

ABERFORD & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 20th November 2012 at 7.30pm in the Methodist Chapel.

PRESENT Councillors D. Howson (Chairman), R. Alderson, J. Barker, Mrs G. Broadley, K. Dunwell, I. Forster, P. Hancock, Mrs J. Jeffrey, Mrs R. Reed, D. Stainton
Also Present: Ward Cllr M. Robinson, Police Officer, 4 member of the public
The Clerk

12/144 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting, held on Tuesday 16th October 2012, had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr D. Stainton and seconded by Cllr P. Hancock that these were a true record. This was agreed.

12/145 POLICE MATTERS

There has been just one attempted burglary of a garage and one theft of lead from a residential property. Residents should be reminded to lock all premises, even when they were inside and to be aware of bogus callers. Anti social behaviour was low at the moment. The Clerk reported arrangements were in hand for the Boxing Day Hunt.

12/146 COUNCILLOR VACANCY

The Clerk reported that Councillors could proceed to co-opt someone for the vacancy and this would be publicised in the forthcoming Newsletter. Cllr Alderson asked for details to be sent to him for inclusion in the School Newsletter.

12/147 MATTERS ARISING

- (a) Minute 12/133(a) North Newhold – Cllr Forster pressed for a site meeting. Clerk to chase.
- (b) Minute 12/133(b) Seat repairs – ongoing
- (c) Minute 12/133(c) Grass cutting missed areas – additionally to the area behind the seats in Parlington Drive was a further area in Lotherton Lane reported by a resident. Clerk to progress.
- (d) Minute 12/133(f) War Memorial ownership – Clerk to chase progress on lease.
- (e) Minute 12/133(g) Land Strawberry Hill – this had been cut back – Clerk to chase adoption so that it could be added into the grass cutting schedule.
- (f) Minute 12/137(b) Bus questionnaire – Cllr Robinson confirmed this would be posted out to residents shortly. Clerk to arrange a box in the village shop.
- (g) Minute 12/137(c) Island at Hook Moor – Clerk to chase as to when this was to be done.

12/148 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Forster reported that the Garforth Ward Cllrs wanted a meeting with the PC and the Clerk was asked to contact Mr Peter Mudge to arrange this. Cllr Robinson was asked for a map showing the Ward boundaries. It was restated that the NP covered the whole parish.

Sub Group meetings were now fixed for the first Thursday in the month and would be held monthly. Cllr Dunwell asked if a sum of £100 could be agreed that the Sub Group could use to purchase prizes (or vouchers) as encouragement for residents to return questionnaires. This was agreed. A communications group had been formed and regular updates were being added to the PC website. A familiarisation walk through the village had been organised for some Sub Group members.

12/149 REPORTS FROM SUB COMMITTEES

(a) Village Design Statement

A separate meeting had been held and comments sent to Mr Gluck which he had acknowledged and was working on a redraft. He was aware of the proposed joint VDS/NP meeting date in January so Cllrs should receive a fresh draft prior to that Event.

(b) Broadband

Cllr Robinson said that LCC Officers were progressing the project and that he was trying to press for money to be allocated for our sort of area. This would be on the Agenda at the next Ward Forum meeting as it was important for all the parishes in the Ward and the LCC Officer in charge of the project would be present. Cllr Robinson could be chairing the meeting.

(c) Footpaths

The final bill for seasonal cutting was presented. The contractor had asked for a little extra money to be allocated to cover such things as cutting back overhanging hedging and trees. Cllr Mrs Jeffrey would contact LCC Footpaths Officer to see if the allocation could be increased to cover.

(d) Allotments

The lease was still awaited from the City Council.

12/150 JUBILEE FIELD

(a) Access Licence – this had been signed, as per previous discussions, on behalf of the PC, by the Chairman and Clerk.

(b) Cllr Stainton reported that the Agreement to Lease document was to be dispensed with and a straightforward Lease and Works Contract substituted. Cllr Robinson had spoken to the LCC Officer to try to expedite the process. There were 3 outstanding items – two being the question of maintenance of the fence and permission to put a small store on site. It was resolved that the Chairman and Councillor Stainton would be delegated to sign the Lease which it was thought would be ready for signature between meetings.

(c) Cllr Stainton presented an invoice for work done by the Estate's Solicitors which was agreed to be paid

(d) Cllr Alderson reported that he believed everything was in order on the school footpath access – it would be best to contact Mr Picton-Phillips for an update.

A further meeting of the Sub Committee would be held shortly to discuss benches, soft landscaping etc. The Chairman proposed that Cllr Stainton be retained to help on the Sub Committee to the end of the project, despite the fact that he was likely to have to resign from the PC shortly due to moving out of the parish. This was agreed.

12/151 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

(a) Bus questionnaire would be distributed shortly – Clerk to arrange collection point.

(b) Island Hook Moor – installation date to be obtained.

12/152 CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Information about Dog Control had been distributed to Cllrs prior to the meeting. Apart from some in force at Lotherton Hall, there were no orders listed for Aberford. Dogs were barred on the Play Area which needed listing, but it was felt that they should be excluded from the new courts on Jubilee Field when installed. 'Dogs on Leads' was discussed in relation to Jubilee Field and it was felt that the school should be consulted as to what they would prefer, given that the children were expected to use this facility regularly. LCC needed the information by end November.

(b) 'Design a Flower Bed' competition – information would be passed to school.

(c) An invitation to a Working Group Meeting had been received. Information passed to Cllrs to see if anyone could attend.

12/153 PLANNING

There were no applications.

Approved

P/12/03395 – Retrospective app. to convert garage to room etc – 6 Cedar Ridge, Garforth.

Pending

P/12/03789 - Detached warehouse – land off Isabella Road, Garforth

P/12/04166 - Conv. Garage to room and various alterations – 1 Cedar Ridge, Garforth

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

Withdrawn

P/12/04138 – S/s Rear Ext etc – Assbridge Lodge, Barwick Road.

12/154 ACCOUNTS

(a) Budget 2013/2014 – preliminary report had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. It was agreed to discuss this further at the December meeting.

(b) Following the resignation of Cllr Gluck and given the fact that Cllr Stainton would shortly be moving from the parish, it was decided to consider new signatories to the PC accounts. A decision would be taken at the next meeting but Cllr Mrs Reed indicated she was willing to become a signatory. Clerk to organise.

Balances

In HSBC Current a/c	£ 682.72
In HSBC No 1 Int A/c	£34,481.32 (Rev Reserve)
In HSBC No 2 Int A/c	£80,160.24 (Cap Reserve)

Notes:

Revenue Reserve includes (i) £895.00 Parish Paths Partnership money which is set aside to pay the contractor for maintenance of footpaths, (ii) £5009.86 from LeedsFest ticket sales and £10,000.00 grant through the Big Lottery Fund.

Capital Reserve is allocated for refurbishment of Jubilee Field

To Pay

(a) Cheque number 100407, in the sum of £170.90, was agreed and issued for Clerk's salary.

(b) Cheque number 100408, in the sum of £79.28, for telephone expenses and renewal of the yearly domain name, was agreed and issued to the Clerk.

(c) Cheque number 100409, in the sum of £732.00, for Xmas lights hire and maintenance etc., was agreed and issued to Leeds City Council.

(d) Cheque number 100410, in the sum of £40.00, for hire of Methodist Chapel, was agreed and issued.

(e) Cheque number 100412, in the sum of £140.00, for gardening work near the Royal Oak, was agreed and issued to Mr Clarkson.

(f) Cheque number 100413, in the sum of £526.00, for maintenance of parish footpaths, was agreed and issued to DB Tree Services.

(g) Cheque number 100414, in the sum of £900.00, for Solicitors' fees in connection with Jubilee Field, was agreed and issued to Hogan Lovells.

12/155 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

(a) The Chairman reported arrangements were in hand for a Xmas tree for Pump Hill.

(b) Only one grit bin required topping up which had been done.

(c) Clerk reported arrangements in hand for the Boxing Day Hunt.

(d) Following an enquiry about the operation of a business at the south end of the village, it was agreed that Cllr Mrs Jeffrey would look into matters.

(e) Clerk reported that Masternaut were in discussion with the Estate about leasing a small strip of land for extra parking. There were still cars parked close to the Masternaut entrance every week.

- (f) Clerk had reported the faulty north end speed sign.
- (g) Cllrs Mrs Jeffrey asked if Mr Gluck still sent items to the Wetherby News as she felt that this facility should be used more. Clerk to find out. It would be mentioned in the Newsletter. The PC website should be publicised on the school newsletter if that was acceptable to them.
- (h) Cllr Forster said that most of the fly tipped material on the B1217 had been removed; it would seem by workers for Continental. Cllrs Mrs Reed thought that some of those workers were employed on such duties when unable to do grass cutting.
- (i) Cllr Forster asked that Highways be requested to repaint the double white lines on the A642 at the entrance to Cedar Ridge as there were instances of them being ignored by vehicles overtaking those turning into Cedar Ridge, on the wrong side of the road. There were also two empty posts where the sign had been missing for over a year on the Aberford side of the Junction 47 roundabout.
- (j) Cllr Forster pointed out that it was proposed to close the Garforth Fire Station and asked where the cover from Aberford came from – this was from Wetherby initially.
- (k) Cllr Dunwell reported that the light had been left permanently on in the temporary Polling Booth cabin. Clerk to report.

12/156 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- (a) A resident reported the late running/missing of a bus. The Clerk informed the meeting that a questionnaire would be going out to residents shortly and any such instances should be added to it and reported whenever they happened.
- (b) A resident reported that a section of Lotherton Lane had not been cut this year. This was from the village sign down to Main Street and the contractors had also stopped cutting in front of a property in Lotherton Lane and up Bunkers Hill on the LH side going south. To be reported.

12/157 CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.10pm.

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.