

MINUTES OF YARDLEY GOBION PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 2nd August 2005

- Present** Cllrs G Crisp (Chair), L Potter, Ms L Stephenson, C Turl, C King, Mrs M Bengé, R Westlake, County Cllr Walker, Dist Cllr Wilson, Mr Weeks, Mr Lucas, Mr Tunstall, Mr N Richmond (NCC) and Mr P Watson (NCC) .
- 2714** **1. Apologies for Absence:** None.
- 2715** **2. Council Matters:**
- a) Declaration of Interest: Cllr Ms Stephenson declared an interest in Agenda item 5.4a.
- b) The Clerk advised that a Casual Vacancy had been declared following the resignation of Cllr Mrs Hill.
- 2716** **3. Previous Meeting :**
- 3.1** Minutes of Meeting held 5 7 05 were agreed/signed as a correct record.
- 3.2** **Matters arising:** None
- 2717** **4. Open Forum:** Comments attached.
- Messrs Lucas, Richmond and Watson leave.
- 2718** **5. Planning:**
- 5.1** **APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:**
- a) S/2005/0811/PO, Springfields Farm, Moorend Road, Yardley Gobion (Potterspurty parish) – Stockpersons dwelling (Outline). Cllrs commented as follows ‘We strongly object to the application for the following reasons: It is a further unacceptable intrusion into the open countryside. The application does not acknowledge that there is a footpath on, and adjacent to, the land, and it is considered that this dwelling would have an unfavourable impact on the view from this footpath’.
- b) S/2005/0863/P, 3 Malborough Way – Single storey rear extension. Cllrs had ‘no objections’ and observed as follows ‘There appears to be a discrepancy between the dimensions of the extension shown in the plans, as the length shown on the proposed south west elevation (side) plan is 4.05m and that on the floor plan is 3.30m. Councillors would like to know which is correct. If it is 4.05m then it appears that the proposed extension will extend out beyond the line of the neighbouring properties. The rear extension itself is not unacceptable, however, but Councillors would request that any concerns raised by nearby property owners be satisfactorily addressed and/or resolved’.
- c) S/2005/0893/P, 46 Hesketh Road – First floor extension. Cllrs had ‘no objections’ and observed as follows ‘this proposed extension would be detrimental to the street scene. They would also would request that any concerns raised by nearby property owners be satisfactorily addressed and/or resolved’.
- 5.2** **AMENDMENTS:** None.
- 5.3** **APPLICATIONS GRANTED:** None.
- 5.4** **APPLICATIONS REFUSED:**
- a) S/2005/0579/P & S/2005/0580/LB, Rose Cottage, 37 – 39 Moorend Road – Removal of 2 sections of boundary wall to allow in and out vehicular access. The reasons for refusal were read out.
- b) S/2005/0623/P, Springfields Farm, Moorend Road – Polytunnels for the protection of growing organic P.Y.O. vegetables with access and car parking. The reasons for refusal were read out.
- 5.5** **APPLICATIONS WITHDRAWN:** None.
- 5.6** **OTHER:**
- a) S/2005/0321/AG, Land off Moorend Road, Yardley Gobion (Springfields Farm) – General purpose agricultural building. Cllr Westlake asked if a decision had been made on this application. The Clerk was asked to contact SNC.
- b) Cllr Westlake queried whether arrangements had been made to complete the SNC – Local Development Framework – Village confines and areas of Important Open Space consultation paperwork which was due to be returned by 12th August. Cllr Crisp advised that the Planning Committee would be meeting to discuss the matter.
- 2719** **6. PROPOSED CLOSURE OF VILLAGE POST OFFICE.**
- a) Cllr Crisp had spoken to Mr Khinda concerning a letter received from Post Office Ltd. The Clerk was asked to confirm the conversation in writing prior to taking any other action. County Cllr Walker & Dist Cllr Wilson leave.
- 2720** **7. Finance:**
- 7.1** **ACCOUNTS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT:**
- a) Clerk’s salary July 05 £295.78 (001310).
- b) Clerk’s expenses July 05 £6.96 + £0.14 VAT (001311).
- c) A H Contracts – dog bin emptying service July 05 £44.00 + £7.70 VAT (001312).
- d) N J Blackwell Garden Services – mowing July 05 £604.65 + £105.81VAT (001313).
- e) Mrs A M Ratcliffe – contribution for use of telephone 15/4/05 – 17/7/05 £23.74 (001314).
- f) Powergen Retail Ltd – Street Lighting to 20/6/05 £519.96 + £90.99 VAT (001315).
- g) Mr D Saxton, caretaking duties for play areas 4 & 11 April & July 05 £27.00 (001316).
- 7.2** **PAYMENTS RECEIVED:**
- a) A & L Henson £40.00 (July 05).
- 7.3** **TRANSFERS:**
- a) Scottish Widows to NatWest - £3,300.00

- 7.4 OTHER:
- a) Grant previously agreed in the sum of £1,500.00 for refurbishment of Village Hall kitchen. Cheque No 001317 was issued.
- 2721 **8. Committee Reports:**
- 8.1 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY/MOWING:**
- a) Reports to The Street Doctor: Clerk reported that problems were still outstanding and they had been chased as follows -
- 1) 164378 being the white lines by the Village Hall which had not been repainted after the re-surfacing had been carried out last year. Referred to 'Schemes' 14th December. Chased 30th January. Chased 3rd April. Referred to 'Schemes' 4th April. Chased 5th June. To be inspected. Referred to T Gray. Closed 17th June. Please see recent letter from John Robinson re white lines.
 - 2) 159738 being the missing white lines in Hesketh Road opposite Highcroft Close. Referred to N Patel 20th December. Referred to Schemes 14th March. Chased 2nd May. Referred to Dave Howland 6th May. Chased 3rd July. Please see recent letter from John Robinson re white lines.
 - 3) 161437 being the white lines not replaced after the recent surface dressing. Investigations had been instructed on 29th September. Comments added 31st October by Clerk as no action appeared to have been taken. Referred to 'Schemes' 14th December. Chased 30th January. Chased 3rd April. Referred to 'Schemes' 4th April. Chased 5th June. To be inspected. Referred to T Gray. Closed 17th June. Please see recent letter from John Robinson re white lines.
 - 4) 191505 being the damaged pavement outside nos 3 & 5 Lime Road. Referred to T Gray 2nd June. Work instructed 7th June. Please see recent letter from John Robinson.
 - 5) 198875 being the damaged pavement outside 1 Manor Way. Work instructed 18th July. Closed 22nd July.
 - 6) 198876 being the road signs left against the hedge of 3 Hesketh Road – 'give way', 'road narrows' etc. Referred to I Smith 4th July. Cllr Westlake confirmed that the signs had been removed.
- Cllrs also noted that the squashed bollard at the Grafton Road junction with the A508 had been replaced .
- b) Cllrs discussed a length a letter from John Robinson, NCC Atkins' Information Manager, in which he had advised his reasons for not replacing the white lines around the village, and expressed his apologies that the PC had not been informed when the matter was first raised. Cllrs nevertheless felt that white lines were necessary on the blind bends around the village where cars were parked along one side, and the Clerk was asked to write to him accordingly to request the replacement of the lines.
- c) Mowing – Cllr Westlake recommended a three week interval in the mowing schedule. All in favour. Cllr Westlake to confirm accordingly with N J Blackwell. **RW**
- d) Street Lighting - He also mentioned the new white light which had been installed on a trial basis by the Pocket Park to give an improved spread of light.
- 8.2 PLAYING FIELDS/POCKET PARK/VILLAGE TREES:**
- a) Play Areas – Cllr Crisp read out Mr Saxton's report. The Clerk was asked to pass to Mr Saxton a copy of the recent ROSPA report, and also to obtain information concerning what training was appropriate for whoever was inspecting the play areas.
- b) Play Area Improvements – The new cradle seat for the vandalised swing in the Recreation Centre field play area had arrived, but in damaged packaging and with items missing. The Clerk had complained by telephone and would be following this up with a written complaint. Cllr Turl agreed to inspect the packaging and collect and store the contents for the PC. **CT**
- c) Horse Field Recommendations – Cllr Westlake agreed to have a discussion with the tenants. **RW**
- d) Overhanging Vegetation – The Clerk had received complaints regarding the amount of ragwort along the bypass verge. Cllrs advised this was a County Council issue.
- e) Request from Chestnut Road Chapel to use part of Coffee Pot field for children's activity from 2 – 4pm on either 23/24/25 August – weather permitting. Cllrs had 'no objections.' Clerk to confirm this in writing.
- 8.3 ALLOTMENTS:**
- a) Cllr Mrs Benge had visited the allotments and noted new huts had been erected on some plots. She mentioned there was still rubbish outside the brew hut, and that 2 bins by the hedge were overflowing with rubbish. There was a discussion re the numbering of the plots and the possibility of marking them out again due to complaints about the width of the paths. It was confirmed again that it had been in order to let plot 32.
- 2722 **9. Special projects:**
- 9.1 REVIEW OF BUS SERVICE –** No report.
- 2723 **10. Y G Recreation Centre and Y G Village Hall.**
- a) Report from PC representative (YGRC). Cllr Potter had attended the meeting on 1st August and gave his report to the PC.
- b) Report from PC representative (YGVH). Cllr King advised that work had commenced on the modernisation of the kitchen. He also mentioned that the VH had been broken into recently and fire extinguishers were set off.

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11. Neighbourhood Watch.

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- a) One letter had been received from the village Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinator regarding the recent paint stripper attacks on vehicles in the village during the night of 29th July, and another advising that the current Co-Ordinator intended to resign in 2006. Cllr Crisp read these to the meeting.

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12. Correspondence.

- a) BT – Proposal to re-align village payphone provision to meet consumer demand. This was discussed at length and Cllrs decided they would wish to retain the village payphone even if it became a cashless facility.
Cllr Potter leaves 10.20pm.
- b) ACRE - AGM 3rd August at Hunsbury Hill Centre, Northampton. Cllr Mrs Bengé indicated an interest in attending on behalf of the PC. **MB**
- c) NALC - AGM details & request for resolutions for AGM. Placed on circulation.
- d) Northamptonshire Police – Invitation to join Ringmaster messaging system. Placed on circulation.
- e) ACRE – Overcoming Rural Social Exclusion conference - 26th September at Hunsbury Hill Centre, Northampton. Placed on circulation.
- f) SNC – request to walk around village with Cllrs to identify suitable sites for affordable housing. Cllrs asked the Clerk to obtain a full written request in order that they could discuss this in full.
- g) NCC – questionnaire - Your priorities for Northamptonshire County Council. Cllrs Crisp and Ms Stephenson agreed to complete this on behalf of the PC. **GC**

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13. Any other business: None.

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14. Date of next meeting:

- a) 6th September 2005, 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed 10.45 pm.

Open Forum

Mr Richmond spoke at length about the unauthorised waste at Springfields Farm in Moorend Road and discussed what action that could be taken by NCC. It would be possible to serve an Enforcement Notice on the proprietor who then would have 28 days to respond. ‘Stop’ notices could also be issued if waste continued to be accepted. Anyone was entitled to report issues and concerns to the Environment Agency for action. The other sites in and around the village were not on a scale that would warrant enforcement action, but Mr Richmond confirmed he would write to the landowners in question.

District Councillor Wilson explained the proposed new boundaries for Council wards.

County Cllr Walker confirmed that he had submitted Moorend Road to Cllr Bob Seery, Cabinet member for Highways and Transport who had asked for details of roads where the maintenance situation was particularly bad or dangerous.