

STRENSALL with TOWTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Rainbow Centre, Robert Wilkinson School
West End, Strensall
York YO32 5UH

Tel: 491569 E-mail: clerk.strensallpc@talktalk.net

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Tuesday 8th July 2014 at 7.15pm at the Village Hall, Strensall

PRESENT

Cllrs Marquis (Chair) Plant, Baxter, Mrs T Himlin, Scott, Tuohey, Chambers and Ogilvy,
Ward Cllr Mr P Doughty, PCSO M Hannon and three members of the public

1. APOLOGIES

Received from Cllrs Benson, Mrs C Edwards, Ms T Flannery, Hill, Chapman and Ward Cllr Mrs S Wiseman 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 24th June
Resolution 080714/01

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident of Pasture Close again addressed the meeting and orally attacked the Parish Council as, in his opinion the "football field" was a safety risk and as such should be closed. He demanded to be present at the next RoSPA inspection. His neighbours spoke on the perceived dangers of the football area and became extremely rude. All three members of the public spoke for the allotted time but were asked to leave the meeting when they became abusive.

The Parish Council have no advance warning on the annual RoSPA inspection which is a surprise visit. It was suggested that the resident commission his own safety report if his concerns were so great. **Resolution 080714/02**

5. POLICE REPORT

The police report was taken as the next item and PCSO Hannon confirmed that 2 reports of incidents at Kirklands Play Area in June and none in July and those reported were unlikely to trigger an immediate response from control. He patrolled the area daily when on duty and moved the youths on after 9pm or if he found them using foul language. He stressed that residents should report any incident as this assists the police to build up a picture of events and helps to identify the need for assistance

6 ONGOING ISSUES

- (a) The letter from Costcutter was discussed in detail and the Clerk requested to respond that a bench somewhere in the village would be very acceptable but no advertising in the bus shelters would be permitted. The Clerk to also suggest contacts – VDS group, River Foss Society, Carnival Committee, Scarecrow Festival organisers, SCYSA, Strensall Library. The Parish Council requested more details on the proposed bus service **Resolution 080714/03**
- (b) Cllrs Scott and Plant were still following up the footpath plan and are creating a handout with the information of walks in the parish.
- (c) The acquisition of some land for open space use was to be deferred as the Chairman was awaiting a site meeting with Dave Meigh of City Council to discuss – hopefully during July.
- (d) The minutes of the Playground Committee had been circulated and their recommendations discussed. The letters prepared to be signed by the Chairman were approved and signed for delivery to the three residents. It was felt that signs declaring the play areas closed by dusk would have little effect and the costs would be considerable. The situation would be monitored as it is for the time being. The quarterly inspections by Park Lane were no longer accurate as they repeated items which had been dealt with and therefore it was decided to dispense with their services and employ another firm – Clerk to research and circulate costs for approval. **Resolution 080714/04**
- (e) There had been a request from a serving army officer, resident in the village, to remove the wreaths from the War Memorial in the New Year after Remembrance Service. It was agreed that an article suitably composed, could go in the autumn newsletter with Outreach asking if any residents had strong views on this proposal (the suggested time for removal would be on 12th night) **Resolution 080714/05**
- (f) There had been problems with relatives leaving inappropriate items by graves in the Cemetery and the Clerk had taken legal advice on the layout of the Rules which would replace the old and poorly drafted ones. It was agreed that the updated version of the Rules be adopted immediately, a copy posted on the website and a further one pinned on the notice board outside the gates. As two families were still refusing

to remove inappropriate items, a final letter be sent immediately giving seven days' notice of the intention to remove items by the Parish council in the event of continued non-compliance. **Resolution 080714/06**

- (g) The Clerk reported on the amount of overtime accrued mainly due to the forthcoming Public Inquiry and this was approved for payment by cheque. **Resolution 080714/07**
- (h) The invitation to a Transforming Places together workshop on 21st July 7pm – 9pm was discussed – Cllrs Himlin and Marquis to attend – Clerk to notify CYC **Resolution 080714/08**

7. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Cllr Marquis reported on the application received, the decisions and gave an update on the proposed cleaning of the war memorial. An update on the Public Inquiry was also given and a suggestion that a meeting of SVAG be convened in the near future to compile the proofs of evidence required in advance of the next deadline in September. The recommendations of the planning committee were approved. The proposed response to the Local Plan consultation had been circulated and received unanimous approval and thanks to Cllr Marquis. **Resolution 080714/09**

8 FINANCE REPORT

- (a) Invoices for payment approved:- **Resolution 080714/10**

(i) Clerk salary	£.	SO
(ii) Talktalk	£ DD	
(iii) Talktalk mobile	5.00	DD
(iv) Staples	159.86	DD
(v) Cartmell's Gardens cemetery maintenance	192.00	
Cartmell's Gardens grass cutting	688.68	
(vi) Cllr Chapman open spaces fees	15.82	
(vii) River Foss Society membership	18.00	
(viii) Canopy Care tree surgeon	100.00	
(ix) CYC lease for 6 months	500.00	
(x) Stoneplan for fixing seat	360.00	
(xi) Mr J Chapman expenses	22.37	
(xii) Clerk's overtime	137.18	
(xii) City of York Council cemetery bin	16.77	

Receipts

Cemetery	£475.00
Fighting Fund	£3020.00
Interest	£26.68

Account Balances:

Cemetery Account	£7785.18
Treasurers Account	£20648.99
Contingency Account	£8063.17 + £15,000 (bond)*
Premium Account	£18297.08. + £10,000 (bond)

- Includes £3020 donated by members of the public to the fund to employ a consultant to represent the community at the Public Inquiry
- (b) Cllr Marquis had circulated the expenditure/budget details for three months April to June and the figures were approved. He confirmed that he and Cllr Chambers had found no fault with the RFO work when carrying out the 3 monthly check of parish business.

9. HIGHWAYS

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

10. CORRESPONDENCE

1. CPRE newsletter – noted
2. Letter from Julian Sturdy MP on Local Plan issues – noted
3. YLCA literature and White rose – discussed and noted
4. Quote for work near Golf Club – approved – the Clerk to advise contractor.

11. AGENDA ITEMS FOR AUGUST

- (i) War memorial
- (ii) Kirklands Playground

12. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 12TH August 2014 at 7.15pm in the Village Hall.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed..... 12th August 2014

Chairman

APPENDIX 1

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE Held on Monday 23rd June 2014 at 6.00pm

PRESENT

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

APOLOGIES

Were received from Cllr Tuohey

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION

(a) E-mailed complaint

The e-mail received from a resident of Knapton Close was discussed and the committee felt that this kind of personal abuse on the Clerk was totally unacceptable. The Committee recommended that a letter be sent from the Chairman of the Parish Council to this effect and also appraising the resident of the inaccuracies of her allegations

(b) Complaint regarding the football area

The letter from the residents complaining about footballs in their property was also discussed. The playground was in existence before the properties were built and part of the approval conditions for the Developer to provide. The provision of the equipment was in response to a petition containing over 70 signatures of local residents and users of the playground. The Committee felt that any damage caused should be reported to the police and there was nothing the Parish Council could do. The Committee recommended that a letter be sent to these two residents from the Chairman of the Parish Council

(c) Weeds

The Clerk advised the Committee that the spraying of the weeds in the junior playground at Northfields had been put in hand.

(d) Playground inspections

The committee were agreed that the service from Park Lane was inaccurate and below the standard we should expect. Some literature had been obtained by the Clerk from the SLCC conference and the Chairman took this to look through and advise as to an alternative. The Clerk had been advised that, for insurance purposes, it was not necessary to have quarterly inspections, only annual but the Committee were of the opinion that half yearly would be preferable. ROSPA use inspectors recommended by the RPII and the Chairman would investigate costings and local inspectors and advise the Parish Council at the next meeting for a decision to be made.

The Committee were aware that no decision on land acquisition could be made until after a meeting with City Council which was not likely to be before September.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 6.50pm

APPENDIX 2

Police Report **JUNE 2014**

Burglary 2
Sexual 3
Theft 2
Vehicle 1
Violence 4

Total 12 15 Previous Year

As you can see there were 12 crimes reported in the Ward during June compared to 15 during the previous year. The sexual offences, one theft and three of the violence refer to incidents at Stockton Hall.

One burglary occurred in Stockton on the Forest where a property was entered through an open door during the daytime and items removed. The other burglary occurred in Strensall, where an attempt has been made to enter a detached garage although nothing was taken in this case. The vehicle offence refers to a car parked in Stockton on the Forest that had a hole drilled in its fuel tank and petrol removed overnight.

Crime remains low and as you can see from the above there are no real patterns to the crimes across the ward.

Reports of Anti Social Behaviour are also low across the ward at this time. There were two calls relating to youths on the football area of Pasture Close during June although there were no offences disclosed on either of those calls. I have checked this area three times last night and tonight and there have been no problems that I have seen. There were groups of youths playing football but the park was empty by 2100hrs both nights. In those groups there were some youths over the age of 14 and I did point the sign with age restriction out to them but as they were playing football, were not causing damage and were not doing anything else untoward I left them in the area.

I am on a late shift on Tuesday 8th July so will attend Strensall Parish Council this month in person and will be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Earswick – Unfortunately I am on a day shift on the 14th so will not be able to attend your meeting but should you have any specific questions just e mail me and I can answer them like that or come and speak to you in the next week.

Jimmy

Appendix 3

Highways Report

Items Reported

There are currently 9 outstanding issues with CYC and 1 with the land owner of the alleyway by Tesco which are:

- 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 are now being undertaken (first reported 4/7/2011). As of 31/5/2014, the white lining, including reinstatement of SLOW markings had not been undertaken.
- A query regarding level differences between a utility trench and the alleyway between Tesco and Southfields Road is still awaiting action despite assurances the works would be undertaken. This appears to be getting worse and is probably associated with water pipes.
- 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.
- I have reported faded junction markings at Glebe Close/York Road and Parkgate/Brecks Lane. I have also reported the faded level crossing road markings on the Golf Club Side of Strensall Level Crossing. CYC numbers are awaited.
- Drainage issues by Northfields/The Village (by Number 71) have been reported.
- 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.
- For items 4 to 6, 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.
- Potholes have been reported on Parkgate and Barley Rise.
- 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.
- There appear to be long term issues with the CYC computer system that means reference numbers are not being obtained.

Other Issues

1. The only issue is the lack of feedback from CYC regarding issues reported which is not helped by the lack of reference numbers.

Dermot Tuohey 6th July 2014

APPENDIX 1V

City of York Council Local Plan – Further Sites Consultation June/July 2014

Please find below the responses from Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council to the above consultation.

1. General Comment.

First the Parish Council would wish to reiterate that any further development at Strensall should not be considered as part of the local plan until the infrastructure (Drainage utility supplies, highway congestion, lack of cycle route facility) and amenities (Retail, education provision, open space, sporting and other leisure) are upgraded to be able to cope with an

ever increasing population (6047 in 2011). The Parish Council is aware that an appraisal of the Open Space Report 2008, from which data is used to support the sites identified in the Local Plan, is currently taking place and that several errors have been pointed out to the Officer involved.

2. Comments below are for the sites contained in the Further Sites Consultation publication:

810 – Although this site is outside the parish boundary the peak traffic problems for vehicles from Strensall/Towthorpe, and villages beyond, when joining/crossing the A1237 at Earswick, are already of concern and traffic is often currently queued back north of QE Barracks during the morning peak. Concerns over access and sustainability are already identified and until such time that solutions can be provide to address these concerns then the site should be excluded.

750 – The Parish Council do not object to this site to be considered for renewable energy but research into the condition of the site must take place as there is a forest of Himalayan Balsam at this location. The proximity of the SSSI (Strensall Common) should be noted and any effect that such an installation would have on wildlife.

3. In the various Appendices to the Further Sites Consultation the following comments apply:

Appendix 1 – this shows how the various criteria are applied to sites brought forward and although A1.4 states that “..the minimum scoring system was applied to ensure the most sustainable sites were selected for consideration” but Strensall is a linear village and it is unlikely that the minimum criteria can be met for any site in Strensall to have access to facilities.

Appendix 2 – Site 76 is shown as failing criteria 4 and the parish council would agree that this site is in an unsustainable location. The site is currently within the York Green Belt.

As mentioned in 2 above any development of sites, despite failing criteria, (754, 755, 766, 777, 781, 782) will have a detrimental effect to the residents of Strensall/Towthorpe and villages beyond.

Appendix 3 – No employment/retail sites were identified in Strensall with Towthorpe Parish and the site previously approved as a business park is currently being developed as residential only (The Tannery).

Appendix 4 – The Parish Council agree that any extension to sites 46 and 258 must be resisted for the reasons identified in the appendix. There are also foul and surface water drainage issues connected with the identified site H30 and the effect that further development within Strensall without upgrades of facilities stated in section 1 of this response will have on the village. This comment applies to both entries in this appendix. There is history of previous applications to develop at this site which is currently in the York Green Belt.

Appendix 5 – Again there are no sites included within the Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Boundary but current land within the York Green Belt should not be developed when Brownfield Sites are available.

Appendix 6 – The term Safeguarded land can be easily misunderstood – Is it safeguarded from development or safeguarded for development. This should be made clearer in the introduction with the use of other terminology.

See comments in (2) in respect of site 810 and Appendix 5 comment in relation to land in the York Green Belt.

Site SF1 although included in the table does not appear to have been amended and the parish council's responses made in June/July 2013 still apply.

Appendix 7 – Again there is no reference to sites within the Strensall with Towthorpe Parish boundary although it is known that there is already a shortfall in provision of Open Space. In addition as mentioned in (1) above there is a review taking place currently to address the errors in the 2008 Open Space Report from which data is taken to support the Local Plan.

Appendix 8 – The comments made in (2) above in respect of site 750 apply.

Appendix 9 – Again there are no identified sites within the parish boundary.

Appendix 10 – Despite the Robert Wilkinson primary academy already at/near capacity there are no suggestions within the plan that this need requires to be addressed.

Appendix 11 – Site 260 behind Lords Moor Lane has been identified as a possible car park for Strensall Rail Halt. The subject of providing such a rail facility has been raised many times and there has been no decision to proceed at any location. The response by the Parish Council in June/July 2013 which was to consider a joint facility with Haxby on Towthorpe Road still applies. The comment in the assessment also indicates that the site is subject to the "landowner giving permission for this purpose" – this appears to indicate there is little commitment to the provision of a rail halt.

Appendix 12 – The Parish Council believes that the matrix supplied in this appendix is helpful in showing how criteria scores were applied to the various sites. This is a better arrangement than the need to search the City of York Council's web site for a similar document in the June/July 2013 consultation.

Appendix 13 – The Parish Council are concerned that the way the information is portrayed in the Table A13.3. It suggests that further sites, which have not passed the criteria process, will be considered to be taken out of green belt and classified as "Safeguarded".