

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Tuesday 14th October 2014 at 7.15pm at the Village Hall, Strensall

PRESENT

Cllrs Marquis (Chair) Chambers, Mrs C Edwards, Ms T. Himlin, Hill, Chapman, Baxter, Tuohey, Maher, Scott and Ogilvy,

Ward Cllr P Doughty and 3 members of the public

1. APOLOGIES

Received from Cllrs Plant, Benson and Ms T Flannery and the reasons were accepted

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated, Council approved these and authorised the Chairman to sign them as a correct record and also endorsed the minutes of the Planning Committee of 9th and 23rd September **Resolution 141014/01**

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Stork informed the meeting that a resident in Knapton Close had had a greenhouse window broken and Mr Ransome had had damage to his conservatory by footballs. He wished it recorded that he will take legal action if this statutory nuisance is not resolved. Footballs hit fences and cause residents problems as a daily occurrence. He asked for the reaction to the petition from immediate residents. Cllr Tuohey said that a petition in favour of retention of the football area contained 51 signatures which had to be taken into consideration. The clerk confirmed that the Playground Committee had met and their recommendation to the council was to await the outcome of the meeting of residents with RoSPA inspector David Yearley.

Mr Stork agreed that it would be sensible to proceed only after any recommendation from RoSPA and the Clerk confirmed that any recommendations or proposals from RoSPA would be discussed.

5. ONGOING ISSUES

- (a) The Playground Committee had met on 6th October. It was agreed the idea of a numbering system for equipment was a good one as it aided identification. The recommendation was to approve the expenditure for repairs in the sum of £541.

The ongoing problem with weeds in the junior playground at Northfields was being addressed and the grass cutting contractors were to be asked to include regular weed killing in their quotes for next year.

On the Kirklands issues it was agreed that the recommendation to the Council should be to await the outcome of the site visit from Dave Yearley from Playsafe Ltd with the residents and have a further meeting to discuss any proposals he may have.

These recommendations were approved - **Resolution 141014/02**

Since the meeting the Clerk has received a petition in support of retention of the football area with 145 signatures.

- (b) The Clerk confirmed that she had requested tenders for three years from two insurance companies. Zurich had submitted a quote of £1576.99 for one year or £1429.91 pa for three years, Came and Company wished to quote but have not submitted one as yet. It was agreed that the Clerk would chase this up during the next three weeks and accept the best quote **Resolution 141014/03**
- (c) The grass cutting quotes received were discussed and it was resolved that the contract for all grass cutting and maintenance of the war memorial area would go to Cartmell Gardens as the cheapest quote and the fact that they have done an excellent job for the past four years. The Clerk to write to the existing contractor for the war memorial and junior playground to thank him for his efforts to date but that the contract had been awarded elsewhere.
Resolution 141014/04
- (d) The proposed list of Christmas Trees required for retailers in the village was discussed and the same amount as last year, was agreed with an 18ft blue spruce for the Ship and an 8ft tree for the school. The estimated cost of the provision of winter flowers for the tubs and village name signs was agreed. **Resolution 141014/05**
- (e) The Clerk informed the council that a total of 10.5 hours overtime had accrued by her over the three months from July to September. The payment of this was approved **Resolution 141014/06**
- (f) The trees that were causing a problem to residents of 21 Wood Close and 7 Westpit Lane were discussed and it was agreed that some remedial work be put in hand as discussed between JC, SN and the contractor. The work was estimated to cost £300 to £350 and this expenditure was approved. The Clerk to write to the resident of 19 Wood Close regarding the new fence on their rear boundary **Resolution 141014/07**

6. POLICE REPORT

The police report was noted. It was noticeable that no mention of any issues at Kirklands were on the list.

7. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Cllr Chapman reported on the one application received and three decision notices and the recommendations of the planning committee were approved

Resolution 141014/08

Cllrs Chapman and Marquis updated the Council on the first day of the Public inquiry

Cllr Chambers informed the Council that he had been contacted by the FIDB regarding properties in Foss View Close that had not been allocated the required 9 metres from their boundaries to the river. This encroachment has been referred to Enforcement at CYC

8. FINANCE REPORT

(a) Invoices for payment approved:- **Resolution 141014/09**

(i) clerk's salary and overtime	£.	SO
(ii) talktalkonetel	£30.28	DD
(iii) talktalk mobile	£5.00	DD
(iv) printing costs for PI	£195.00	
(v) D Carrington Electrical	£81.00	
(vi) RoSPA inspection fee	£210.00	
(vii) J Chapman (cable ties)	£6.00	
(viii) D Hill (preservative)	£14.98	
(ix) mrs S Nunn (ink)	£80.14	
(x) Mrs S Nunn (stationery)	£38.81	
(xi) Mrs R Prins Audit fee	£125.00	
(xii) Insurance premium	£1,429.91	
(xiii) R Cartmell grass cutting	£638.68	
(xiv) R Cartmell cemetery maintenance	£120.00	

(b) The half yearly internal audit had been carried out by Ruth Prins and no errors were found.

(c) The Clerk requested permission to pay the waste collection fee at the cemetery by direct debit. This was approved **Resolution 141014/10**

(d) The resolution made at the planning committee meeting to provide additional funds in respect of the Public Inquiry and had been agreed with all councillors and was confirmed by all apart from Councillor Maher who had previously declared a pecuniary interest and left the room during the discussion and vote

9. HIGHWAYS

The Highways report, prepared by Cllr Tuohey was discussed and noted by the Council.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Letter from CYC on Community Governance review was noted
- (b) Email from John Gallery, spokesman for Keep Elvington Rural was discussed and it was agreed to respond with the parish council's wish to be part of the alliance of parish councils to respond to any further consultation of the emerging local plan for City of York Council.
- (c) Outreach issues:
 - (i) Following a request to the residents to comment on the resolution to remove wreaths from the war memorial, as only 14 verbal comments had been received, it was approved that they would in future be removed on Twelfth Night
 - (ii) The request from CYC on transforming places had not received any interest. The Clerk to write to Dave Atkinson and inform him
- (d) A letter from the War Memorials Trust confirmed that the grant of £759 had been paid into the bank
- (e) An e-mail from Yorkshire Army Cadets seeking funding was read out. It was resolved that the request did not fit the grant criteria and it was suggested they be directed to Ronald Kane at CYC who could give funding advice.

11. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER

- (a) Annual grant to Outreach and St Marys Churchyard
- (b) Playground issues - new petition received
- (c) Acquisition of land update – chase Dave Meigh

12. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 11th November 2014 at 7.15pm in the Village Hall.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.50pm

Signed..... 11th November 2014

Chairman

APPENDIX 1

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

Held on Monday 6th October 2014 at 6.0pm

PRESENT

Mrs T Himlin (Chair) Cllrs J Chapman, J Scott, Ogilvy, Tuohey and the Clerk

APOLOGIES

None received

RoSPA ANNUAL INSPECTION AND REPORT

Cllr Chapman reported that he had now numbered each piece of playground equipment for ease of identification. He had almost completed the repairs listed apart from the ones the Clerk had requested a quote from RSS. The Clerk to chase this. Cllr Tuohey confirmed that he could then look at updating the inspection reports.

The annual comment regarding using a good quality preservative on all the wooden equipment was discussed and it was felt that it was now a little late in the season to do this and that it could be done in spring. The Clerk to investigate the cost of someone to do this work. The Committee to recommend that this work be put in hand as soon as practical.

NORTHFIELDS PICNIC AREA

The weed problem was still a problem but the Committee accepted that there was limited kinds of pesticides available that were safe to use in a playground. It was noted that the maintenance contract was due for renewal and perhaps regular weedkilling could be factored into the contract

KIRKLANDS FOOTBALL AREA

The Committee noted that an Inspector from RoSPA was to meet residents at the play area to discuss their concerns on safety. The Inspector had advised that he would then contact the Clerk to make any recommendations, at which point the Committee would meet again to recommend any action required.

A petition had been received with 51 signatures from residents who used the football area regularly and would not wish to lose that facility. The Clerk referred to previous correspondence with the then resident of 19 Pasture close who confirmed that the provision of the fenced area and goalpost had appeared to solve the problem of footballs being directed at his property.

The Clerk read an e-mail received from the residents of 21 Pasture close regarding damage to their garden and other incidents. The Committee were concerned that these incidents were not reported to the Police. All members agreed it was important that the Police were aware of the allegations of

broken glass in greenhouses, damaged fencing and garden ornaments. The recommendation to await the outcome of the Inspector's meeting with the residents was confirmed.

The resident of 19 Pasture Close had confirmed orally to the Clerk that he intended to sue the Parish Council on a statutory nuisance issue unless the football area was removed and replaced with other more appropriate equipment

The Committee recommended that this be an item for full discussion and decision by the Parish council at the November meeting.

APPENDIX 2

POLICE REPORT

September 2014

Damage 2
Burglary 2
Theft 1
Violence 9

TOTAL 14 16 crimes in same period last year

First 6 months of 2014/15

Damage 10
Burglary 7 (-53%)
Drugs 2
Other 7
Theft 16
Vehicle 2 (-80%)
Violence 45

TOTAL 89 108 in same period last year (-18%)

Both burglaries that have occurred during September have targeted Garages, one in Strensall when a cycle was stolen, and one in Stockton on Forest where Fishing Tackle was taken.

One of the damage jobs relates to an incident at Stockton Hall and the other to an incident where a window was smashed at a Public House in Strensall.

There have been no reports of any anti social behaviour to Police regarding the play area at Pasture Close during September and in the course of my patrols I have seen nothing at that location that would require any Police action to be taken.

There have been a few reports regarding nuisance youths at Northfields, mainly using a laser pen to shine into properties in the area on evenings but no other anti social behaviour of note in the last month.

I have included crime figures for the year to date as well as for September as we are now at the half way point of the year. As you can see there has been a reduction in reported crime across the ward with significant reductions in both burglary and vehicle crime which have been highlighted.

HIGHWAYS REPORT FOR 14TH OCTOBER 2014 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING (INTERIM)

Items Reported

There are currently 9 outstanding issues with CYC which are:

1. One item from the walkout on 4/7/2011 remain outstanding namely worn carriageway markings on Towthorpe Road (YCC 10509386) which is awaiting large patching works for resolution. These patching works have been undertaken along with the white lining but the SLOW markings have yet to be reinstated. This has now been completed.
2. A proposal from the PC's Long Term Planning Committee to reduce congestion in The Village by introducing additional no waiting restrictions was submitted to CYC (YCC 101654037 City Strategy Reference B30530). A site meeting occurred on the 10th October 2012 and a positive response was obtained from CYC to extend yellow lines. This will now require working up into a proposal but, with resources and funding, it is not expected that any works will take place before financial year 2012-2013. It is worth noting that the Parish Council still receives correspondence regarding congestion in this and the adjacent areas. This has now been sent out for consultation as part of the Annual Review of Traffic Regulation Order Requests 2014.
3. I have reported faded junction markings at Glebe Close/York Road and Parkgate/Brecks Lane. CYC numbers are awaited.
4. Drainage issues by Northfields/The Village (by Number 71) have been reported.
5. The Parish Clerk has written to CYC regarding the alleged damage caused to York Road by construction traffic not following the agreed route, as per the planning constraints, for the Tannery.
6. For items 3 to 5, I have chased CYC up (5/5/2014) for a response as to why no work is taking place or a response given. None has yet been received.
7. Potholes have been reported on Parkgate and Barley Rise.
8. Faded Road Markings have been reported at the loading bay of Tescos and the junction of Sherriff Hutton Road and the Village.
9. I am quite happy that any Parish Councillor who sees highways defects reports them direct (ycc@york.go.uk or 01904 551550) or emails me the details rather than waiting for the Parish Council Meetings. If you do report them directly, the reference number should be taken and passed to me as it helps in chasing up issues.
10. There appear to be long term issues with the CYC computer system that means reference numbers are not being obtained.

Other Issues

1. There is lack of feedback from CYC regarding issues reported which is not helped by the lack of reference numbers.
2. City of York Council will be carrying out preventative carriageway maintenance work on Middlecroft Drive from Tuesday 21st October. The works are programmed to take 2 days to complete subject to weather conditions.

Dermot Tuohey 11th October 2014