

# *Tanfield Parish Council*

## MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**DATE:** Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2012  
**TIME:** 19.30 hrs  
**LOCATION:** West Tanfield Memorial Hall  
**PRESENT:** Councillors David Parkinson (Chair), Jim Beadle and Derek Padgett (until after item 3).  
Steven Houston and Peter Hull (Appointed as Councillors in item 3.4).  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Iona Taylor (Clerk)  
District Councillor David Webster  
Ambrose Almack, Dick Lonsdale, John Moxon, Chris Pennock, Brian Porteus (until after item 9)  
and Bob Trehitt.

1. **WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**  
Councillor Parkinson welcomed all those present to the meeting, especially the members of the public.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA – none.**
3. **CO-OPTION OF TWO COUNCILLORS TO THE PARISH COUNCIL**
  - 3.1 Applications received.  
It was noted that applications had been received from Mr Peter Hull of Nosterfield and Mr Steven Houston of North Stainley.
  - 3.2 Exclusion of the press and public for item 3.3.  
It was unanimously agreed to exclude the press and public for item 3.3.
  - 3.3 Consideration of applications received.  
Councillors discussed, at some length, the two applications which had been received.
  - 3.4 Co-option of Councillors and signing of their Declarations of Acceptance of Office and agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct.  
After being proposed by Councillor Padgett and seconded by Councillor Beadle it was unanimously agreed that Peter Hull be co-opted on to the Council.  
After being proposed by Councillor Beadle and seconded by Councillor Parkinson it was agreed, by two votes for and one against, to co-opt Steven Houston on to the Council.  
Both new Councillors signed their Declarations of Acceptance of Office and agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct.
4. **ELECTION OF A VICE-CHAIRMAN – Deferred to a future meeting.**
5. **APOLOGIES – none.**
6. **QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – none.**
7. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS**  
The minutes of the following meetings were agreed and signed:
  - 2012 Annual Parish Council Meeting
  - 16<sup>th</sup> April 2012
  - 14<sup>th</sup> May 2012
  - 30<sup>th</sup> May 2012
8. **ITEMS CARRIED FORWARD FROM THE LAST MEETINGS**
  - 8.1 Report on Localism Act training provided by Hambleton District Council.  
The Clerk reported that she had recently attended training on the Localism Act and the following key points were noted:
    - The Standards Board is to be abolished and a new local regime is to be implemented. Further details to be given by Hambleton District Council in future training sessions (see item 10.3).
    - The ‘Community Right to Challenge’ will give communities the right to express an interest in taking over services (for example recycling). If the challenge is accepted by the authority currently providing the service then the community / Parish Council will be able to take part in a resulting procurement process. It should be noted that the process will be open to all providers as well as the community which will not necessarily be appointed to take over the service even though they may have instigated the change.

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- There will be a 'Community Right to Bid'. Hambleton District Council will be required to compile and maintain a register of 'community assets' (e.g. pubs, shops, libraries). When these assets come up for sale or a change of ownership, community groups (including Parish Councils), after expressing an initial interest, will be given time to develop a bid or raise finance.
- The Localism Act also introduces a number of planning reforms including Neighbourhood Plans (see minutes of meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2012) and Neighbourhood Development Orders which can confer automatic planning permission for certain developments which have been identified by communities. It was noted although these changes are meant to introduce a 'lighter touch' to planning there are statutory processes which must be worked through by any community undertaking them.
- 'Neighbourhood Funds' will mean that a percentage of funds from developers of new houses, paid under the Community Infrastructure Levy, will be given directly to the community in which the development has taken place.
- There will be a right to veto excessive Council Tax rises.

### 8.2 Boundary Commission proposals for Hambleton District Council.

It was noted that the Commission has undertaken preliminary discussions with Hambleton District Council and is currently minded to recommend a council size of 28 Councillors (a reduction of 16). After consideration it was agreed that the Parish Council does not wish to respond to the current consultation.

### 9. **GRASSCUTTING**

Brian Porteus advised that he is willing to undertake training to enable him to continue to cut the grass in West Tanfield, provided that the cost is covered by the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Clerk and Councillor Houston will investigate this further.

### 10. **CODE OF CONDUCT**

#### 10.1 Adoption of Code of Conduct.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should adopt the previously circulated Code of Conduct, based on the Local Government Association's version as proposed by Hambleton District Council.

#### 10.2 Amendments to Standing Orders – to be considered at next meeting.

#### 10.3 Training being provided by Hambleton District Council.

Councillors were urged to attend one of the forthcoming training sessions on the new Code of Conduct and Standards Regime being provided by Hambleton District Council.

### 11. **WEST TANFIELD MEMORIAL HALL'S AGM**

Councillor Parkinson advised that he had been unable to attend this recent meeting. The following report was submitted by John Moxon:

- All Officers were re-elected.
- The Hall's finances are in a reasonably sound state.
- There are no major refurbishments planned during the next year.
- Fundraising events will take place later in the year.

### 12. **BONFIRE / FIREWORKS EVENT 2012**

Chris Pennock confirmed that the Quarry's visitor centre is available as a venue for this event.

It was agreed that a meeting of Tarmac and Parish Council representatives should be convened to discuss other arrangements.

### 13. **RECENT ISSUES CAUSED BY TRAVELLING GYPSIES VISITING NOSTERFIELD**

It was noted that this year Nosterfield had seen an increase in the number of people staying overnight at Nosterfield on their way to Appleby Fair.

The Clerk had forwarded some reports of disturbances to P.C. Julian Sutcliffe and thanked Chris Pennock for clearing up mess on local footpaths.

### 14. **PROVISION OF A WEBSITE**

The Clerk was given to permission to investigate setting up a free website for the Parish Council.

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### 15. HIGHWAYS

#### 15.1 Updates on previously reported faults.

<i>Fault</i>	<i>Update</i>
Damaged railings at West Tanfield bus shelter.	Highways North Yorkshire has raised a works order which should be completed by 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2012.
Missing 30mph sign at Corby Bank, West Tanfield.	Highways North Yorkshire has raised a works order for replacement sign which should be in place by 12 <sup>th</sup> August 2012.
Bollards at Camp Wood, Nosterfield.	The two missing bollards have been replaced.
Pothole, Main Street, Thornborough	Although a temporary repair was executed the edges are already beginning to deteriorate. Highways North Yorkshire will be advised of this.
Bollard at roundabout, West Tanfield.	One of the bollards near the village hall which was knocked over by a vehicle has been replaced.
Mini-roundabout near Bruce Arms.	Highways North Yorkshire requested to repaint markings.
Demolished village sign near Thornfield Road, Nosterfield.	Reported to Highways North Yorkshire who it is understood have also been advised by other sources.
Dying Lime Tree, nr Bowling Club, West Tanfield.	Highways North Yorkshire has advised that the tree was not found to be dangerous but will be monitored as part of their inspection regime.

#### 15.2 New faults to be reported.

- Hambleton District Council will be asked to advise on the frequency of visits by the road sweeper wagon..
- Highways North Yorkshire will be asked to advise of proposals to resurface Church Street, West Tanfield.
- The bend warning sign on Main Street when approaching Corby Bank is not securely fastened.

### 16. PARISH CARETAKER

It was agreed that the caretaker should be asked to clean out the phone box in West Tanfield.

### 17. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported on items received, including:

#### 17.1 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.

#### 17.2 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 26<sup>th</sup> September 2012.

#### 17.3 Masham library opening times.

The opening times of the community run library were noted as being 10am until 3pm daily (except Sunday) with late night opening until 7pm on Wednesdays.

#### 17.4 Insulation.

It was noted that the Yorkshire Energy Partnership is offering free cavity wall and loft insulation to all owner occupied or private tenants in the Hambleton District.

### 18. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

#### 18.1 Consultations on applications – none.

#### 18.2 Update and decisions on applications, appeals and enforcement investigations received from Hambleton District Council since the last meeting.

<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Decision</b>
12/00738/FUL	Proposed extension to existing dwelling at Tarn Cottage, Nosterfield.	Passed
12/00718/FUL	Construction of a slurry storage tank at North Tanfield Farm.	Passed
12/011396/CAT	Proposed felling of tree in conservation area at Bramley House, West Tanfield.	Passed

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The Clerk reported on information from Hambleton District Council advising that one of the caravans located behind Stonehaven in Nosterfield has now been moved. The other is to be used whilst building works, which have the benefit of planning permission, are carried out on the property. Hambleton District Council has asked the property owner to confirm their intention regarding retention of the widened gateway as this would require a retrospective planning application.

It was agreed that the altered access should be brought to the attention of North Yorkshire County Council's Countryside and Highways Departments and that this should then be pursued through Hambleton District Council's planning department.

John Moxon advised that he has taken legal advice on this matter and was asked to share any information that he may have with other concerned local residents.

### 19. FINANCIALS

#### 19.1 Bank balances as at 16<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

- Santander Current a/c.....£3640.77
- Santander Savings a/c .....£50.00

#### 19.2 Payments made prior to, or at this meeting.

The following payments were approved and recorded:

- Iona Taylor (Clerk - April, May & June 2012).....£817.37
- Walled Garden Scheme (Invoice 789, Caretaker – March 2012).....£144.00
- Walled Garden Scheme (Invoice 808, Caretaker – April 2012) .....£144.00
- Walled Garden Scheme (Invoice 834, Caretaker – May 2012).....£144.00
- Wensleydale Garage (Petrol, April 2012) .....£20.12
- Wensleydale Garage (Petrol, May 2012).....£44.46
- Wensleydale Garage (Petrol, June 2012).....£48.79
- L&J Garden Services (Lawnmower repairs) .....£138.00
- West Tanfield Village Hall (Hall Hire, May 14<sup>th</sup>).....£14.00
- West Tanfield Village Hall (Hall Hire, May & July 2012).....£21.00

#### 19.3 Monies received prior to, or at this meeting.

- Hambleton District Council (Precept, 1<sup>st</sup> Part) .....£3150.00
- HM Revenue & Customs (VAT Reimbursement, 1/12/11 – 30/4/12) .....£109.91
- NYCC LEADER Instalment .....£108.43

#### 19.4 Signatories on the Council's bank accounts.

It was agreed that all Councillors should be signatories on the Council's accounts with Santander and Natwest.

### 20. NEXT MEETINGS

The next meetings were confirmed as being on 13<sup>th</sup> August and 10<sup>th</sup> September (planning) and 8<sup>th</sup> October 2012 (ordinary).

### 21. ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE NEXT MEETING

- Sites options for future minerals extraction.
- Arrangements for Clerk's appraisal.

Meeting closed at 21.30 hrs.

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

**SIGNED:** ..... (Chairman)

**DATE:** .....