

## MINUTES OF YARDLEY GOBION PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 7<sup>th</sup> October 2008

- Present** Cllrs R Westlake (Chair), C Turl, T Adey, A Hutchin, L Stephenson & District Cllr McCord.
- 3175** 1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs G Crisp, C King, B Tite, Mrs S Tapp & County Cllr Walker.
- 3176** 2. **Council Matters:**
- a) Declaration of Interest: Cllr Stephenson declared an interest in Agenda items 5.1a) and b). Cllr Adey declared an interest in Agenda item 6.1 g).
- 3177** 3. **Previous Meeting:**
- 3.1** The Minutes of Meeting held 2.9.08 were agreed/signed as a correct record.
- 3.2** Matters Arising:
- a) Risk Assessment course report. Cllr Westlake attended this course and reported that it was extremely good and raised a large number of points, the main one being that the PC must have a risk assessment in place. His notes from the course were to be placed on circulation and the subject visited at future meeting.
- b) Cllr Hutchin had attended a Police Community panel meeting and advised that the question cards previously distributed around the village were an on-going exercise. He asked whether a facility on the website for residents to complete these as and when required was suitable – Cllr Westlake suggested Neighbourhood Watch might be a better point of contact for residents.
- 3178** 4. **Open Forum:** Comments attached.
- 3179** 5. **Planning:**
- 5.1** Applications received:
- a) S/2008/1222/P, 28-39 Moorend Road. Demolition of existing cottage and construction of new two storey house. Cllrs observed as follows ‘We have concerns regarding the on site vehicle parking and turning provision. The designated provision for parking is not practical and on site turning must be provided. Perhaps negotiations could be carried out with the Highway authority to make better use of the wide pavement to create an off street parking lay-by? We also request that any concerns raised by neighbours be addressed – especially concerning the building process i.e. delivery of materials, hours of working etc. as the only access is onto Moorend Road itself, a busy, narrow, village thoroughfare.’
- b) S/2008/1223/CA, 28-39 Moorend Road. Demolition of existing cottage. As above.
- c) S/2008/1209/P, 19 Warren Road. Single storey front and rear extensions. Cllrs had ‘no observations.’
- 5.2** Amendments: None.
- 5.3** Applications granted:
- a) S/2008/0992/P, 18 High Street. Replacement of existing conservatory with single storey rear extension. 3 conditions. Cllr Westlake read these out to the meeting
- b) S/2008/1069/AG, Springfields Farm, Moorend Road. General purpose steel framed building.. 6 additional notes. Cllr Westlake read these out to the meeting.
- 5.4** Applications refused: None.
- 5.5** Applications withdrawn: None.
- 5.6** Outstanding applications/Other planning.
- a) S/2008/1276/P, Land at Springfields Farm (Potterspurty Parish). New agricultural workers dwelling. Cllrs observed as follows ‘We acknowledge that a need has been established over the past 14 years for an agricultural workers dwelling on site, but consider that the scale of the house proposed is not commensurate with that usually provided. If the application is approved we would like a condition placed that the dwelling could only be used for agricultural workers and not sold as an unrestricted general dwelling on a commercial basis. However, they consider that most activities on the site are now commercial – i.e. the car boot sales, the PYO scheme, forestry and retail site sales and ask whether the agricultural side of the business will be phased out.’
- b) Local development framework/village confines – after discussion the Clerk was asked to respond that the PC ‘acknowledges the need for change, but is not sure which policy option they prefer as they are not sure where new confines would be and how tightly new lines would be drawn in the Village Confines Policy, and are not au fait with the criteria for the Criteria Based Policy.’
- c) An Ownership and Agricultural Holdings Notice (P8) had been served on the PC by Yardley Gobion Recreation Centre Sports & Social Club to advise that they proposed to erect a smoking shelter on the PC’s land.
- 3180** 6. **Finance:**
- 6.1** ACCOUNTS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT:
- a) Clerk’s salary Sept 08 £343.94 (001644).
- b) Clerk’s expenses Sept 08 £25.30 + £3.68 VAT (001645).
- c) A H Contracts – dog bin emptying service Sept 08 £76.80 + £13.44 VAT (001646).
- d) N J Blackwell Garden Services – contract mowing Sept 08 £691.93 + £121.09 VAT (001647).
- e) Mr Macdonald – caretaking of play areas and pocket park – Sept 2008 – £50.00 (001648).
- f) e.on – public lighting maintenance charges to 30/9/08 £224.73 + £39.33 VAT (001649).
- g) Ms C Adey – Attendance at ‘Ways to tackle climate change’ at the Guildhall, Northampton 10<sup>th</sup> September – 20 miles @ 52p per mile + £1.00 parking £11.40 (001650).
- h) Enterprise Inns – Coffee Pot field rent to 31/12/08 (£10.00 + £1.75 VAT) – PAID BY

STANDING ORDER.

6.2 PAYMENTS RECEIVED:

- a) A & L Henson – Horse Field rent - £30.00.
  - b) HM Revenue & Customs VAT refund - £5,843.34.
  - c) SNC – second half precept - £11,400.00.
  - d) Allotment rents/deposits – £34.00.
- 6.3 TRANSFERS: Nat West to Scottish Widows - £15,000.00. (Cheque no 001651).
- 6.4 OTHER:

- a) Review of donations – 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 –  
British Legion - £100.00 (LS & TA), Willen Hospice - £100.00 (LS & TA), MacMillan Cancer Relief - £200.00 (LS & TA), Warks & N’hants Air Ambulance - £250.00 (LS & TA).  
With regard to a request from The Old Mail the Clerk was asked to ascertain the level of support given by Cosgrove and Potterspurty PC’s.  
Request from Y G Recreation Centre for contribution of £200.00 to proposed firework display. The Clerk was asked to check the PC’s insurance with regard to bonfires and inform the Recreation Centre accordingly. Cllr Stephenson proposed and Cllr Adey seconded that a contribution of £200.00 be made to YGRC by the PC in accordance with its powers under Section 19 of the Local Government Act 1976 (Miscellaneous Provisions). All in favour.

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7. **Committee Reports**

7.1 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY/MOWING

- a) Response from land agents to PC’s letter regarding flooding in Eastfield Crescent/Hesketh Road. Cllr Westlake read out the letter from Smiths Gore to the meeting which indicated that they would discuss the matter with the farm tenant and come back to the PC in the next few weeks.

7.2 PLAYING-FIELD/POCKET PARK/VILLAGE TREES

- a) Cllr Turl passed copies of the Pocket Parks Scheme Annual Report 2007/08 and The Pocketeer newsletter to the Clerk for them to be placed on circulation.
- b) Trees in the Coffee Pot field – Cllrs Turl and Westlake had reviewed the responses to the recent survey and Cllr Turl advised that all favoured either no action or the carrying out of minor tree work – removing hanging branches and any dangerous trees. Therefore Cllrs decided to carry out minor tree work and attend to the willow tree. Salcey Arborcare had quoted £460.00 + VAT to dismantle the willow tree and coppice the stump close to ground level and Tree Profiles had quoted £395.00 + VAT to pollard the tree at 2 metres. Cllr Westlake proposed and Cllr Stephenson seconded that the quote from Salcey Arborcare be accepted as the tree required removing, not pollarding and they also included the trimming back of overhanging vegetation along the other properties in Eastfield Crescent.
- c) Additionally Cllrs discussed the quotations for removal of the dead May trees at the entrance to the village and the work required to the trees on the two village greens. Salcey Arborcare’s quotation was £350.00 + VAT and Tree Profiles’ £525.00 + VAT. Cllr Westlake proposed and Cllr Stephenson seconded that the quote from Salcey Arborcare be accepted with the proviso that permission be sought from SNC for work on the two village greens as they are in the Conservation Area, and that NCC as the Highway Authority be contacted.
- d) Play Area improvements – quotations for fencing and path. Three quotations for replacing the path across the field to the Recreation Centre had been received, but did not appear to be like for like and were being investigated. Two written quotations for the fencing had been received and it was understood that Cllr Crisp had others and was still carrying out his research. It was agreed that there was insufficient information to enable a decision to be made at the meeting and Cllr Turl suggested that the Play Area Improvement sub-committee meet to discuss the matter further.
- e) Monthly play-area inspection report. Mr Macdonald’s report was read out to the meeting by Cllr Westlake, which indicated the new roundabout was making a grinding noise and there was dog fouling in the School Lane playing field. Cllr Westlake agreed to check the roundabout. There were no problems apparent in the Coffee Pot playing field.
- f) Pocket Park - Mr Macdonald’s inspection report was read out to the meeting by Cllr Westlake which indicated some broken glass but no other problems.

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7.3 ALLOTMENTS

- a) Cllr Westlake advised that no allotments were causing problems, however, it was agreed that an inspection should be arranged shortly.
- b) Allotment hedge – it had been agreed at the Allotment Holder’s meeting in April that this would be dealt with in the autumn, and two quotations had been received, both in the region of £1,000.00 + VAT. Cllr Westlake intended to obtain a further quotation if possible.
- c) Allotment rent review – In view of the cost of dealing with the hedge it was agreed that the rent be raised and Cllr Hutchin proposed a figure of £10.00 per plot. Cllr Adey seconded the proposal and all Cllrs were in favour.

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8. Y G VILLAGE HALL & Y G RECREATION CENTRE

- a) Y G VILLAGE HALL (CK) No report.
- b) Y G RECREATION CENTRE (CT) Report from PC representative – The AGM was

scheduled for 24<sup>th</sup> October. However, the Committee hoped to hold a village bonfire on 1<sup>st</sup> November – see Minute No 3180 6.4 a) above. They had also applied for planning permission for the Smoking Shelter – see Minute No 3179 5.6 c) above.

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9. COMMUNITY ITEMS

- a) Yardley Gobion Parochial Church Council - Condition report on village War Memorial. A 5 year inspection report had been carried out which indicated that the bed joint to the top section was broken and the top 'rocked' when pushed. Additionally the brass plate recording the names of the Canadian airmen required refixing. Cllr Westlake had one quotation and was actively working on obtaining another.
- b) Housing needs survey – It was agreed that the Clerk contact Ms Hope, SNC Strategic Housing Officer, to arrange a convenient date for a further meeting.
- c) Freedom of Information Act changes – the F & GP Committee agreed to meet to look at the implications of this.
- d) Neighbourhood Watch – a letter had been received from Mr Collier, village co-ordinator, asking for an annual grant of £150.00 towards stationery, set up and ongoing costs. Cllrs agreed to support the Neighbourhood Watch scheme and would favourably consider all requests for contributions for expenses as and when received, but were not prepared to provide an annual amount of money.

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10. CORRESPONDENCE - Literature for circulation – action required.

- a) SNC – Standards Committee – Appointment of additional Town/Parish Council Representative. Placed on circulation.
- b) NCC-Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework – publication of the Core Strategy for the MWDF – closing 20<sup>th</sup> November. Placed on circulation.
- c) NCC-Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework – Control & Management of Development – closing 20<sup>th</sup> November. Placed on circulation.
- d) Communities and Local Government – the making and enforcement of byelaws – closing 20<sup>th</sup> November. Placed on circulation.
- e) Greens Norton Medical Services – request to support their application for a pharmacy at the medical centre. District Cllr McCord agreed to deal with this as Cllrs felt Greens Norton was too far from this Parish for them to get involved.

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11. **Date of next meeting:**

- a) **4<sup>th</sup> November 2008 8pm in the Village Hall**

Meeting closed 11.32pm.

**Open Forum**

District Cllr McCord advised that there should be an improvement in SNC's Planning Department as a new Director of Service Delivery, Steven Shuttleworth, had been appointed with Andy Preston as the new Head of Environment and Implementation (covering all Planning issues) reporting to him. He touched on the new planning regulations which came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> October regarding 'permitted development'. There were also changes in the rules concerning TPO trees. He also mentioned the request for the PC's view on Local Development framework/village confines. (See Minute No 3179 5.6 b) above). He had attended a 'priority setting workshop' with all SNC Councillors at Towcester Racecourse on 4<sup>th</sup> October.