

NORTH STAINLEY WITH SLENINGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: Tuesday 15th May 2012
TIME: 20.02 hrs
LOCATION: North Stainley Village Hall
PRESENT: Councillors Glenys Bailey (Chair), Margaret Goddard (Vice-Chair), Ian Alston, David Bryant, Carolyn Mahan and James Stuart-Mills.
IN ATTENDANCE: Iona Taylor (Clerk)
County Councillor Paul Richardson
P.C. Gareth Jones

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Goddard declared a personal interest in agenda item 4.2 as a property owner on Watermill Lane.
Councillor Bryant declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 10.1 as he has an interest in Sleningford Watermill Caravan and Camping site.
Councillor Alston declared personal interests in agenda items 4.2 and 8.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Tordoff as he was on holiday.
Apologies were also received from District Councillor Margaret Atkinson.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meetings held on 20th March and 17th April 2012 were agreed and signed.

4. ITEMS CARRIED FORWARD FROM THE LAST MEETINGS

4.1 Future of parish magazine.

It was noted that the current format of parish magazine will cease at the end of the year due to changes in the diocese. All the other villages' news will be incorporated into the Masham magazine.
It was agreed that the Parish Council should investigate the cost of producing a North Stainley only magazine.

4.2 Ownership / maintenance of communal areas on Watermill Lane.

It was noted that a fact finding exercise, including some weed clearance, has taken place in the watermill pond but that this is not a permanent solution.
Improvements to the grasscutting operations are to be made.

4.3 Report from training on Localism Act / Neighbourhood planning.

It was noted that the Clerk has provided Councillors with a briefing note and relevant information on the Localism Act to date. However it was also noted that further information will be available in the future as the regulations setting out how the Localism Act will work are still being written.
The Clerk and Councillor Bailey reported that they had attended the recent training on Neighbourhood Planning (provided by CPRE). During the training it became obvious that a Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to be suitable for this parish, not least because the cost (starting at £17,000) would be prohibitively expensive.

5. ALLOTMENTS

5.1 Livestock on allotments.

After considering further information on this issue it was agreed that the Parish Council is minded to allow the keeping of livestock (including chickens and bees) on the allotments. This would be subject to owners of the bees indemnifying the Parish Council against any resulting actions of their animals.

5.2 Proposal documentation.

A number of minor changes to the proposal documents were agreed, including agreement on the number of sheds / structures that would be allowed per plot.
It was noted that the Parish Council will require security of tenure within the lease agreement to enable it to apply for grant funding.
Chris Grundy was thanked for all his work on the project documentation.
The project documentation, subject to the points above, was agreed by the Parish Council.

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5.3 Progression of project.

An accurate site plan is being drawn up.

The Clerk is determining with Harrogate Borough Council whether planning permission will be required.

It was noted that 1st Choice Payroll have made a donation of £100 to the allotment fund.

Once the amendments to the documentation, as agreed at this meeting, are included then the documents should be ready for consideration by James Steveley.

6. HIGHWAYS

6.1 Speeding and traffic issues on Watermill Lane.

Concerns about speeding vehicles on Watermill Lane were noted. This problem is combined with vehicles parking in random locations near the play area which is potentially hazardous to children using the facility.

The following points were therefore agreed:

- P.C. Gareth Jones was made aware of the problem.
- Investigations will be made into purchasing a 'children playing' hazard road sign.
- The issue will be raised in the Parish Council's newsletter.
- A 'safe zone' near the entrance to the playground will be created using stones painted white.

6.2 Progress with mobile vehicle activated sign protocol.

There was no progress to be reported, however this is something that the Clerk is actively pursuing.

7. NORTH STAINLEY SPORT & RECREATION TRUST

A report including the following points was received:

- Additional fencing is to be carried out around the Recreation Ground to make it more secure from dogs and for children playing.
- Preparations are underway for the Jubilee celebrations, with a final push to have the community garden ready for this occasion.
- Work has continued on the restoration of the area where the public conveniences were.
- One of the vacant flats has been let, with interest in the other.
- The Trust is monitoring the website to try and ensure that it is up to date.

8. PARISH CARETAKER

8.1 Tasks to be undertaken.

A number of tasks to be undertaken were agreed.

It was also agreed that the Parish Council's should record and send its formal thanks to Chris and Val Grundy for all the work that they have undertaken on Lavender Lane.

8.2 'No dogs' signage for play area.

It was agreed that further signage should be purchased at a cost of £15.24.

9. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

9.1 Proposals for provision of 105 holiday lodges at Lightwater Valley.

It was noted that prior to this meeting Councillors had attended an information briefing / exhibition at Lightwater Valley to find out about revised proposals for a holiday resort at Lightwater Valley.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should write to Lightwater Valley's management with its preliminary views on the proposals, including the following points:

- Tenure of lodges, which the Parish Council would prefer to be short term holiday rentals rather than owner-occupied.
- Upgrading the entrance to Lightwater Valley from the A6108.
- Continued investment in the theme park.
- Possible opportunities for North Stainley village either through indirect economic benefits, changes to the shopping village or improvements secured through a 106 Agreement (such as funds for traffic calming).
- Further information / evidence that the Parish Council would be keen to see included in a planning application.

The Parish Council's response will be copied to Harrogate Borough Council's planning department.

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9.2 Consultations on planning applications – none.

9.3 Decisions and updates on applications, appeals and enforcement investigations.

| Reference | Proposal | Outcome |
|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 6.12.80.AY.FUL 11/04620/FUL | Erection of marquee at Lightwater Valley. | Passed |
| 6.12.180.FUL 12/00357/FUL | Erection of first floor extension over existing garage and 1.8m high replacement wall at 8, Watermill Croft. | Passed |
| 6.12.80.AZ.REP 12/00405/REP | Replacement planning permission for 6.12.80.AV.FUL – erection of single storey detached building to house vintage cars at Lightwater Valley. | Passed |
| 12/01146/PNA | Erection of agricultural building at Chariswood Farm. | Prior approval not required. |

9.4 Application for extension to Hanson's Ripon Quarry.

It was noted that Hanson have, at the request of North Yorkshire County Council, responded to the points raised by the Parish Council in its consultation response at the end of 2011.

It was agreed that the Parish Council does not wish to submit any further comments on this matter.

10. CORRESPONDENCE – The Clerk reported on items received, including:

10.1 Harrogate Borough Council's bulb scheme.

Harrogate Borough Council has made its annual offer of a bag of bulbs or wild flower seeds to Parish Councils. After consulting with Emma Griffiths, who oversees the Community Garden, a bag of crocus bulbs has been requested.

10.2 Registration of Councillors' interests.

Forms to enable the registration of interests were distributed to each Councillor. These are to be completed and returned to the Clerk as soon as possible, but in any event within 20 days.

10.3 External audit for 2012/13 and subsequent years.

It was noted that the audit commission has now appointed Littlejohn LLP as the Council's external auditor for 2012/13 and future years.

It is expected that the cost of auditing the Council's accounts will fall as the new cost of a basic audit for the income / expenditure band up to £10,000 is now nil.

10.4 Lightwater Valley special event.

A one-off event on 19th May 2012, including a live music performance between 8.45 and 10.45pm, was noted.

10.5 Police and Crime Commissioners.

It was noted that in November 2012 a new Police and Crime Commissioner will be elected.

The Commissioner will aim to cut crime and deliver an efficient police service within the force area (North Yorkshire Police Authority). To provide stronger and more transparent democratic accountability of the police, PCCs will be elected by the public to hold chief constables and the force to account; effectively making the police answerable to the communities they serve.

A Police and Crime Panel will also be introduced in every area to provide a 'check and balance' on the Police and Crime Commissioner.

10.6 York & North Yorkshire Playing Fields Associations.

It was noted that this organisation is entering a phase of restructuring as Rural Action Yorkshire is no longer providing administrative services for it. Further information will be sent as soon as possible.

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11. FINANCIALS

11.1 Bank balances as at 15th May 2012.

- Santander Current a/c £7241.71
- Santander Savings a/c £50.00
- HSBC Current a/c..... £100.00
- HSBC Savings a/c..... £250.00

11.2 Payments made prior to, or at this meeting.

The following payments were approved and recorded:

- Iona Taylor (Clerk, March 2012) £339.13
- Iona Taylor (Clerk, April 2012) £182.36
- Farm & Land Services (Invoice 3646) £198.00
- Walled Garden Scheme (Invoice 788, Caretaker – March 2012) £162.00
- Leaving Present for Jackie Donaldson £26.60
- North Stainley Sport & Recreation Trust (Hall Hire)..... £18.00

11.3 Monies received prior to, or at this meeting.

The following receipts were recorded:

- Harrogate Borough Council (Precept, 1st Part) £3383.00

12. NEXT MEETINGS

The next meetings were confirmed as being on 19th June (planning) and 17th July 2012 (ordinary).

13. ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE NEXT MEETING

- Clerk's appraisal and contract of employment.

14. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- It was noted that the BBC's Antiques Roadshow will be visiting Fountains Abbey on 12th July 2012.

Meeting closed at 22.04 hrs.

These minutes were recorded and prepared by Iona Taylor, Clerk to the Parish Council.

SIGNED:(Chairman)

DATE: