

ABERFORD & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 17th January 2012 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

PRESENT Cllrs D. Howson (Chairman), Mrs G. Broadley, I.Forster, D. Gluck, P. Hancock, Mrs R. Reed.
Apologies were received from Cllrs R. Alderson, Mrs Jeffrey, D. Stainton
Also present: 3 members of the Public, Clerk, Cllr M. Robinson

12/01 MINUTES

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 20th December 2011 had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Broadley and seconded by Cllr I. Forster that these were a true record. This was agreed.

12/02 POLICE MATTERS

No Officer was in attendance but a report had been given to the Chairman. An operation had been mounted, based on intelligence received, that thieves were to target the Church. Unfortunately the target proved to be Chapel and some vandalism had occurred. Lotherton Hall was suffering problems at the moment. The Church did not now have a lead roof. There had been an altercation in the Royal Oak area recently – the pub was now shut – its future not known at this time.

12/03 MATTERS ARISING

- (a) Minute 11/114(a) Cock Beck – ongoing
- (b) Minute 11/114(f) Bus Service – Cllr Robinson said that Metro were to attend the Town & Parish Forum on Thursday 19th January and poor service would be raised. Notices had yet to be put up inviting residents to provide information – Clerk to deal.
- (c) Minute 11/114(g) Ruts in footpath Hook Moor – Clerk to chase.
- (d) Minute 11/116(b) Village Hall – Cllr Gluck, a member of the Hall Committee, told the meeting that Mr Cowling had engaged Architects to draw up a scheme to put forward for planning permission. A consultation event would be held in the Hall, probably on the 4th February, to show residents the Hall Committee's preferred scheme and Mr Cowling's plans.
- (e) Minute 11/119(b) Road Surface A1/A64 roundabout – This had been reported and an answer was awaited – Clerk to chase.
- (f) Minute 11/119(c) Garage Block Highfields – Aire Valley Homes indicated they would repair as necessary.
- (g) Minute 11/119(d) Wind Turbines traffic arrangements – Clerk to contact Micklefield P.C.
- (h) Minute 11/120(a) Damage surface Parlington Lane – the Chairman had made the Estate's Agent aware of the damaged gatepost.
- (i) Minute 11/120(b) Overhanging Bushes Lotherton Lane – the owner had been asked to cut the bushes back.

12/04 REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES

(a) Master Plan Projects

(i) VDS

There was to be a meeting with Tony Ray on the 19th January and a full group meeting on the 31st January to agree who was to write the final parts. A community event was scheduled for the 3rd March in the Hall to present the final draft VDS. Once agreed it would be submitted to LCC Planners.

(ii) Broadband

Cllr Gluck would chase this for the next meeting. He believed the two companies had been waiting to see if there was enough business to make their involvement viable.

(iii) Community Interest Company

The legal documentation was complete to form a limited company. The company was a non-profit one set up to help organisations taking forward projects in the Parish. Grants would be sought for set up costs including approaching the private sector. An offer of office accommodation had been made by Aberford Interiors – the space would need to be outfitted.

(b) Footpaths

Clerk reported from Cllr Mrs Jeffrey that the issue of an illegal gate across a bridleway had been passed to the LCC Officer.

(c) Allotments

Clerk reported from Cllr Mrs Jeffrey that both village allotments were now in the process for the PC to take over. Legals for transfer etc were being prepared and the ‘no cost’ principle had been accepted by LCC.

12/05 JUBILEE FIELD

Cllrs had been copied into emails. The PC had given agreement to Phase 1 works being started in advance of full legal agreements being exchanged provided that no cost was incurred by the PC if legal agreements failed to be completed. A simple form of agreement/appointment for Phase 1 works had been sent to LCC Parks Dept for signature and this was awaited. A meeting of the Sub-committee was scheduled for 3rd February at which time it was expected that quotations for the Courts would be available. Grantscape had asked for a sketch of the layout which would be provided to them by Parks Dept.

12/06 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

The scheme for a traffic refuge at the junction of Cattle Lane and Main Street, prepared by LCC Office Mr Borrás, had been circulated to Cllrs. It was agreed that this was satisfactory in principle and Clerk was instructed to pass this to LCC Officer but to ask if a ‘rustic’ treatment of some kind could be given. There would be no cost to the PC and this could be included in Highways work for this financial year.

A ‘part-time’ 20mph speed limit had been suggested by the Officer – Aberford could be one of 6 pilots being tried in the City. The limit might operate around the school area at peak school hours. It was agreed Cllrs would like to be part of the pilot trial. Various other ideas/recommendations were discussed and the Officer would be invited to a future meeting to continue to take this topic forward.

Negotiations were ongoing between the Football Club and a nearby business concerning parking which could see vehicles being removed from road parking in that area. However some vehicles were from Priory Park and changes to road markings would be considered perhaps to create parking bays in this area where rambblers often parked. Placement of 30mph signs at some village gateways would be addressed. Where there were costs involved then the PC would need to approach Ward Cllrs, Area Committee etc for funding.

12/07 CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Cllrs had been circulated, for information, with a copy of LCC’s response to the Government’s consultation about regulations for Neighbourhood Planning.

(b) Some small funding was available from LCC for PCs planning a Jubilee Event – noted.

(c) LCC Officer Andrew Birkbeck had circulated PCs with various funding streams – noted.

(d) Ms P. Boulding, new Head of the school, had enquired about grant funding towards the revamped playground. Clerk had given her information and was waiting for further contact.

(e) The next Branch meeting of YLCA was 14th February at 7.30pm at Poole in Wharfedale Village Hall. Cllr Gluck contacted the Clerk for information after the meeting.

(f) Cllrs had been sent proposed plans for refurbishing Becca Hall prior to the meeting. Mr Fawcett's Architect had extended an invitation to a site meeting. Clerk was instructed to arrange this.

12/08 PLANNING

(a) A letter and plans had been received from Agents for North Newhold, Garforth Road development. Cllrs opinion was sought by the Agent on the proposal to change from offices to light industrial usage. Cllrs felt this would be better as less traffic might be generated. It was resolved to take up the Agent's offer of a site meeting. Cllrs were particularly concerned to get adequate arrangements for drainage, with run off ultimately going into Cock Beck, and that the water pressure should be adequate for nearby properties.

(b) Neighbourhood Plan

Cllrs had studied and discussed the housing sites identified in LCC's Strategic Housing Land Area Assessment document (SHLAA) at a meeting held on 10th January. It was agreed that it would be necessary to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan (NP) as the Master Plan and Village Design Statement would not fulfil all the criteria to be included in the LCC planning process. The NP would cover many more aspects than housing but housing was a major one.

The SHLAA contents were now in the public domain and could be found on the LCC Planning website. These sites were being given somewhat more weight than PCs been previously informed so that robust representations would need to be made via NPs. No numbers of housing units had yet been allocated to the 'wedge' (which covered Alwoodley and the Harewood Ward). Numbers were expected February/March. For Aberford Parish it would be necessary to take into account the Garforth end and Micklefield. Cllr Forster said that the Garforth Cllrs were being encouraged to do a NP for their area.

It was agreed that the PC should inform LCC Planners that it wished to take part in the NP process. A leaflet would be prepared to go out to residents asking for volunteers to form a Committee, in the same way as Barwick & Scholes and several other PCs. Some Committees were largely composed of resident volunteers with perhaps just one Cllr. Others had several Cllrs. Assistance in compiling statistics etc would be given by LCC Officers and Ward Cllr Matthew Robinson and LCC Localism Officer Andrew Birkbeck would be giving expertise to all PCs and Committees in the Ward preparing NPs.

Other Planning Matters

Applications

(a) Application P/11/05424 – Variation of conditions to permit retention of agricultural workers caravans and polytunnels – Sturton Grange Farm. Cllrs had no objection.

(b) Application P/11/05257 – Replacement dwellinghouse involving demolition of existing farm house – Sturton Grange, Ridge Road, Micklefield. Cllrs had no objection.

Decisions

Approved:

P/11/04545 – Various alterations – Oliver Cottage, Main Street

P/11/04659 – Various alterations – Milestone House, Greystone Park

Pending:

P/11/04797 – Listed bldg consent for replacement windows – Old Coach House, Beckside.

P/11/04683 – F/f side Extn – 6 Ashley Park Mews, Garforth

P/11/04836 – Retro. Change of use part agri bldg to form storage & distribution – Sturton Grange Farm.

12/09 ACCOUNTS

Balances

In HSBC Current a/c	£ 1,746.71
In HSBC No 1 Int a/c	£17,975.90
In HSBC No 2 Int a/c	£80,119.24 (Capital Reserve – earmarked for Jubilee Field)
In Master Plan a/c	£404.71
In PPP	£347.00

To Pay

From PC current account:

Cheque number 100361, in the sum of £170.90, for Clerk's salary was agreed and issued.

12/10 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

(a) Cllr Hancock drew attention to the Lotherton Lane footpath – work had been promised to start in December but it had not. Clerk to chase.

(b) The Chairman had been informed of a notice offering some land for sale with details which might not be correct in planning terms. He would investigate this further to see if the land was within the Parish and whether the PC needed to take any action.

(c) Some fencing bordering a footpath needed repairs. There were obvious footprints across a field from the gap in the fence and persons taking that track needed to be discouraged.

(d) There had been an unwelcome increase in dog fouling, especially in the bridge area near the Play Area. Posters would be put up and mention made on the website and notice boards.

(e) The Christmas lights needed to be removed – Clerk to chase.

12/13 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

There were no matters brought to Cllrs attention.

12/14 CLOSE OF MEETING

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

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.