

ABERFORD AND DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 18th May 2010 at 7.30pm in the school.

PRESENT: Cllrs D. Howson (Chairman), R. Alderson, D. Gluck, P. Hancock,
Mrs R. Reed, Mrs A. Roberts, D. Stainton.
Apologies received from: Cllr Mrs G. Broadley, I. Forster.

Also Present: 7 members of the public, PCSO Sillers, Clerk.

10/157 MINUTES

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 20th April 2010 had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Reed and seconded by Cllr Mrs Roberts that these were a true record. This was agreed.

10/158 POLICE MATTERS

There had been 2 burglaries of electrical items with entry gained via uPVC doors, some damage to crops by a vehicle and an attempt to gain money from parking machines at Lotherton Hall. Residents were asked to be vigilant as there had been an increase in theft of lead, copper and stone. If any vehicle or person was observed acting suspiciously the number to ring was 0845 606 0606. Parents were asked to be aware of what their child was doing over the weekend and during holidays – on 27th March Officers had stopped three groups of youths aged between 14 and 17 and confiscated over 25 bottles of lager and a bottle of vodka! The police were given details of days and times when a motorbike was being most often driven up over the motorway and asked to patrol at those times. Confirmation was given that they were increasing their passing patrol in the Royal Oak area due to residents' concerns.

10/159 MATTERS ARISING

(a) Minute 10/149(a) Parish footpaths – waiting written results from the LCC Footpaths Officer. The Officer was to meet on 21st May with an official from Highways (Motorway) to discuss putting a barrier at either end of the motorway bridge.

(b) Minute 10/149(b) War Memorial – waiting cost from LCC Officer.

(c) Minute 10/149(c) Streetlights – erection completed and painting just started. The light on the bridge would be delayed subject to SEC negotiating with the owners of land there to erect a tall column. It was not possible to put it on the bridge due to utilities in that position. The LCC Floral Initiative Officer had ordered new brackets and there were to be several double ones in the centre of the village with others being single. Sponsors would be welcomed at a cost of £25 for single/£50 double with their names being put on the brackets. The Newsletter would publicise sponsorship and it was suggested that it be delivered to businesses as well as private residences to see if any wished to sponsor a basket.

(d) Minute 10/149(d) School Field – waiting on discussions between LCC and the Estate. With regard to access by the children to School Field, there had been progress and an agreement was likely, subject to documents being drawn up. Cllr Alderson asked if the PC would be agreeable to contributing £250 towards the legal costs as the City Council had indicated they had budget constraints. Cllrs gave agreement in principle provided the terms and conditions of the access agreement were satisfactory to the PC/School. The PC would continue to push for a speedy resolution of discussions about School field to improve the

facilities there for the village. Cllr Alderson said that the field would need the grass cutting for the planned Sports Day – which would see a return to the competitive days of previous years – and this was to be held either on the 28th or 29th June. The Chairman undertook to progress this.

(e) Minute 10/149(e) – Speed Sign Cattle Lane - nothing further.

(f) Minute 10/149(f) – Debris Cock Beck – the Environment Agency had not yet contacted the land owner. Clerk would chase. The form required to be submitted to LCC before the trees could be taken down had been signed and sent in. A quotation had been obtained of £700 for the work and this was felt to be reasonable. Agreement was given for this to be done when permission came back from LCC.

(g) Minute 10/149(g) Noticeboard – in course of erection. The cost of £50 for this work was accepted as reasonable and this was agreed to be paid.

(h) Minute 10/149(j) Litter/Cleansing – a sweeper had been seen in the village on a Sunday. Cllr Stainton asked that it be reported the machine was not going into the RH side of his cul de sac. Later a resident reported that the Lengthsman was back from sick leave so the position should improve.

(i) Minute 10/149(k) Royal Oak – the LCC Compliance Officer had looked at the site and passed the matter to the Enforcement Officer and Licensing Authority. Additionally, failing a response to emails and telephone calls from Enterprise Inns, a letter had just been sent to them setting out residents' concerns.

(j) Minute 10/149(l) Village Seats – quotation awaited.

(k) Minute 10/149(m) Clerk Training Day – a report had been given to Cllrs. It had been a very interesting and informative day and very well run.

(l) Minute 10/151(b) Lotherton Lodge – awaiting response about the sale of the Lodge from LCC.

(m) Minute 10/154(a) Loose fence Hayton Wood View – reported to Footpaths Officer – still waiting removal.

(n) Minute 10/154(b) Lines Swan Inn – waiting reply to query.

10/160 REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES/ COUNCILLORS ON OTHER COMMITTEES

(a) LeedsFest

Cllrs Mrs Reed and Roberts reported that there had been 5 times as many applications as tickets and a successful draw had been held. Those who had been successful had been contacted and given the date by which payment and proof of identity had to be made. So far there were 19 persons who had not complied, of which it was understood 4 had indicated they were on holiday but would deal with things as soon as they returned. This left 15 outstanding. Cllrs agreed that no further time should be given and that replacement names should now be drawn as soon as possible. Cllrs Reed/Roberts and Broadley, having been re-elected to form the LeedsFest sub-committee at the Annual Meeting, decided to continue to deal with the

tickets for next year as they had for this, keeping the exercise within the remit of the PC. The money raised would be spent to benefit the Parish. There was to be a meeting between all of the PC's involved and Mean Fidler after the concert this year to discuss and share information.

(b) MasterPlan

Cllr Gluck passed out a briefing paper. The 5 Cllrs elected to the Sub-committee at the Annual Meeting would be joined by a further 5 or 6 residents of the Parish and perhaps one or two others with particular expertise like the N.E. Area Community Planning Officer. The proposed dates for the Sub-committee meetings were handed out. Cllr Gluck confirmed that Rural Action Yorkshire had indicated they would provide £3000 of funding and an application to LCC for a further £5000 was outstanding. He also said that he would be asking the PC for some funding – probably at the next PC meeting.

(c) N.E. Area Forum

Cllr Gluck had attended this meeting which had been a bit disorganised due to elections going on locally and nationally. Cllr Shelbrooke for instance had now been elected an M.P. However, one thing that came out of the meeting was the excellent provision for young people now in Aberford which the PC could be proud of playing a part in. The next Forum meeting would be on the 27th July in Linton. Progress had not as yet been made about the provision of Grit Bins and gritting generally for next winter.

(d) Aberford In Bloom

Cllr Hancock reported that a meeting was to take place on 25th May at 7.30pm in the Oriel Room. It was hoped that residents would support this group and posters advertising the meeting had been put up and it was mentioned on the PC website.

10/161 CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Cllrs had been notified by the Parochial Church Council that there was approximately 5 years burial space left in the Church graveyard.

(b) WY Police were to hold an open day for anyone to go along to see how they operated, on 28th May at The Rose Bowl, Portland Crescent, Leeds. The Chairman said he might attend as he was concerned about a recruitment issue at the present time.

(c) The Parish & Town Councils Spring Conference was to be held on the 26th May and details were with the Clerk.

(d) Information about grants given by Caird Bardon had been passed to Cllr Gluck.

(e) Information from the YLCA including the latest newsletter was to be circulated by Cllrs.

10/162 PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

(a) Application P/10/01796/FU/HE – Extns and altrns. to form house from a bungalow at 13 Haverthwaites Drive. Cllrs would go out to view the property before forming a view.

Decisions

(a) Application P/10/0772/FU – workshop Ash Lane, Garforth – Refused on the grounds of unacceptable traffic movements.

(b) Application P/10/00973/FU – Alterations to create rooms in roofspace 10 Silkstone Close, Garforth – Approved subject to external materials to match existing.

10/163 ACCOUNTS

(a) The Clerk reported a successful audit had been completed by Sheena Spence of YLCA and her letter and report were presented to the meeting. There were one or two small points which would be addressed – recording mileage and postage, dispensing with the Petty Cash book as none was used and being careful to initial cheque book stubs.

(b) Cllrs approved the accounting and annual governance statements made on the Mazars form, together with their acceptance and approval of the report from Sheena Spence.

(c) Cllrs studied the Financial Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2010. The Clerk commented that, following expenditure shortly to be made on the Heritage Streetlights, the revenue accounts would be reduced considerably from the previous several years. Whilst they would still be healthy, Cllrs should bear this in mind when considering any large expenditure from now on.

(d) The Clerk drew attention to the charges being levied by Barclays Bank for running the current account which the PC had been obliged to open to take the interest monies from the Bond. This was the only purpose of this account but charges would amount to £66 over a full year whilst the Bond money deposited in that account between the ending of one Bond and the inception of another would earn no interest effectively. The RFO had noted this and a letter had been written to Barclays querying this charge – reply awaited. This would be a point to bear in mind when the Bond matured in 9 months if no satisfaction was had from Barclays.

(e) The Clerk drew attention to the need to regularise the position of Clerk as that of an employee/employer relationship. Cllrs accepted this and agreed that all relevant information should be obtained by the Clerk. The RFO would liaise with the Clerk between meetings with a view to presenting his findings to Cllrs at the next meeting with regard to acceptable hours/salary etc.

Balances

In HSBC current account	£ 1,089.13
In HSBC No 1 Int a/c	£34,668.57
In HSBC No 2 Int a/c	£38,836.91
In Barclays Bank c/a	£ 473.30
In Barclays Bank Bond	£40,000.00

Note: The last three amounts are to be spent on capital projects only.

To Pay

(a) Cheque number 100264 in the sum of £768.24 was agreed and issued to Greenbarnes Ltd for the new Noticeboard.

(b) Cheque number 100265 in the sum of £1,154.08 was agreed and issued to Broker Network Ltd., for the annual insurance policy. Cllrs noted this was very little different from the previous year and did not require other quotations to be obtained.

(c) Cheque number 100266 in the sum of £594.69 was agreed and issued to Globe Youth Group. The Clerk confirmed that this was within the sum the PC had agreed in support of the group for the first year of operation.

(d) Cheque numbers 100267 and 100268 in the sums of £116.66 and £41.37 respectively were issued to the Clerk for remuneration and expenses.

(e) Cheque number 100269 in the sum of £50.00 was agreed and issued to Mr C. Brown for erection of the new Noticeboard.

Instructions Required

(a) The Clerk reminded Cllrs that they had talked about spending money from the last LeedsFest on extra Christmas lights and it might be prudent to approach LCC Lights as the lead-in time was not known. Cllrs decided to ask for a meeting with LCC Lights to discuss this.

(b) The time for the annual formal inspection of the Play Area was raised. Clerk was instructed to ask LCC Parks to carry out this inspection as soon as possible.

10/164 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

(a) Cllr Hancock said that vegetation was overgrowing the wall in Cattle Lane which was coming from the properties there – he asked if the residents could be contacted to request this cutting back.

(b) Cllr Gluck said he had done some clearance of rubbish from the Beck which had been collected by LCC. He had been told that they had a service for doing this and the details were passed to the Clerk for the future. He had collected a large number of spent shotgun cartridges and was puzzled as to where they had come from. The Chairman undertook to investigate this as they should not be disposed of in this way – if this was what had happened.

10/165 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

(a) A resident, who was Chair of the school PTA, informed the PC of the forthcoming Summer Gala which the PTA would like to encourage the wider community to support. The date was to be finalised but would be approximately 5 weeks away. The PC could have a stall if they wished and Cllr Gluck felt this might be where some information about the MasterPlan could be given.

(b) A resident commented on the theme of ‘noise reduction’ which may be one included in the MasterPlan. He had some knowledge of various measures, particularly different forms of planting which broke up noise and said there could indeed be further measures possible to reduce noise from the motorway area. Fencing could be compared with that installed in other parts of the Country to see if that could be improved.

10/166 CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their presence and closed the meeting at 9.15pm.