

MINUTES OF YARDLEY GOBION PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 3rd March 2009

- Present** Cllrs G Crisp (Chair), R Westlake, A Hutchin, L Stephenson, C Turl, S Tapp, B Tite, C King & District Cllr McCord. Resident Mr D Jones.
- 3230** 1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr T Adey, County Cllr Walker.
- 3231** 2. **Council Matters:**
- a) Declaration of Interest: None.
- 3232** 3. **Previous Meeting:**
- 3.1 The Minutes of Meeting held 3.2.09 were agreed/signed as a correct record. Cllr Hutchin noted that he was unable to update the website by way of floppy disks – Cllr Crisp volunteered to provide a flash drive for the Clerk to use. **GC**
- 3.2 **Matters Arising:** None.
- 3233** 4. **Open Forum:** Comments attached.
- 3234** 5. **Planning:**
- 5.1 Applications received: None.
- 5.2 Applications granted:
- a) S/2008/1551/P, 28-30 Moorend Road. Demolition of existing cottage and construction of new two storey house. 15 conditions. Placed on circulation.
- b) S/2008/1552/CA. 28-30 Moorend Road. Demolition of existing cottage and construction of new two storey house. 3 conditions.
- 5.3 Applications refused: None.
- 5.4 Applications withdrawn: None.
- 5.5 Outstanding applications/Other planning. None.
- 3235** 6. **Finance:**
- 6.1 **ACCOUNTS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT:**
- a) The Old Mail – Replacement Cheque £400.00 (001684). A ‘stop’ had been placed on the previous cheque.
- b) YGRC – fireworks display £200.00 (001685).
- c) Clerk’s salary Feb 09 £352.38 (000001).
- d) A H Contracts – dog bin emptying service Feb 09 £61.44 + £9.22 VAT = £70.66 (000006).
- e) Mr Macdonald – caretaking of play areas and pocket park – Feb 2009 – £50.00 (000003).
- f) Salcey Arborcare & Forestry Ltd – Village tree works £565.00 + £84.75 VAT = £649.75 (000004).
- g) Mrs A M Ratcliffe – contribution to telephone bill 16.7.08 – 14.10.08 £28.20 (000005). (Cheque 000002 cancelled as written in error.)
- 6.2 **PAYMENTS RECEIVED:**
- a) A & L Henson – Horse Field rent - £30.00.
- b) Allotment Rent - £50.00.
- c) Mowing agency payments YGVH £191.80 & YGRC £293.88 + YGRC field rent £52.00.
- d) Scottish Widows interest to 1/10/08 - £170.94.
- e) Scottish Widows interest to 1/1/09 - £95.53.
- 6.3 **TRANSFERS:**
- a) Scottish Widows to LloydsTSB - £1,000.00.
- 6.4 **OTHER:**
- a) Bank charges debited 31.12.08 - £27.89.
- b) Bank charges debited 30.1.09 - £10.68.
- c) Review of effectiveness of internal audit. Cllrs discussed the internal audit and considered it to be independent and competent. The Clerk found the auditor helpful, knowledgeable and approachable. The audit planning and audit scope were considered adequate and Cllr Hutchin proposed and Cllr Turl seconded that the internal audit document and procedures were satisfactory. All in favour.
- 3236** 7. **Committee Reports**
- 7.1 **HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY/MOWING**
- a) Mowing Contract 2009 – Cllr Crisp signed both copies of the Contract. The Contractor’s risk assessment was reviewed and approved.
- b) Response from Smithsgore to PC’s letter re flooding in Hesketh Road/Eastfield Crescent. A letter had been received from Smithsgore which Cllr Crisp read out to the meeting, refuting responsibility for dealing with the flooding. After a long discussion it was felt that unfortunately, as the Council was not a party to the dispute it could not act on behalf of the residents concerned and the only way forward was to provide them with copies of all correspondence which may help if they decided to take the matter further.
9.05pm – District Cllr McCord leaves.
- 7.2 **PLAYING-FIELD/POCKET PARK/VILLAGE TREES**
- a) Cllr Westlake was still awaiting authority from NCC to arrange for the proposed work to the trees on the two village greens to be carried out. The site specific risk assessment and the method statement had just been received and were to be sent to Rob Payne at NCC for his decision.
- b) Play Area improvements – quotations for fencing and path. As the quotations had only recently been received the Committee had not had time to review them, but it was hoped that their recommendations would be available at the next PC meeting. **COM**

- c) Monthly play-area inspection report. Mr Macdonald's report, which indicated that, apart from litter, there were no apparent problems, was read out to the meeting by Cllr Crisp.
- d) Pocket Park - Mr Macdonald's report, which indicated that, apart from litter, there were no apparent problems, was read out to the meeting by Cllr Crisp.
- e) Mole problem in Coffee Pot playing field. The contractor, Rentakeeper, had carried out work in the field which has resulted in the disappearance of a number of moles – Cllr Tite was monitoring the field on a daily basis. **BT**
- f) Salcey Arborcare's quotation for the replacement of the May trees at the entrance to the village that had been removed was still awaited and the Clerk was asked to chase this up.
- g) She was also asked to find out from Ian Lorman at SNC the position regarding replacement TPO trees in the village.
- 7.3 ALLOTMENTS (BT)
- a) Work on the allotment hedge was progressing and it was looking good. Positive comments had been received from ploholders. Cllr Westlake had checked the site after the previous PC meeting and advised the Clerk of any sheds that appeared to have been tampered with and she had notified affected ploholders.
- 3237 8. Y G VILLAGE HALL & Y G RECREATION CENTRE
- 8.1 Y G VILLAGE HALL (CK) Nothing to report.
- 8.2 Y G RECREATION CENTRE (CT) Nothing to report.
- 3238 9. COMMUNITY ITEMS
- a) Repairs to War memorial - Cllr Stephenson was still working on obtaining a third quotation in order that she could finalise the PC's application for a grant to assist with the work. **LS**
- b) Neighbourhood Watch – see Open Forum notes. After discussion Cllr Hutchin proposed and Cllr Westlake seconded that the Council, in accordance with its powers under Section 31 of the Local Government and Rating Act 1997, agree to incur the following expenditure which, in its opinion, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure – a grant of £200.00 for the year 2009 to be made available to Neighbourhood Watch – the amount to be reviewed annually on receipt of accounting information. All in favour. Cllr Hutchin agreed to update the website with links to the Neighbourhood Watch site. **AH**
- 3239 10. CORRESPONDENCE - Literature for circulation – action required.
- a) Communities and Local Government – Communities in Control – closing 12th March. Cllr Crisp had responded on behalf of the PC. Paperwork placed on circulation.
- b) Northamptonshire ACRE - Calor Village of the Year Competition & Churchyard of the Year. Interested Cllrs to see the Clerk.
- c) CPRE – 2009 Planning Roadshow – 21st April 6pm at Parsons Memorial Hall, Great Houghton. Interested Cllrs to see the Clerk.
- 3240 11. **Date of next meeting:**
- a) **7th April 2009, 8.00pm in the Village Hall.**
Meeting closed 9.50pm.

Open Forum

Mr Jones spoke about the village Neighbourhood Watch scheme, which had been running for some 12 months. There are some 20 street contacts, all volunteers, who aim to improve awareness of what is happening in the area. Work is still ongoing, but so far there have been articles in The Old Mail, flyers on Notice Boards, regular meetings and a planned presentation to the W.I. He advised that everyone is a member – and that membership is free!

District Cllr McCord advised that Council Tax had been set last week. He had ascertained that the cost of concessionary travel was £286K. He had arranged for the litter along the A508 to be removed on Friday morning, the 6th March..