

MINUTES OF YARDLEY GOBION PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 7th February 2006

- Present** Cllrs R Westlake (Chair), Ms L Stephenson, C Turl, C King, A Hutchin, Dist Cllr Wilson, Mr M Browning.
- 2795** **1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs G Crisp, L Potter.
- 2796** **2. Council Matters:**
- a) Declaration of Interest: Cllr Stephenson declared an interest in Agenda item 6.4 (a), Cllr King declared an interest in Agenda item 7.2 (c).
- b) A Casual Vacancy was declared following the resignation of former Cllr Mrs M Benge. Her letter of resignation was read to the meeting and Cllrs asked the Clerk to express their thanks to her for her dedication and the hard work she has put in the past seven years.
- c) The Clerk was asked to ascertain how long prospective Cllrs must have been resident in the village to be eligible for the PC. (note - It is actually 12 months.)
- 2797** **3. Previous Meeting :**
- 3.1** Minutes of Meeting held 3 1 06 were agreed/signed as a correct record.
- 3.2 Matters arising:**
- a) Cllr Hutchin gave a report of the SNC Planning Forum on 25th January which he and Cllr Westlake had attended. Two main items were discussed – the West Northamptonshire Development Corporation and the Local Development Framework
- 2798** **4. Open Forum:** Comments attached.
- 2799** **5. Planning:**
- 5.1 APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:**
- a) S/2005/1595/P, 5 High Street – To replace the existing flat and shallow pitched roofs at rear with pitched tiled roofs. Cllrs had ‘no observations.’
- 5.2 AMENDMENTS:** None.
- 5.3 APPLICATIONS GRANTED:** None.
- 5.4 APPLICATIONS REFUSED:** None.
- 5.5 APPLICATIONS WITHDRAWN:** None.
- 5.6 OTHER:**
- a) Land at Moorend Road, Potterspurty (within Yardley Gobion Parish). The Planning Committee had responded as follows: ‘Councillors are obviously still concerned about any continuing or proposed, activities or development on the above site as previously mentioned. With specific regard to the car boot sales held in September of last year it was apparent that the public footpath crossing the land was obstructed by roped off areas for parked cars. There was also the impact of vehicles exiting onto a very narrow country lane. Councillors feel that any additional traffic on this lane should be discouraged. This is agricultural land, and Councillors do not believe that this unnecessary activity in the open countryside should be endorsed and allowed to continue’.
- b) Cllr Westlake noted reference in Potterspurty’s PC notes in February’s Old Mail to a proposed base station and 20 metre mast for third generation mobile phone network on behalf of ‘3’ at Queen’s Oak Farm, which is in YG Parish. As this was a pre-application consultation it was agreed to wait until a formal application was made, when YG should receive the relevant paperwork.
Dist Cllr Wilson leaves 8.35pm.
- 2800** **6. Finance:**
- 6.1 ACCOUNTS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT:**
- a) Clerk’s salary Jan 06 £295.78 (001361).
- b) Clerk’s expenses Jan 06 £16.39 + £1.80 VAT (001362).
- c) A H Contracts – dog bin emptying service Dec 05 £44.00 + £7.70 VAT (001363).
- d) A H Contracts – dog bin emptying service Jan 06 £55.00 + £9.62 VAT (001364).
- e) Mr D Saxton – caretaking duties for play areas Jan £18.00 (001365).
- f) Powergen - village lighting 19/9/05 – 19/12/06 £519.96 + £90.99 VAT (001366).
- g) Mrs A M Ratcliffe – contribution for use of telephone 16/10/05 – 16/1/06 £33.70 (001367).
- h) YGRC – Contribution to central heating system £500.00 (001368). (Details of the matching grant from SNC were read to the meeting).
- i) YGRC – Contribution to fireworks £100.00 (001369). (The Clerk was asked to obtain the total cost of the fireworks used from YGRC for future reference).
- 6.2 PAYMENTS RECEIVED:**
- a) A & L Henson – Horse Field rent - £40.00 (Feb).
- b) YGRC – Mowing contribution 2005 - £324.00.
- 6.3 TRANSFERS:**
- a) Scottish Widows to Nat West - £1,600.00.
- 6.4 OTHER:**
- a) Letter and update from Friends of the School re the school play area. This was discussed at length as it explained that the existing equipment, which was unsafe, was to be removed and the only equipment available to the children during the Summer Term would be the existing slide. Separate quotes had been received for new equipment and all-weather safer surfacing, and it was understood that if the surfacing was installed first it would be possible to install the equipment at a later date. Cllrs acknowledged the hard work of the Friends in their fund raising efforts to date and sympathised with the fact that soon the only equipment available would be

the existing slide. Therefore Cllr Stephenson proposed and Cllr Turl seconded that the PC offer to fund the safer surfacing element at a maximum cost of £4,297.20 + VAT for a 168.75 sq m area, provided that the work be invoiced, carried out and paid for by the end of March 2006. All Cllrs in favour. The previous offer of £1,500.00 was therefore to be rescinded.

2801

7. Committee Reports**7.1 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY/MOWING:**

- a) Reports to The Street Doctor: There were no outstanding reported problems.
- b) The Clerk was asked to report direct to NCC/Atkins the continuing problem with water ponds around the village, especially outside nos 49 – 51 Hesketh Road.
- c) Cllr Westlake asked the Clerk to thank Messrs Keeves on behalf of the PC for their continued community spirit in cutting the Coffee Pot field hedge
- d) Nothing further had been heard from Anglian Water re reference 2325632, a stopcock sunk in the pavement outside 36 Hesketh Road.
- e) Parking on grass verges was still evident in both Hesketh Road and Brownsfield Road. Cllrs agreed to wait until Cllr Potter was present to discuss this problem further. **LP**
- f) Mowing Contract 2006 – Cllr Westlake had obtained a quotation from N J Blackwell. The cost of mowing had increased by some 5% over 2005, plus increased fuel costs, but the figures were still very competitive. Cllr Westlake proposed and Cllr King seconded that the contract be renewed for a further year. All Cllrs in favour. The Clerk was asked to raise the necessary paperwork.
- g) Forthcoming Roadworks A508 Northampton Road (Stoke Bruerne) - The letter from NCC/Atkins which advised that resurfacing works necessitating road closures would take place for up to 3 week ends in February/March was read to the meeting, and that the actual dates would be advised nearer the time. Placed on circulation.
- h) NCC Budget and Rights of Way cut-backs – Cllrs regretted proposed cuts and were disappointed that the proposed ROW improvement plan would not now be delivered. The Clerk was asked to respond accordingly, and then place the paperwork on circulation for individual comments if required. **ALL**

7.2 PLAYING FIELDS/POCKET PARK/VILLAGE TREES:

- a) Mr Saxton's play area inspection report was read out. Cllr Westlake agreed to look at replacing the spar of wood lying by the School Lane field play area. **RW**
- b) Play Area Improvements – Yardley Gobion Kids Zone had now been allocated their charity number. They had had 2 meetings recently and were actively looking at ways to raise funds.
- c) Cllr Westlake mentioned the emergence of moles on both the School Lane and the Coffee Pot field and the Clerk was asked to obtain quotes for dealing with them. Cllr Westlake would provide details of one contractor. **RW**
- d) Request from St Leonard's Church re use of Coffee Pot field 1 & 2 July 2006. All in favour that request be granted. The Clerk was asked to raise the necessary paperwork.

7.3 ALLOTMENTS:

- a) Report from PC Representative. No report. Cllr Westlake agreed to take on the role until the next annual meeting.
- b) Cllrs discussed the proposed new Allotment Rules, and agreed an increase in the rent of £1 per plot this year and again next year to reflect the substantial cost of removing rubbish when an allotment is vacated, and also the increasing cost of the water supply, which has risen from £103.75 in 2003 to £153.20 in 2005. New tenants would also be asked to pay a £10.00 deposit at the commencement of their tenancy. It was also agreed that an independent check of the plots in April, July and October would be made.

2802

8. Y G Recreation Centre and Y G Village Hall.

- a) Report from PC representative (YGRC). The Minutes of the meeting on 9th January had been passed to the Clerk. Placed on circulation.
- b) Report from PC representative (YGVH). Nothing to report.

2803

9. Special Projects.**9.1 VILLAGE DIRECTORY 2006 – No report.**

- 9.2** Potterspurty Against Litter – the letter from PALS was read out and the Clerk was asked to respond thanking them for their public spirited efforts on behalf of YG and to advise when the next clean-up would be. Cllrs acknowledged the assistance of Mrs Rogers and Mr and Mrs Sharp in keeping the village tidy and relatively free from litter.

- 9.3** ygpc.org.uk – Cllr Hutchin provided a hard copy of the new website he had created. Cllrs acknowledged that he had spent a great deal of his own personal time on the project and proposed their thanks to him. It was very encouraging to see it up and running and suggestions were discussed as to the way forwards.

Mr Browning leaves 10.55pm.

2804

10. Neighbourhood Watch.

- a) No report.

2805

11. Correspondence.

- a) Daventry & South Northants NHS – proposed closure of Yardley Gobion Village Surgery. The letter from Dr Hooker was read out and the Clerk was asked to respond by thanking him for his past service to his patients, and confirming that the PC understood the reasons behind the proposal. The PC noted that the new hourly bus service via Paulerspury and Towcester would certainly make these two other surgeries more accessible to patients and as long as the scope of

the delivery service for repeat medication was extended to all those in need of it in Yardley Gobion, and that those unable to attend a surgery for medical care would receive a home visit when required then the Council felt that patients should not be unduly inconvenienced as a result of the regrettable, but fully understandable, closure of this facility.

- b) Northamptonshire ACRE – Monitoring and Gold Practice Quality Standard Review 2005. the Clerk agreed to respond as she had spoken with ACRE re fund raising.
 - c) Patient & Public Involvement Forum – Two Shires Ambulance Trust (Due by 24th February.) Placed on circulation.
 - d) Daventry & South Northants NHS – Consultation on new Strategic Health Authority, Primary Care Trust and Ambulance Trust – meeting 28th February at 7pm at Towcester Health Centre. Paperwork placed on circulation.
 - e) West Northants Development Corp – forum 20th February at 6.30pm at Towcester Town Hall. Placed on circulation.
- 2806 12. **Any other business:** None.
- 2807 13. **Date of next meeting:**
- a) 7th March 2006, 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed 11.17pm.

Open Forum

Dist Cllr Wilson confirmed that WNDC would have virtually the same powers as MKDC did for MK.

He advised that he had attended a planning meeting where the Castle Close, Moorend, application was discussed and refused.

He also mentioned the new £1 per journey concessionary bus fare for over 60's/disabled, which would commence in April.

Mr Browning advised he was attending the meeting as an observer.