

MINUTES OF YARDLEY GOBION PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 1st September 2009

- Present** Cllrs G Crisp (Chair), C Turl, Mrs T Adey, A Hutchin, Ms L Stephenson, R Westlake, C King & Mrs S Tapp; County Cllr Walker and residents Mr N Schumacher, Mrs C Schumacher, Mr & Mrs Dale Skinner, Mrs B King, Ms Kear & Mr Jones.
- 3297** **1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllr B Tite & District Cllr McCord.
- 3298** **2. Council Matters:**
- a)** Declaration of Interest: Cllr King declared an interest in agenda item 7.2 (a).
- b)** Cllr Crisp read out a letter of resignation from Cllr Tite, which Cllrs accepted with regret. A casual vacancy was then declared.
- 3299** **3. Previous Meeting:**
- 3.1** The Minutes of Meeting held 4.8.09 were then agreed/signed as a correct record.
- 3.2** Matters Arising: None.
- 3300** **4. Open Forum:** Comments attached.
 Mrs King leaves 8.30pm.
- 3301** **5. Planning:**
- 5.1** Applications received:
- a)** S/2009/0738/FUL – 20 Mount Pleasant. Two storey rear extension and single storey extension to side. Cllrs objected as follows ‘we consider this proposed extension to be an overdevelopment of the site, which also encroaches on, and overpowers and overshadows 2 existing dwellings. It will dominate nos 6 and 10 High Street, resulting in a loss of amenities to these adjoining properties. It appears that there will be very little clearance between the extension walls and adjoining properties – Councillors ask how any maintenance can be carried out and are concerned about possible issues with drainage. Finally Councillors also request that any concerns raised by neighbours be satisfactorily addressed.’
- b)** S/2009/0739/FUL – 9 Mount Pleasant. First floor rear extension. Cllrs had ‘no observations.’
- c)** S/2009/0763/FUL – Homestead Farm, Watling Street. 4 box stable block, tack/feed room, vet box with wc & changing room. Cllrs had no objections but observed as follows ‘with regard to Item 7 of the application, Waste Storage and Collection, Councillors assume the use of the stables will produce waste straw, so consider that one of the two options should be ticked. Councillors also question why the location of the ‘hovel’ mentioned is not shown, along with photographs to justify its replacement. Perhaps the new stables (if agreed) should be located on the other side of the walnut tree if the existing hedgerow between the stables and the footpath is not high enough to screen them. Additionally the planning conditions should confirm, as mentioned in the application, that the stables are for the applicant’s horses only.’
 Mr Jones leaves 8.40pm.
- d)** S/2009/0773/FUL – Mount Pleasant Farm, Moorend Road. Hay store – retrospective. Cllrs objected as follows ‘we consider that no justification has been made for increasing the size of hay storage on a plot which has decreased in size by one third. The materials are not suitable and the store does not conform to National Planning Policy Guidance in terms of standard of design and construction. A temporary stable is still on site, contributing to the piecemeal development and the proliferation of buildings on the site. The proposed location of this development is totally inappropriate at the top of a hill, in an exposed position and away from any natural screening. It would be visible from the A508 south of Grafton Regis and from anywhere across the area of Grafton Fields to the north. This is totally unacceptable in an area of Special Landscape. Councillors would ask that a condition be placed on any permission granted to ensure that these facilities are only for private use for the applicant and her family i.e. no commercial use. Finally, the Council fully supports the objections made by adjacent landowners, and would ask that any concerns raised be satisfactorily addressed.’
 Mr & Mrs Dale Skinner leave 8.55pm.
- 5.2** Amendments: None.
- 5.3** Applications granted: None.
- 5.4** Applications refused: None.
- 5.5** Applications withdrawn: None.
- 5.6** Outstanding Applications/Other planning. None.
- 3302** **6. Finance:**
- 6.1** ACCOUNTS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT:
- a)** Clerk’s salary Aug 09 £353.40. (000055).
- b)** Clerk’s expenses Aug 09 £49.47+ £6.72 VAT = £56.19 (000056).
- c)** A H Contracts – dog bin emptying service Aug 09 £64.56 + £9.68 VAT = £74.24 (000057).
- d)** Mr Macdonald – caretaking of play areas and pocket park – Aug 2009 – £50.00 (000058).
- e)** N J Blackwell Garden Services – mowing Aug 09 £666.66 + £100.00 VAT = £766.66 (000059).
- f)** Central Wasp Control – wasps in School Lane play area £85.00 (000060).
- 6.2** PAYMENTS RECEIVED: None.
- 6.3** TRANSFERS:
- a)** Scottish Widows to LloydsTSB - £1,000.00.
- 6.4** OTHER:
- a)** Bank balances as at last statements – LTSB - £3,147.52 (7.8.09) SW - £15,064.33 (5.8.09).
- 3303** **7. Committee Reports**

- 7.1 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY/MOWING**
- a) Report from PC Representative - Cllr Westlake reported no issues about the village mowing, and reducing the cuts from 2 weekly to 3 weekly was discussed.
 - b) Cllr Westlake also mentioned that the A5D would be closed overnight during September/October.
 - c) Parking on grass verges. Complaints had been received about parking on, and driving across, grass verges in Warren Road and the Clerk had written to NCC, as technically the grass verges are their responsibility.
 - d) It had also been noted that there were two vehicles 'for sale' parked on village roads. Cllrs thought this may be illegal and it was suggested that advice be taken from the police.
 - e) Parish Enhancement Gangs – Cllr Westlake had compiled a list of suggested work in the village. This was placed on circulation for Cllrs to consider. **ALL**
 - f) PL 1 Moorend Road – report on accident damage to this street light near Moorend Manor. The Clerk had contacted the insurance company concerned to lodge the PC's claim for a replacement pole bracket, and a response was awaited. Cllr Westlake proposed that E.ON be instructed to replace the pole bracket. Seconded by Cllr Turl. All in favour.
 - g) It was noted that the footpath sign outside Aurora (Moorend Road) had fallen down – Cllr Adey agreed to report this to the R.O.W. dept. **TA**
- 7.2 PLAYING-FIELD/POCKET PARK/VILLAGE TREES**
- a) The future of the Pocket Park. The Open Meeting was confirmed on 15th September at 6.30pm in the Park and at 7pm in the Church. **ALL**
 - b) Monthly play area and pocket park inspection reports. Mr Macdonald's play area inspection reports were read out to the meeting by Cllr Crisp, which indicated that in School Lane play area there was a wooden pole with metal hoops rising out of the ground near the swings, and Cllr Adey noted that the 'witches hat' equipment was making grinding noises. Cllr Westlake had investigated the matting which was sticking up around the base of the aeroplane spring toy, but felt that it did not constitute a safety issue.,
 - c) Pocket Park - Mr Macdonald's inspection report was read out to the meeting by Cllr Crisp which indicated that the park was relatively tidy.
 - d) Request from the Management Committee of Yardley Gobion C of E Primary School to permit the construction of a new gate from the school playing field onto the drive up to the Recreation Centre to allow emergency access. Cllrs planned to have a site meeting and liaise with the Recreation Centre committee. **GC
RW
LS
CK
RW**
 - e) Replacement of May trees at entrance to village. In hand – delivery expected at the end of November.
 - f) Cllr Westlake had received 2 complaints about public lights being obscured by overhanging vegetation – the Clerk was asked to contact the residents involved.
- 7.3 ALLOTMENTS**
- a) Report from PC representative. No report as Cllr Tite had resigned, however, Mr Alan Tapp had agreed to take on the role for the future.
 - b) Following the recent independent inspection of plots it was agreed that formal procedures be commenced regarding the non cultivation of plot 21, as there was still a waiting list for allotments.
 - c) Horse field update. Mr Schumacher had cleared the field and was ready to sign a tenancy agreement. Cllrs had checked the current horse field licence, which they felt was inadequate, and it was proposed that Cllr Westlake contact Linda Mason, the PC's solicitor, for advice regarding a lease. Mr Welch had asked if there were any objections to him metal detecting on the horse field – Cllr King proposed that this be permitted. Seconded by Cllr Turl. All in favour. **RW**
- County Cllr Walker & Mrs Schumacher, Ms Kear & Mr N Schumacher leave 9.45pm.
- 3304 8. Y G VILLAGE HALL (CK) – Nothing to report.**
- 3305 8.1 Y G RECREATION CENTRE (CT) Cllr Turl advised that the letter from the school re access was on the agenda for the next RC meeting..**
- 3305 9. COMMUNITY ITEMS**
- a) Neighbourhood Watch. No report.
 - b) Village Directory. Cllr Hutchin advised that he was making progress. **AH**
 - c) Cllr Westlake reported that the work on the village War Memorial had just been completed.
- 3306 10. CORRESPONDENCE – ACTION REQUIRED.**
- a) Air Ambulance Day – 26th September. Paperwork to be displayed on village notice board.
 - b) West Northamptonshire JPU – Emergent Joint Core Strategy for West Northamptonshire. An advisory group of Cllrs agreed to meet to respond on behalf of the PC on line. (**GC, RW, LS, AH, ST.**)
 - c) SAFE 'N' SOUND village roadshow presentation 29th September. Cllrs were happy to support this event. **ALL**
 - d) 100 years of Guiding – 5th September in Abington Park 2 – 4pm.
- 3307 11. Date of next meeting:**
- a) 6th October 2009, 8.00pm in the Village Hall.
- Meeting closed 10.20pm.

Open Forum

Concern was expressed by owners of adjacent properties about the planning application for 20 Mount Pleasant – see Minute No 3301 5.1a) above for PC response.

Concern was also expressed about the proliferation of stables on the Mount Pleasant Farm site, which is a special landscape area – See Minute No 3301 5.1d) above for PC response.

Mrs King asked if she could put up a display in the Church about the Pocket Park ready for the meeting on 15th September, and asked that it be remembered that some of the trees in the Park had been donated by residents. Cllrs were happy to accept her offer of a display.

County Cllr Walker (who had been re-elected in June) suggested that the District Councillor be asked to become involved in any planning applications where the PC had objections.