. Cllr Jeffrey asked that the Clerk pursue this matter as the village did not want to lose this service.

(k) Minute 11/19(b) Pavement Moon Hill – Highways would attend to the uneven pavement after the new financial year commenced. The apparent escaping sewerage problem would be reported urgently to Environmental Control.

(l) Minute 11/19(e) Bushes near Football field – LCC had indicated these would be cut back.

(m) Minute 11/19(f) Hanging Baskets – After discussion it was decided that a reduction of 50% of the sponsorship fee would be offered to those residents who had sponsored last year and wished to sponsor again this year. This was to compensate them for the difficulties experienced last year. New sponsors would be required to pay the full fee. So far there had been around 6 sponsors.

(n) Minute 11/19(i) Dog Control Orders – Cllrs discussed which areas might be suggested to the City Council to be included in such Orders. Pump Hill, the Ford area, School Field and the area at the northern end bus turnaround were all thought appropriate to be included.

(o) Minute 11/19(j) Snow Clearance – Cllr Robinson had arranged a meeting for 21st March which would be attended by the Chairman and Clerk.

(p) Minute 11/19(k) Elections – Nomination forms were given out.

(q) Minute 11/19(l) PC Land – the Clerk was pursuing registration matters.

(r) Minute 11/19(n) Booklet from YLCA – the Clerk was asked to obtain copies.

(s) Minute 11/19(o) Waste Land off Becca Lane – the chairman was dealing with this.

11/25 REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES

(a) Master Plan

Cllr Gluck reported he was working on collating the final draft of the Master Plan which would be circulated to Cllrs probably in the form of a CD. Cllrs were asked to study SHLA information from the City Council which contained housing sites around the wider area put forward by landowners and developers. None had approval or any greater or lesser level of support but were merely for information and for the City LDF to decide in due time. Any comments to be emailed to Cllr Gluck by the 6th April as it might be that something arising from those deliberations could be incorporated into the final draft. Cllrs felt ‘the Estate’ should hold an open meeting entirely separately from that to be held by the PC. Cllr Stainton reported that he and Mr Cliff were to meet with the Thorner PC Clerk shortly as an aid to preparing the Village Design Statement. He would report back to the Sub-committee after.

(b) Footpaths

There was discussion about the problem of cyclists on the Lotherton Hall footpaths. An exchange of emails had resulted in the Estate Officer of the Hall agreeing to install some banning notices early in the new financial year. The Chairman asked Cllr Mrs Jeffrey if she would liaise with the contractor for work on the footpath at Hook Moor. The contractor was anxious to make a start. Cllrs expressed disquiet that works seemed to be imminent around the Hall as evidenced by large piles of material having been put on the car parking. Cllrs

wanted to be informed of what was being done and Cllr Gluck said that he would speak to an Officer based at the Hall.

11/26 CORRESPONDENCE

(a) An email from Cllr Robinson about the Draft Interim Housing Plan had been circulated to Cllrs.

11/27 PLANNING

(a) Cllrs Howson and Hancock had attended the Planning Conference and found it very useful and interesting. They had taken part in two mock planning decision making exercises.

(b) A letter from the Ward Councillors had been circulated prior to the meeting. This informed PCs that they could no longer fund the Community Planning Officer – currently Sarah Hellewell and that they were looking at appointing a Localism Officer to cover more issues. That Officer would be expected to attract funding such as to cover their salary at least but initially the PCs would be asked to contribute to funding the post. Cllrs were very disappointed at this news as the present Officer had been helpful to all the PCs in the Ward. With regard to funding, the precept had been already set and the Clerk was instructed to reply to Ward Councillors expressing deep concerns.

(c) The Clerk reported having received information on the Ward's Key Enforcement Cases. Cllr Mrs Reed pointed out that this should be kept confidential for Councillors only to see.

Applications

(a) Application P/11/00655 – Quadruple garage and store to front – Glebe Bungalow, Field Lane, Aberford. Cllrs Mrs Reed took no part in the discussion, being the applicant in this case. Cllr Stainton declared an interest but stated he wished to give his comments. After discussion the Clerk was asked to comment on the velux windows and that the building must not be turned into a bungalow in the future.

(b) Application P/11/00593 – Retention of Agricultural Building to farm Lotherton Lane. Cllrs were to consider this application which had only just been received.

(c) Application P/11/00349 – Becca Farm. Cllrs had expressed their opinions and a response had been sent to Planners. This was much the same as the response to the previous application expressing reservations again about the number of dwellings planned and the implications for traffic in that area together with comments on the type of materials proposed for new build.

(d) Application P/11/00416 – 7 Rein Court – Cllr Stainton had been delegated to deal with this application for some minor alterations and had responded that there was no objection.

Decisions

10/05289/Ext of time – White House Farm Bunkers Hill – approved

10/05396 – New House Bunkers Hill – pending

11/00074 – Nyman Lodge, Dormer window - pending

11/00252 – Nyman Lodge, Extn of time for previous app. - pending

11/00248 – Avlaki – front side and rear extn - pending

11/00278 – Bimbo cottage - pending

11/00349 – Becca Farm amended application - pending

11/00416 – 7 Rein Court extensions - pending

11/28 ACCOUNTS

(a) The Clerk had written to HMRC seeking guidance as to whether the PC was required to register as an Employer and remit payments under the PAYE scheme to them. However, should this be required, it might not be too onerous as a Clerk within the Ward had advised

