

# MINUTES OF YARDLEY GOBION PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 8<sup>th</sup> January 2008

- Present** Cllrs G Crisp (Chair), R Westlake, C King, A Hutchin, L Stephenson, C Turl, S Tapp, District Cllr McCord and resident Mrs M Bengé.
- 3078** 1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr T Adey.
- 3079** 2. **Council Matters:**
- a) Declaration of Interest: Cllr Westlake declared an interest in agenda item 6.1 e.
- 3080** 3. **Previous Meeting:**
- a) Minutes of Meeting held 4.12.07 were agreed/signed as a correct record.
- b) Matters Arising: None.  
Mrs Bengé enters 8.07pm.  
Cllr Hutchin enters 8.10pm.
- 3081** 4. **Open Forum:** Comments attached..  
Mrs Bengé leaves 8.20pm.
- 3082** 5. **Planning:**
- 5.1 Applications received:  
Councillor Westlake outlined the history of the following site for the benefit of District Cllr McCord.
- a) S/2007/1548/P, land to the rear of Mount Pleasant Farm, Yardley Gobion. Stable block and all weather arena. Councillors did not have enough information from SNC to enable them to make an observation on this application. Dist Cllr McCord agreed to discuss the matter with SNC Planning Dept.
- b) S/2007/1628/P, 6 acre paddock, Mount Pleasant Farm, Yardley Gobion. Hay barn, corner stable and tack barn. The Clerk had not received any paperwork from SNC relating to this application. Again Dist Cllr McCord agreed to discuss the matter with SNC Planning Dept.
- 5.2 Amendments: None.
- 5.3 Applications granted: None.
- 5.4 Applications refused: None.
- 5.5 Applications withdrawn: None.
- 5.6 Other:
- a) It had been noted that the wall of 89 Hesketh Road adjoining School Lane had been removed and replaced with a wooden fence. The Clerk was asked to ascertain if planning permission was required.
- 3083** 6. **Finance:**
- 6.1 ACCOUNTS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT:
- a) Clerk's salary Dec 07 £315.67 (001566).
- b) Clerk's expenses Dec 07 £15.47 + £1.49 VAT (001567).
- c) A H Contracts – dog bin emptying service Dec 07 £50.20 + £8.79 VAT (001568).
- d) N J Blackwell Garden Services – removing fence round play area in Coffee Pot field & associated costs (£140.00) materials & labour to install dog bin (£30.00) + £29.75 VAT (001569).
- e) Mr R Westlake – purchase of shredder for PC £51.05 + £8.94 VAT (001570).
- f) ABB – public lighting maintenance to 30/11/07 (£212.22 + £37.14 VAT(001571)).
- g) Society of Local Council Clerks membership subscription 2008 - £80.00 (001572)
- h) Mr Macdonald – caretaking of play areas and pocket park – Dec 2007 – £50.00 (001573).
- i) e.on – village lighting 1/10/07 – 31/12/07 £520.85 + £91.15 VAT (001574).
- j) Enterprise Inns – Coffee Pot field rent £10.00 + £1.75 VAT. Paid by Standing Order.
- 6.2 PAYMENTS RECEIVED:
- a) A & L Henson – horse field rent - £30.00.
- 6.3 TRANSFERS:
- a) Scottish Widows to Nat West - £1,600.00.
- 6.4 OTHER:
- a) Precept 2008/2009 - Cllr King presented the F & GP Committee's recommendation for the precept – there were increases in electricity costs, the Clerk's salary, and the cost of emptying dog bins. 4 street lamps required replacing @ £676.00 + VAT each; additionally ABB had recommended the replacement of 15 street lamp visors @ £31.15 + VAT each. After discussions Cllr Turl proposed and Cllr Stephenson seconded that the lamps be replaced with the new 'white lights' at a cost of approx £200.00 + VAT each instead of replacing the visors – half of the funds to come from the precept, and the rest from the PC's reserves. These new lamps would mean less 'dark areas' in the village, and also be more economical than the current lamps. All Cllrs were in favour. Cllr King then proposed that the precept for 2008/2009 be set at £22,800.00, an increase of just over 9%, in order to fund the aforementioned items. Seconded by Cllr Turl. All in favour.
- b) Request from Y G Recreation Centre for contribution of £200.00 to recent firework display. Details of the additional insurance that was required for the event, and also copies of the invoices relating to the purchase of the fireworks had been supplied and Cllr King proposed and Cllr Westlake seconded that a contribution of £200.00 be made to YGRC with the following proviso that if they were considering providing a firework event in 2008, other possible sources of income were investigated, as this amount would not necessarily be available again.
- c) Scottish Widows account signatories – the Clerk reported that due to new money laundering regulations it was necessary for her to become a signatory to the account to enable her to

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operate it and transfer funds by telephone to the PC's current account as she had done previously. Cllr Turl proposed and Cllr Hutchin seconded that Mr Ian Stonex be removed from, and the Clerk and Cllr Stephenson be added to, the signatories for the account. All in favour.

**7. Committee Reports**

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

- a) NCC - Urban Highway Grass Mowing 2008 – 136 agreement. Cllr Westlake had checked the requirements and confirmed they had not changed. He proposed and Cllr Stephenson seconded that Cllr Crisp should sign the paperwork on behalf of the PC to agree the terms and conditions with NCC. All in favour.
- b) Village Mowing contract 2008 – Cllr Westlake confirmed that the PC were comfortable with the current contractor's performance over the past year and asked the Clerk to obtain a revised quotation from him for 2008.
- c) Street lighting – PL 69, Hesketh Road. Quotation to replace light £676.00 + VAT. This was not deemed dangerous, but did require replacing, and moving away from the residents drive, if possible. Cllr Westlake proposed and Cllr Turl seconded that the light be replaced in the new financial year. All in favour.
- d) Powergen – notification of new costs for electricity @ 8.24p/kWh equivalent to an annual cost of £2,714.66. Cllrs wondered if it would be possible to change electricity suppliers - the Clerk was asked to obtain quotations.
- e) Report on new street lights in Lime Road – Cllr Westlake advised that one 'orange' lamp had been installed in error by ABB and would be exchanged by them for a 'white' light at no charge.

**7.2 PLAYING-FIELD/POCKET PARK/VILLAGE TREES**

- a) Monthly play-area inspection report. Mr Macdonald's play area inspection report was read out by Cllr Crisp, which noted some rubbish, dog mess and a piece of kerb stone inside the School Lane field play area. Cllr Turl agreed to remove the piece of kerb stone. CT
- b) Pocket Park inspection report. Read out by Cllr Crisp. w/e 1<sup>st</sup> December there had been a BBQ used – there was considerable smashed glass and some food wrappers. Again w/e 29<sup>th</sup> December there was more broken glass and evidence of a fire.
- c) Moles were still a problem in both the village playing fields. The Clerk had spoken to Keepers Pest Control who advised he had visited the sites and carried out preliminary work before Christmas, and would be visiting again in the near future to treat the fields.
- d) Cllr King suggested a quotation be obtained for laying the hedge in the Pocket Park, and Cllrs King and Turl agreed to discuss a maintenance contract for the Park with N J Blackwell, together with arrangements to tidy up the ditch along the alleyway from Warren Road to Druce End. CT  
CK
- e) Provision of tree sleeves for trees recently planted by YG Cubs. The current protection around the new trees is sufficient to stop damage by animals, but in order to stop damage by footballs etc stronger sleeves are required. Cllr Crisp had investigated suppliers and agreed to try and obtain a sample sleeve. GC
- f) The Clerk was asked what action she had taken regarding a letter from a resident in Eastfield Crescent concerning some trees in the Coffee Pot field. She had responded to the letter and would put a copy in the circulation for Cllrs to read.

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**8. Y G RECREATION CENTRE & Y G VILLAGE HALL (CT & CK) Report from PC representatives.**

- a) YGVH - Nothing to report
- b) YGRC – see previous item re firework contribution request. The next Committee meeting is on 14<sup>th</sup> January.

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**9. CORRESPONDENCE - Literature for circulation – action required.**

- a) West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit – Workshop 24<sup>th</sup> January at Daventry District Council Offices. 2 places booked - Cllrs Adey and Westlake indicated an interest in attending. RW  
TA
- b) NCC – Draft Budget 2008-9 Consultation – closes 13<sup>th</sup> February 2008. Placed on circulation
- c) Northamptonshire Police Authority – budget consultation. Closes 11<sup>th</sup> January 2008. Cllrs to make their own individual responses if they wish.

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**10. Date of next meeting:**

- a) **5<sup>th</sup> February 2008 8pm in the Village Hall.**

Meeting closed 10.15pm.

**Open Forum**

District Cllr McCord reported that Mr & Mrs Gorst of Springfield Farm had been successfully prosecuted for the car display used to advertise the car boot sales. The transfer of council housing was scheduled for 17<sup>th</sup> March 2008. SNC's Council Tax rise would be 4.9%, the minimum amount which would mean no cuts in services. Cllr Crisp asked if SNC would be considering the same approach as NCC in future with regard to budget setting (see correspondence above) – District Cllr McCord was not sure, but would look into it. Mrs Benge asked if the PC had considered providing a bus shelter near the Post Office. Cllrs Crisp and Westlake advised that no bus users had contacted the PC regarding provision of a shelter; furthermore it would require planning permission and cost in the region of £12,000, which had not been budgeted for in the coming year.