

## MINUTES OF YARDLEY GOBION PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2007

- Present** Cllrs G Crisp (Chair), R Westlake, T Adey, L Stephenson, C Turl & A Hutchin, Dist Cllr McCord, residents S Tapp, J Pestell and C Timoney.
- 3049** 1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr C King.
- 3050** 2. **Council Matters:**
- a) Declaration of Interest: None.
- 3051** 3. **Previous Meeting:**
- 3.1** Minutes of Meeting held 4.09.07 were agreed/signed as a correct record.
- 3.2** **Matters arising:**
- a) Minute Number 3046 10 b) – Cllr Crisp had attended the recent NALC – Do You Act Legally? Course and gave a report to the PC.
- b) Minute Number 3046 10 g) – Cllr Stephenson had attended the recent Northamptonshire Police Community Panel meeting and gave a report to the PC.
- 3052** 4. **Open Forum:** Comments attached.
- 8.25pm - Cllr Hutchin enters. 8.30pm - Cllr Westlake enters. 8.35pm – Ms Timoney, Ms Pestell & Dist Cllr McCord leave.
- 3053** 5. **Planning:**
- 5.1** Applications received:
- a) S/2007/1129/P, The Coffee Pot Tavern, 30 High Street. Detached timber smoking shelter. Cllrs observed as follows ‘We note the extra noise that will be apparent if this application is approved, and would request that the interests and comments of any affected residents are taken into account.’
- b) S/2007/1161/P, land to the rear of Mount Pleasant Farm. Part demolition of existing animal shelter, erection of stables and all weather riding arena. Cllrs had no objections to this application provided it was for the use of the applicant only.
- c) S/2007/1169/LB, 8 Chestnut Road. Reinstatement of first floor window to outbuilding. Cllrs had ‘no observations.’
- d) S/2007/1177/P, 14 Highcroft Close. Two storey rear extension Cllrs had ‘no observations.’
- 5.2** Amendments: None.
- 5.3** Applications granted: None.
- 5.4** Applications refused: None.
- 5.5** Applications withdrawn: None.
- 3054** 6. **Finance:**
- 6.1** ACCOUNTS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT:
- a) Clerk’s salary Sep 07 £315.67 (001538).
- b) Clerk’s expenses Sep 07 £43.35 + £6.88 VAT (001539).
- c) A H Contracts – dog bin emptying service Sep 07 £50.20 + £8.79 VAT (001540).
- d) N J Blackwell Garden Services – mowing Sep 07 £656.39 + £114.86 VAT (001541).
- e) Enterprise Inns – Coffee pot field rent (£10.00 + £1.75 VAT). PAID BY STANDING ORDER.
- f) ABB – Public lighting maintenance charges quarter ended 30/9/07 £212.22 + £37.14 VAT (001542).
- g) SNC – Electoral Services 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2007 £137.29 (001543).
- h) NALC – Cllr Crisp to Code of Conduct course 19/9/07 £26.00 (001544).
- i) BDO Stoy Hayward LLP – Audit of Annual Return £285.00 + £49.88 VAT (001545).
- 6.2** PAYMENTS RECEIVED:
- a) A & L Henson – horse field rent - £30.00.
- 6.3** TRANSFERS:
- a) Scottish Widows to Nat West - £1,800.00.
- 6.4** OTHER:
- a) Auditor’s Report for Annual Return year ending March 2007 – Their opinion was that the information contained was in accordance with the Audit Commission’s requirements and no matters came to their attention giving cause for concern. However, they drew the matter of the amount of the Fidelity Guarantee cover to the attention of the PC. Cllr Crisp read out the comments to the PC. Cllrs discussed this issue and Cllr Westlake proposed and Cllr Stephenson seconded the proposal that as the Council’s funds are deposited in recognisable financial institutions, the transfer of funds is safeguarded, and two Cllrs plus the Clerk authorise cheque payments then they are happy with the current arrangements. All Cllrs in favour. Cllr Westlake proposed thanks to the Clerk.
- b) Review of Donations for 2006/07
- All Cllrs discussed and resolved that the Council in accordance with its powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure –
- The Old Mail - £400.00 (RW & CT), British Legion - £100.00 (LS & RW), Victim Support - £75.00 (LS & TA), MacMillan Cancer Relief - £200.00 (LS & CT), Warks & N’hants Air Ambulance - £250.00 (CT & TA).
- c) The possibility of funding a PCSO was discussed and it was agreed that the cost be investigated.
- d) The new caretaker role for the Pocket Park and the 2 play areas was discussed – a quotation had been received from A H Contracts for bin emptying only of £2.51 + VAT per bin. It was there

fore proposed by Cllr Turl and seconded by Cllr Stephenson that as 5 bins were emptied per week, the 3 areas were litterpicked weekly and the play equipment inspected weekly that £50.00 be paid per month for this work to be carried out. All in favour. Mr James Macdonald of 33 Moorend Road had commenced his duties in September.

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**7. Committee Reports**

**7.1 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY/MOWING**

- a) Cllr Westlake reported that the fortnightly mowing schedule was working well.
- b) Overhanging Vegetation - A reminder was to be sent to a property in Malborough Way and a further reminder to be sent to a property in Hesketh Road.

**7.2 PLAYING FIELDS/POCKET PARK/VILLAGE TREES:**

- a) The play area inspection report was read out by Cllr Crisp. In the Recreation Centre field it was noted that part of the top rail of the fence on the field side of the play area was missing. However, N J Blackwell is scheduled to repair the fence in the near future. Also the log walk poles were not vertical and the bark required replacing around the climbing frame. It was agreed to ask N J Blackwell to quote for weeding the area and replenishing the bark once the mowing season had finished.
- b) Quotations for work on grass on School Lane field – the Clerk had asked 4 contractors to quote for this work – only two had provided figures, Green Thumb - £1,575 + VAT and Weedwise - £485 + VAT. It was agreed to accept Weedwise’s quote, subject to further information which had been requested by Cllr Crisp, being received.
- c) Trees in School Lane field. The Clerk was asked to respond as follows - This matter was first discussed by the Council in May of this year, and had been discussed at every meeting since then; the minutes and agendas of which had been published on the notice board near the Post Office. The Council was reacting to an issue raised by residents and would have welcomed the opportunity to discuss other options in order to resolve the problem. However, no other views or comments were received from interested parties so advice was taken from specialist arboriculture companies and a decision was made based on this advice.
- d) Trees in Coffee Pot field. The Clerk was asked to respond as follows - householders are entitled to cut back any tree branches which overhang their property. As the Parish Council leases this field from the owners of the Coffee Pot public house, paperwork needs to be checked and the land owners contacted prior to any other work being considered. All affected residents in Eastfield Crescent would need to have their views taken into account before any other work could be considered. Councillors plan to visit the area in question and study the lease.
- e) Scout Centenary trees. The Clerk was asked to respond as follows - Councillors are very interested in the suggestions of where to plant the trees, and it was suggested that representatives of the Cub Scouts be invited to a future Council meeting, to discuss the matter further.

**7.3 ALLOTMENTS:**

- a) The independent inspection of the allotments had been carried out prior to the next PC meeting and 3 allotments were noted that required letters reminding ploholders to comply with the Allotment Rules regarding cultivation of their plots.

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**8. Y G RECREATION CENTRE (CT) and Y G VILLAGE HALL (CK)**

- a) YGRC – the AGM is on 26<sup>th</sup> October.

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**9. Special Projects.**

- a) Neighbourhood Watch (LS) Cllr Stephenson advised that Mr Bill Dredge the co-ordinator of Roade’s Neighbourhood Watch was aware that there is no Neighbourhood Watch in YG and had offered to come and address the PC, and to help get NW up and running again. In view of the comments made during Open Forum it was decided to invite him to the meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> November.

LS

- b) Village bus shelters. – shelved until a future meeting.

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**10. Correspondence.**

- a) WNDC - Planning Principles 2007 – closing date for comments 5<sup>th</sup> October. Cllr Crisp to deal.
- b) NALC – 2007 Parish Survey – closing date 5<sup>th</sup> October. . Cllr Crisp was dealing.
- c) NCC/Atkins – Northamptonshire Engineering Contract Annual Parish Questionnaire 2006/2007. Cllr Westlake agreed to complete this on behalf of the PC.
- d) SNC – Assistance required with update of Street and Property gazetteer. Cllr Westlake agreed to assist with this on behalf of the PC.
- e) SNC – Climate Friendly Communities Northamptonshire 16<sup>th</sup> October 10.00 – 12.00 at East Midlands EXPO. Cllr Crisp expressed an interest in attending.

GC

GC

RW

RW

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**11. Date of next meeting:**

- a) 6<sup>th</sup> November 2007, approx 9pm, after the meeting with the Police and Neighbourhood Watch in the Village Hall.  
Meeting closed 11.00pm.

**Open Forum**

Ms Pestell and Ms Timoney commented that there had been continued anti social behaviour in the village – beer bottle thrown in gardens, cars scratched and eggs thrown, but the police had not responded. Cllr Crisp emphasised that each incident shown be reported and an incident number obtained. Dist Cllr McCord had been contacted and had attempted to contact the police himself. He advised that SNC’s anti social behaviour co-ordinator was Peter Kay. Dist Cllr McCord also mentioned SNC’s Housing Policy and the proposed Post Office closures.