

Tanfield Parish Council

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: Monday 16th April 2012
TIME: 19.30 hrs
LOCATION: West Tanfield Memorial Hall
PRESENT: Councillors David Parkinson (Chairman), Jim Beadle and Richard Middleton
IN ATTENDANCE: Iona Taylor (Clerk)
Ambrose Almack, Steven Houston, John Moxon, Chris Pennock and Bob Trehwitt.

1. WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Councillor Parkinson welcomed all those present to the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Councillor Parkinson declared a personal interest in planning application 12/00738/FUL as he knows the applicant.

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Smith due to work commitments and from County Councillor John Weighell.

4. APPLICATIONS FOR CO-OPTION ON TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

It was noted that no applications to become a Councillor had been received prior to this meeting.

Steven Houston put himself forward for co-option as a Councillor. Mr Houston was asked to leave the meeting to enable consideration of his suggestion by Councillors.

It was agreed that in view of the current planning issues at The Long Acres, Thornborough (owned by Mr Houston) acceptance of his offer of joining the Council should be deferred which would also give time for the position to be advertised within the Parish in the regular newsletter.

5. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

5.1 Northern Henge.

Recent camping in Camp House Wood was noted.

Four bollards which restricted parking on the verge between Nosterfield and Camp House have recently been removed. It was agreed that the Parish Council should write to Highways North Yorkshire and ask for them to be replaced.

John Moxon advised that access to the northern Henge has not been restricted in any way.

5.2 Jubilee celebrations.

It was agreed that the parish Diamond Jubilee celebrations should be advertised in the Council's newsletter.

It was also agreed that the Parish Council has no objections to a street party being held in Church Street, West Tanfield.

6. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS

The minutes of the last meetings held on 9th January and 15th February 2012 were agreed and signed.

7. ITEMS CARRIED FORWARD FROM THE LAST MEETING

7.1 Water levels at Nosterfield Nature Reserve.

Simon Warwick, on behalf of the Lower Ure Conservation Trust (LUCT) has confirmed that low water levels on the reserve are due to abnormally scant rainfall over the past two winters. However he has also suggested that nearby quarrying operations may also be having an effect on water levels. This was disputed by those present at this meeting.

7.2 Felling of trees adjacent to Wath Mushroom Farm.

The Forestry Commission has advised that the recent felling works were carried out under a license and that the site has now been replanted and will be monitored until such time as the trees are large enough to be covered by felling regulations. Applications for felling licenses are advertised on the Forestry Commission's website.

7.3 Report from Localism Act training.

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 Parkinson reported that they had attended the recent training on Neighbourhood Planning (provided by CPRE). During the training it became obvious that a Neighbourhood Plan would not be suitable for this parish, not least because the cost (starting at £17,000) would be prohibitively expensive.

New planning regulations will mean that the developer of Station Yard will need to consult extensively with the Parish Council and the community prior to submitting a planning application anyway.

Tanfield Parish Council

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

8. LUCT COMMITTEE MEETING

Councillor Parkinson reported from the recent meeting held on 23rd February 2012. Points of interest were as follows:

- Provision of dog waste bins is supported, but unfunded therefore cannot be progressed at this time.
- The donations box in the car park is generating income for the LUCT.
- The committee now meets once per year.
- Councillor Parkinson has suggested that the footpath between the car park and Nosterfield be renovated if and when funding allows.
- Efforts are being made to propagate the black poplar tree.

9. HIGHWAYS

9.1 Reports of damaged / broken road signs.

The Clerk advised that she has reported a number of damaged signs in recent weeks including one at the junction of the B6267 with Moor Lane which Highways North Yorkshire has advised will be replaced.

9.2 Introduction of a Temporary Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) Protocol.

It was noted that North Yorkshire County Council is currently carrying out a policy review, with a view to introducing a Temporary Vehicle Activated Sign Protocol / Scheme. It is understood that this would allow interested communities, Parish Councils, or groups of parishes the opportunity to lease or purchase mobile VAS's and have them sited in problem areas of speeding. The Clerk is monitoring this on behalf of a number of parishes.

9.3 Outstanding highways issues.

- Potholes in Thornborough will be reported to Highways North Yorkshire.
- An update on repairing the B6267 will be requested now that work on the A1 upgrade is nearly completed.

10. PARISH CARETAKER

10.1 Tasks to be undertaken.

A number of tasks were considered, including access to allow repainting of the goal post in West Tanfield and repairing Nosterfield noticeboard.

It was noted that the Parish Council has been offered a free ride on lawnmower. It was agreed that the Parish Council would in principle be willing to accept such an offer but that further details, such as the mower's specification, are required to enable full consideration.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported on items received, including:

11.1 Ripon and Bedale library opening hours.

The new opening hours, from 4th June, were noted:

	<i>Ripon</i>	<i>Bedale</i>
Monday	10am – 6pm	2 – 5pm
Tuesday	10am – 5pm	10am - 4pm
Wednesday	10am - 5pm	2pm – 5pm
Thursday	10am - 5pm	Closed
Friday	10am - 5pm	10am – 4pm
Saturday	10am – 2pm	10am – 12pm
Sunday	Closed	Closed

11.2 Data Protection Registration.

The Clerk noted that she has provided Councillors with information which should enable them to decide whether they need to register as data handlers.

11.3 Parish news.

The Parish Council reaffirmed its decision not to make a donation to the parish news in this financial year. It was noted that this parish's news is now incorporated in the Masham's magazine and that the previous format (linked with North Stainley) is likely to cease in the next few months.

Tanfield Parish Council

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

11.4 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.

11.5 Boundary Commission proposals for Hambleton District Council.

It was noted that the Boundary Commission is consulting on proposals to reduce the number of District Councillors to 28. It was agreed that District Councillor Webster’s views on this proposal should be obtained.

11.6 Public Interest Reports.

YLCA has written an advice note as a result of an increase in Public Interest Reports in this area. These Reports are produced by external auditors when the financial records and internal scrutiny of a local council or parish meeting are inadequate.

Key measures that parish councils should be undertaking are outlined in the advice note – the Clerk provided confirmation that these are already incorporated in this Council’s standard documents, or are routinely undertaken as a matter of good practice.

11.7 Future of children’s and maternity services at the Friarage Hospital, Northallerton.

It was agreed that the Parish Council wishes to actively monitor this consultation. The Clerk will forward any relevant information received to Councillor Middleton.

12. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

12.1 Consultations on applications.

It was agreed that the Parish Council has no objections to application 12/00738/FUL for a proposed extension to Tarn Cottage, Nosterfield.

12.2 Decisions and updates on applications, appeals and enforcement investigations received from Hambleton District Council since the last meeting.

Application No.	Proposal	Decision
-	Use of land at the Long Acres, Thornborough.	Councillor Parkinson advised that the Parish Council is awaiting a report from Hambleton District Council, but that a planning application is expected. Councillor Middleton addressed the meeting about a number of points relating to the Long Acres, however was advised by Councillor Parkinson that the matter should be left until the Parish Council has reports from the District Council or a planning application to consider.
Ref: PL35919E	Alleged non-creation of parking / turning area at Fir Trees Cottage, West Tanfield.	Parking / turning area has now been created, therefore matter is resolved.
11/02220/FUL	Alterations and extensions to existing dwelling at Binsoe Hill Farmhouse.	Revised scheme has now been approved; however issues with the processing of the application were noted.
11/02676/FUL	Alterations and extensions to existing dwelling and change of use of agricultural land to domestic at Mire Barf Cottage, Mire Barf Farm, East Tanfield.	Approved.
11/02328/CAT	Notification of proposed works to trees at Glebe Cottage, Main Street, West Tanfield.	Approved.

Tanfield Parish Council

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

12.3 Consultation on Minerals and Waste Development Framework Minerals Options and Waste Vision Consultation.

It was agreed not to submit any further comments at this stage of the consultation process as the Parish Council broadly agrees with the principles set out in the consultation document; however the manner in which these principles are enacted during the planning application process will determine their effect and more importantly impact on this parish. It is expected that a consultation on potential minerals extraction sites will take place over this summer.

12.4 Tarmac's Langwith Hall application.

It was noted that Tarmac is in the process of submitting additional information relating to responses received to the statutory consultation carried out by North Yorkshire County Council.

The recent creation of The Thornborough Trust was noted.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should request a meeting with Nick Beale (Estates Manager, Tarmac Ltd) so that it can keep abreast of and be a party to developments in relation to the mitigation offer made as part of the Langwith Hall application.

13. FINANCIALS

13.1 Bank balances as at 16th April 2012.

- Santander Current a/c.....£2317.88
- Santander Savings a/c£50.00

13.2 Payments made prior to, or at this meeting.

The following payments were approved and recorded:

- Walled Garden Scheme (Caretaker, February 2012 – Invoice 751).....£162.00
- Walled Garden Scheme (Caretaker, January 2012 – Invoice 735).....£144.00
- Iona Taylor (Clerk, January – March 2012)£491.51
- West Tanfield Memorial Hall (Hire for Meetings in February & April 2012)£21.00
- Wensleydale Garage Ltd£45.34
- West Tanfield Memorial Hall (Hire in November 2011) £7.00

13.3 Monies received prior to, or at this meeting – none.

13.4 Yorkshire Local Councils Association membership.

It was agreed that the Council's membership of YLCA should be renewed at a cost of £200.

14. NEXT MEETING

The next meetings were confirmed as being on 14th May (Annual Parish, Annual Parish Council & planning meetings), 11th June and 9th July 2012.

15. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS – none.

16. ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE NEXT MEETING – none.

Meeting closed at 21.17 hrs.

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

SIGNED: (Chairman)

DATE: