

ABERFORD & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the Parish Council held on 21st August 2012 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

PRESENT: Councillors D. Howson (Chairman) R. Alderson, J. Barker, K. Dunwell, I. Forster, D. Gluck, P. Hancock, Mrs J. Jeffrey, Mrs R. Reed
Apologies received from Cllrs Mrs G. Broadley, D. Stainton
Also Present: 3 members of the public, PCSO G. Nottingham

12/105 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17th July 2012 had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr P. Hancock and seconded by Cllr Alderson that these were a true record, apart from Cllr Alderson asking for the spelling of a resident's name to be changed in Minute 12/99. This was noted and the Minutes agreed subject to this change.

12/106 POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Nottingham gave his report – there had been two burglaries, only one of which had resulted in property being taken as an alarm had deterred one. A motorist had been warned for anti social driving. Regular checks for speeding would continue through the village and patrols to deter anti social behaviour were ongoing in certain ‘hotspots’. A Neighbourhood Watch meeting would be held in the Village Hall during the evening of 23rd October to which Watch members would be invited from nearby villages and there could be guest speakers on security matters such as locks. Further information would be given nearer the date.

12/107 MATTERS ARISING

- (a) Minute 12/93 Lotherton Hall Event – the organisers had offered 25 free tickets to the Event to benefit the Parish residents and Cllrs Mrs Broadley had agreed to handle the distribution in a similar way to the LeedsFest tickets.
- (b) Minute 12/94(a) Bus Clearway – after much further discussion, Cllrs agreed to ask for a trial of the ‘build out’.
- (c) Minute 12/94(b) North Newhold site meeting – to be arranged if work restarts.
- (d) Minute 12/94(c) Seat repairs – to be arranged – there had been difficulty contacting the usual handyman so a different person would be approached.
- (e) Minute 12/94(d) Cllr Forster would try to obtain an area map on his forthcoming visit to LCC Officers. Clerk had obtained an undertaking from LCC Officer and the contractor that the vegetation at the Play Area would be strimmed and raked for the weekend. This area had been missed from the contractor's map, as had the small patch on the other side of the wooden bridge. There was a further small patch left uncut behind the seat in Parlington Drive. The weed incursion at the Beck had been reported to LCC who would be dealing with this. Problems would be dealt with as they became apparent during the settling in period of the new City-wide contractor.
- (f) Minute 12/02(a) Memorial Seat – it was agreed that Cllr Howson would speak with the resident who wanted to sponsor a new seat which it was felt should probably match the newest one purchased on Pump Hill. The name plaque on one of the seats would need to be taken into consideration – moving to another seat for instance. Clerk to liaise.

(g) Minute 12/02(c) Cllr Forster was pressing for vegetation to be cut back on the second side of the footpath near his house – one side only having been done. He was most concerned about Lotherton Hall grounds which he reported were in a poor state of maintenance at the moment. The amount of rubbish in gutters on the estate roads at the Garforth end of the parish was a concern and Cllr Mrs Reed recommended that he should ask LCC Officer John Woolmer for help.

(h) Minute 12/02(f) BT Telephone Box – Cllrs Mrs Jeffrey reported that this had been repaired quite speedily which was very pleasing.

(i) Minute 12/03 Noxious smell from field near Royal Oak – this had now ceased as the water had dried up although enquiries had found that there was little, in practical terms, that could be done. The exceptional rainfall had resulted in the formation of the very large pond in the summertime which had not previously been known.

12/108 REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES

(a) Village Design Statement – Cllr Gluck reported he had a meeting with Mr Ray scheduled for 23rd August and expected to have a draft for the following meeting.

(b) Broadband – Clerk had not received a reply from Cllr Robinson – ongoing.

(c) Footpaths – nothing further.

(d) Allotments – waiting for documentation to come from LCC. Clerk to obtain a copy of the lease which LCC used to see if it was suitable for the PC/allotment holders. Cllr Jeffrey hoped that the allotments would be run as a group and that the Youngs Court allotments could be taken on by the PC in due course.

12/109 JUBILEE FIELD

Clerk reported Cllr Stainton was still working on legals which had been complicated by the errors in past allocation of ownership of a small portion of land. He was working hard to get things moving. The outcome of the grant application was not yet known but would be by the next meeting.

12/110 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

The Chairman and Clerk reported on the meeting with Masternaut and the Football Club. The Club were agreeable for Masternaut to use their parking facilities for a fee. Masternaut felt that their employees would resist using the Club ordinarily but that, when they were holding training sessions, the company might well look to use the Club parking. Cllrs felt that the ordinary parking had become a problem in itself – this might be eased a little by some extra spaces coming free when the company at the Lodge moved out but could still be a problem. Cllrs felt that Masternaut employees should be prepared to use the Club parking and walk the short distance to the office and that parking restrictions through lining could not be ruled out. It was left for the two to liaise with each other.

Cllrs were not in favour of any signs, as suggested by Masternaut, until other options had been explored. The Chairman had agreed to approach the Estate, on behalf of Masternaut, to ask if the Estate would lease an extra strip of land to allow Masternaut to extend their onsite car parking and the outcome of this was awaited. The situation would be monitored.

12/111 CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Christmas Lights – Cllrs discussed whether to purchase a replacement set or whether to take up the option of hiring. It was decided to hire and to probably go for this option for the lights near the Church when they reached the end of their life in 2013.

(b) The next LCC Parish and Town Council seminar was scheduled for Monday 10th September in the Civic Hall and Cllrs Barker and Dunwell confirmed they would attend.

(c) Information had been circulated about the ‘cookies’ policy for the PC website. This was ratified.

(d) Clerk drew attention to the requirement to amend the Code of Conduct in respect of Item 18 under ‘Disclosure of disclosable pecuniary interests at meeting’. Cllrs confirmed they understood this change and it was agreed unanimously to amend the Code of Conduct accordingly.

12/112 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Gluck reported that Mr N. Moore had declined to be Vice Chair of the Sub Group. The Clerk had received a DVD on Neighbourhood Planning from RAY for circulation. Attention was drawn to two meetings called by LCC and Cllrs were asked for volunteers to attend either meeting. It was felt that at least two people should attend each meeting and Cllr Gluck suggested that Mr Oakes (Chair of the sub group) be contacted to ask lay members of the sub group for volunteers to attend. Cllr Gluck indicated he could attend the meeting on the 14th September. No further sub group meeting date had been set at this time.

Tender Process for Consultants

Cllr Gluck had drawn up a Tender which had been circulated to Cllrs prior to it being put onto the website for Local Authorities – this had been done through LCC. Clerk to collate any tenders received and circulate them around Cllrs. After this a meeting would be held to see if a consensus could be reached on a preferred company.

Funding

A conditional offer of £10,000 had been received from The Big Lottery Awards for All Fund to help with the Neighbourhood Plan. Clerk to deal with completing the conditions necessary for the offer to be firmed up.

12/113 PLANNING

Chairman and Clerk had dealt with a resident’s complaint about the siting of a garage next to their property. LCC Planning Officer had found that it was being constructed too far in front of the building line and advised the resident who agreed to resite.

Applications

P/12/03026	Both for Priory Park Lodge – One for listed consent and one for
P/12/03027	ordinary consent to change to dwelling house. Cllrs had no objection.
P/12/03116	2 Storey Side Ext. – 2 North End Cottage, Main Street. Cllrs had no objection to the extension but did not want to lose the old stone wall which fronted Main Street.
P/12/03018	Retro App for change of use of land to form domestic garden – Lyndhurst, Greystone Park. Cllrs had no objection.

Approved:

P/12/02432 Two Storey side ext, incorporating Juliet balcony and alterations to front entrance – Hollybeck House, off Main Street (back of Jessamine cottage).

Pending:

P/12/01574 Becca Hall refurbishment

P/12/00725 Outline app. For employment park and layout of access, Aberford Road, Garforth.

P/12/02890 Extn to Dutch Barn – Silver Hills Farm, Lotherton Lane.

12/114 ACCOUNTS

Clerk reported that a grant application had been received from the Parochial Church Council for repairs towards the Church clock. Cllrs debated this request and felt that a grant should be given as the Church clock was a prominent feature in the village.

Balances

In HSBC current a/c	£ 2,378.37
In HSBC No 1 Int a/c	£23,652.76 (revenue reserve)
In HSBC No 2 Int a/c	£80,146.10 (capital reserve)
In HSBC M/Plan a/c	£ 1,824.71

Notes:

Revenue reserve includes £1421.00 PPP footpath maintenance money and approximately £5009 accruing from LeedsFest ticket sales from previous years.

Capital reserve is allocated to Jubilee Field refurbishment

MasterPlan monies are allocated to final preparation of VDS and initial funding for NP.

To Pay

(a) Cheque number 100394, in the sum of £66.00, was agreed and issued to Mrs P. Harrison for auditing the PC accounts.

(b) Cheque number 100395, in the sum of £170.90, was agreed and issued for Clerk's salary.

(c) Cheque number 100396, in the sum of £48.96, was agreed and issued to Clerk for expenses.

(d) Cheque number 100397, in the sum of £500.00, was agreed and issued to the Parochial Church Council for help towards repair of the Church clock.

(e) Cheque number 100398, in the sum of £526.00, was agreed and issued to DB Tree Services for work in maintaining parish footpaths.

12/115 MATTER FOR INFORMATION

(a) Attention was drawn to an overgrown hedge incursion onto a seat in Lotherton Lane. Cllrs Mrs Jeffrey undertook to ask the landowner to cut this back.

(b) The Chairman said that a fence had been removed and replaced with a wall backing onto a footpath to the rear of the houses at Beckside (going up at the side of the Chapel to School). The vegetation in this area needed cutting back – Cllrs Mrs Jeffrey to visit to assess.

(c) Cllr Alderson asked the Clerk to chase Highways in relation to inspecting the high wall at Bunkers Hill. Concerns had been reported to Highways about damaging vibration from passing heavy traffic and the PC wanted to be assured that the wall was in a safe condition.

(d) Cllr Mrs Reed asked that any issues Cllrs wanted to raise should be passed to her for the forthcoming Forum meeting.

(e) Cllr Hancock drew attention to the wooden picnic tables which had been left out on Pump Hill. The Chairman said they had been put there and left out by patrons, not the landlord, in the recent good weather and the landlord would deal with this.

(f) A complaint of rubbish dumped at the junction of Stocking Lane and Kingfisher Lane had been dealt with by the Clerk. Clerk was attempting to trace the owner of a garden in Main Street which had overhanging vegetation to get it cut back following a complaint.

12/116 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

There were no matters

12/117 CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.25pm.

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.