

NORTH STAINLEY WITH SLENINGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: 17th July 2012
TIME: 19.30 hrs
LOCATION: North Stainley Village Hall
PRESENT: Councillors Glenys Bailey (Chair), Ian Alston, David Bryant, Carolyn Mahan, James Stuart-Mills (from 7.50pm) and Steve Tordoff.
IN ATTENDANCE: Iona Taylor (Clerk)
District Councillor Margaret Atkinson and County Councillor Paul Richardson
James Steveley, Chris and Val Grundy.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Bailey and Alston declared personal interests in agenda item 11 as they are members of North Stainley Sport & Recreation Trust.

Councillor Bailey also declared a personal interest in agenda item 10 (website) as she is the member of North Stainley Sport & Recreation Trust responsible for the upkeep of the website.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Goddard due to other commitments.

3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the following meetings were approved and signed:

- The 2012 Annual Parish Council Meeting
- 15th May 2012 – including an amendment to record the £100 donation to the allotment fund from 1st Choice Payroll.
- 19th June 2012 – including an amendment to record Councillor Tordoff's declaration of interest as a member of the Harrogate Bridleways Association.

4. ITEMS CARRIED FORWARD FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

4.1 Future of parish magazine.

To be continued to a future meeting, although Councillors are asked to forward any printing contacts to the Clerk.

4.2 Clerk's appraisal and contract of employment.

Now due to be held on 21st August 2012.

4.3 Response from Playdale Playgrounds Ltd.

It was noted that Councillor Bailey's husband has met with representatives from Playdale who have noted the Parish Council's concerns about the design of the cargo net fixings. They have indicated that they will take these concerns into account when commissioning new designs, but that the equipment in North Stainley play area is safe to use.

5. CODE OF CONDUCT

It was agreed to adopt the code provided by Hambleton District Council, based upon the one designed by the Local Government Association. It was agreed that this decision should be reviewed once training is made available either through YLCA or Harrogate Borough Council.

6. COMMUNAL AREAS IN NORTH STAINLEY

James Steveley presented a copy of the Land Registry Transfer documentation for gifting the Village Square to North Stainley Sport and Recreation Trust. This will be forwarded to the Trust for its consideration.

The transfer documentation for the other areas (including the ponds and green spaces on Watermill Lane) has been delayed due to the discovery of a small area of land being owned by a development company that North Stainley Estates is no longer in touch with.

Once this situation is regularised then the Land Registry transfer documents can be forwarded to the Parish Council.

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The following wording for a letter of guarantee regarding the maintenance of the ponds was read to and accepted by Councillors:

“Notwithstanding the Transfer, it is agreed that James Staveley will continue to be responsible for maintenance of the pond areas until the date upon which the Environment Agency confirms in writing that the weed known as Crassula-Helmsii is no longer present in the pond areas”.

7. PROVISION OF SCHOOL AND ALLOTMENTS

Correspondence from Richard Plummer (Chair of Governors) which indicates that he believes that Front Field is capable of accommodating both a new school and the proposed allotments was noted.

James Staveley advised that he is committed to the provision of both facilities, but noted that he requires additional time, in the region of two to three months, to allow a school scheme to be developed before deciding on the most appropriate location for the allotments, whether that may be alongside the school in Front Field or in another field on the other side of the Ripon Rowel Walk (behind High Green). It was agreed that Richard Plummer should be asked to keep the Parish Council informed of any developments.

Mr Staveley advised the meeting that he is preparing to speak to planning authorities about proposals for additional housing development between Cockpit Close and North Stainley Hall, including the redevelopment of the village shop. Mr Staveley indicated that this could help to fund the new community facilities.

8. HIGHWAYS

8.1 NYCC Working Group meeting re. Vehicle Activated Signs.

Councillor Bailey and the Clerk reported about the meeting they had recently attended at County Hall. This had been an information gathering exercise for County Councillors looking to review the position regarding the provision of Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS's) in the County. It was felt that the contribution from this and Sharow Parish Councils had been a useful addition to their exercise.

It did not appear that the County Council would be looking to significantly alter their current permanent VAS protocol but the Working Group indicated, as expected, that the County Council are looking to implement a temporary VAS scheme whereby groups of parishes could rotate a VAS sign within their areas. No details were given of how this scheme may operate.

It was suggested that Speed Indicator Devices could be an alternative to a permanent VAS sign as they do not require the Highways Authority's permission. An example of a SID is in the car park for County Hall.

The Working Group will be preparing a report for consideration by the County Council in September. It was agreed that the Parish Council should wait for the outcome of this report before deciding how to proceed on this issue.

8.2 Provision of 'children playing' sign near play area.

The Clerk reported that the cost of a sign would be £94.12 + VAT. Councillors agreed that the provision of such a sign is not necessary, but that the Harrogate Community Safety Partnership should be contacted for their advice on how to ensure the safety of children in the area of the Village Square.

8.3 Overhanging vegetation on Watermill Lane & other highways.

The following points were noted:

- The owners of 9, Watermill Lane have now trimmed the bush outside their front door.
- The Clerk has reported trees overhanging the pavements on Watermill Lane to Highways North Yorkshire.
- The tenants of Manor Farm will be carrying out pruning work of shrubs growing from that property.
- The Clerk has contacted the owners of the hedge between Stonehaven and Brooksbank asking them to cut it back.
- A general issue of hedges overhanging pavements was noted.

9. LIGHTWATER VALLEY

9.1 Response to letter regarding preliminary views on holiday resort at Lightwater Valley.

It was noted that Mark Bainbridge has written responding to the points raised by the Parish Council. The following key extracts were noted:

- “We have no intention or inclination to have any permanent residential permission now or in the future but would be looking to incorporate the standard industry operating licence of 11 months per year.”

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- “Whilst we disagree the slip road [entrance] is inadequate we are happy to look at the current situation and signage with a view to improving access to the site. The idea of a 3-2-1 count down is however something that we think would be useful ... we will include this in our future discussions with planners.”
- “It has always been the intention of the company to continue to invest in the theme park provided the business and the Banks will support it. Should the application be rejected we would not be in a position to guarantee anything.”
- “We would not be in a position to complete all works prior to the first lodge being occupied unless we completed the entire build in year one. A phased build over three years would require the same principles applying to the infrastructure and facilities so as to accommodate funding levels.”
- “It would be our intention to have a small shop of some description selling basic provisions associated with a small grocer which the villagers are more than welcome to use.”
- “With regards to traffic calming we could suggest the best option to help would be for Lightwater Valley to offer a reasonable contribution to the Village Scheme.”

Mr Bainbridge also confirmed that Lightwater Valley would be more than willing to develop a working relationship with the Parish Council.

9.2 Lightwater Valley postcode.

It was agreed that the creation of a dedicated postcode for Lightwater Valley should be raised as part of this new working relationship.

10. NORTH STAINLEY SPORT AND RECREATION TRUST

The following report was submitted to the meeting:

- The Trust is looking into permanent maintenance solutions for the Jubilee Garden, as well as making sure that the finishing touches to the infrastructure are put in place.
- The old library store room is now secure. The walls will be painted over the summer holidays. This should allow the Trust to re-organise and hopefully expand the storage provision in the hall.
- Additional lighting is being installed at the carpeted end of the hall.
- A questionnaire about use of the hall is about to be sent to each household in the parish.
- A number of issues about the Cricket Club's use of the hall and ground have been raised with their officials.
- The Trust is beginning to look to recruit new Trustees to ensure a smooth transition when existing Trustees' terms of office come to an end.
- The Trust continues to be responsible for the day-to-day running of the hall.

11. PRESENTATION ON WEBSITE

Councillor Bailey gave the meeting a guided tour of the website, with some suggestions for improvements being made.

12. PARISH CARETAKER

It was agreed that the caretaker should be asked to cut back the foliage around the 30mph signs and to install larger white stones near the entrance to the playground.

13. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

13.1 Consultations on applications – none.

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

It was noted that application 6.12.37.AO.FUL 12/01874/FUL for the installation of 36 ground mounted photovoltaic panels at 9, The Old Palace has been approved.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported on items received, including:

14.1 YLCA training programme.

It was agreed that the Parish Council will pay for Councillors Tordoff and Mahan to attend training courses at a cost of £35 each.

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14.2 Harrogate Borough Council consultation on sites and policies DPD.
The consultation on the draft Sites and Policies DPD will now take place from 30th November 2012 to 25th January 2013.

14.3 Digital switchover.
Progress with switching to a solely digital service in this area was noted. It is expected that the process will be complete by 26th September 2012.

15. FINANCIALS

15.1 Bank balances as at 17th July 2012.

- Santander Current a/c£4724.33
- Santander Savings a/c£50.00
- HSBC Current a/c (Allotments)£100.00
- HSBC Savings a/c (Circular Walk Republication)£250.06

15.2 Payments made prior to, or at this meeting.

The following payments were approved and recorded:

- Iona Taylor (Clerk – May & June 2012)£604.34
- Walled Garden Scheme (Invoice 806, Caretaker – April 2012)£200.40
- Walled Garden Scheme (Invoice 833, Caretaker – May 2012)£162.00
- Zurich Insurance£246.34
- Farm & 'Land Services (Invoice 3680)£198.00
- Linda Robinson (Reimbursement of Oil Club Expenses)£20.61

15.3 Monies received prior to, or at this meeting.

- North Yorkshire County Council (LEADER funding)£114.75
- HM Revenue & Customs (VAT Reimbursement 1/1/12 – 30/4/12)£113.59
- HM Revenue & Customs (VAT Reimbursement 1/5/12 – 30/5/12)£288.32

16. NEXT MEETINGS

The next meetings were confirmed as being on 21st August (planning) and 18th September (ordinary).

17. **ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE NEXT MEETING – none.**

18. **QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – none.**

Meeting closed at 21.43 hrs.

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

SIGNED: **(Chairman)**

DATE: