

Tanfield Parish Council

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: Wednesday 10th July 2013
TIME: 19.00 hrs
LOCATION: West Tanfield Memorial Hall
PRESENT: Councillors Peter Hull (Chairman), David Parkinson (Vice-Chairman), Steven Houston and Chris Pennock
IN ATTENDANCE: Iona Taylor (Clerk)
District Councillor David Webster
Bob Trehitt and Ambrose Almack

1. WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Councillor Hull welcomed all those present to the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA – none.

3. APOLOGIES – none.

4. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Bob Trehitt, Chairman of West Tanfield Memorial Hall Management Committee, again raised the issue of the recycling and bin area at the village hall.

Mr Trehitt advised that he is in contact with Hambleton District Council about the recycling bins which are frequently overflowing with waste. Councillors suggested that the hall should consider paying for an additional waste bin, if the one 'wheelie' unit is not sufficient and locating it away from the recycling area to discourage use by the public.

It was agreed that an article should be included in the Council's next newsletter reminding people about the correct usage of the site.

It was noted that the Parish Caretaker empties the bin outside the play area once a month, but that it is not the Parish Council's responsibility to do this. Hambleton District Council has suggested replacing the bin with one with a lid.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS

The minutes of the following meetings were agreed and signed:

- 2013 Annual Parish Council Meeting
- Monday 10th June 2013
- Monday 13th May 2013
- Monday 8th April 2013

6. ITEMS CARRIED FORWARD FROM THE LAST MEETINGS

6.1 Flies in West Tanfield.

It was noted that the problem was not as bad this year and that the promised sample had not been forthcoming. It was agreed that this matter should be removed from future agendas unless the issue recurs.

6.2 Insurance review.

No progress to be reported as the Clerk is still in the process of obtaining a valuation on the bus shelters.

6.3 Yorkshire Water sewerage issues.

It was noted that there has been a burst in the Thornborough to Tanfield section of pipe this week. The repair should now be complete and has been logged on Yorkshire Water's system to try to help promote capital funding. Yorkshire Water will be asked to provide an update on the replacement programme in time for the Parish Council's next meeting.

A Yorkshire Water representative has visited residents at the Villas, Nosterfield and has arranged for an in-house team to carry out investigations in to any remaining problems at this location, which should be done within 14 days.

It was noted that an acknowledgement letter has been received from William Hague MP.

6.4 Vacancy on Parish Council – no progress to be reported.

6.5 Tour de France preparations.

District Councillor Webster provided the Parish Council with an update on preparations being made by the Tour de Tanfield Working Group. Discussion about the income and expenses associated with the event were held.

Research has been carried out in to the origin of the 'Marmion' name, with information leading to a town in France. The possibility of forging a link with this town was discussed. It was agreed that the Clerk should make investigations in to the powers available to the Parish Council to facilitate this and liaise with the Tour de Tanfield group in order to prepare a report for the Council's next meeting.

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7. MAINTENANCE

7.1 Grasscutting.

It was agreed that, after a protracted process, the Walled Garden Scheme has now fulfilled their contractual obligations in respect of the grasscutting in West Tanfield.

7.2 Cutting of Nosterfield Road verge.

The following quotation for cutting this area has been received from the Walled Garden:

- £130 one-off charge for an initial cut.
- An additional £25 per cut thereafter, taking the total price of each visit to West Tanfield to £60.

It was agreed not to proceed with this quotation, but to accept Councillor Houston's offer of carrying out the initial cut free of charge and then proceed to ask the caretaker to carry out further cuts during the remainder of this season.

7.3 Payment of Walled Garden Scheme's April invoices.

It was agreed that invoices 1201, 1202 and 1203 for cutting carried out in April should be paid.

7.4 Sale of Billy Goat Mower.

Investigations by the Clerk have indicated that the mower could be worth between £50 and £100. It was agreed that the mower should be sold on e-bay as previously agreed.

7.5 Common land.

Guidance from the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA) has been received, suggesting that a formal legal opinion is required which they can procure through the National Association of Local Councils. The Clerk has obtained copies of the common land register and maps from North Yorkshire County Council and has also researched the Parish Council's archived minutes. These only confirm that in 1967 the Parish Council completed the relevant form to apply to have the common land in the parish registered, but do not give any background to this decision.

The Clerk will now supply this information to YLCA in order for the legal opinion to be obtained.

7.6 Improvements to Marmion Tower steps.

The caretaker has visited the steps and advised that they are falling in to disrepair because of the weight of material behind each tread. To dig out the background material and re-set the steps using concrete would be about 1 ½ days' work, or approximately £180.

It was agreed that the Council should wait for the outcome of advice re. item 7.6 above before considering whether to proceed with this item. Some concern about setting a precedent for future maintenance was noted.

7.7 Caretaker's task list.

It was agreed that the Parish Council does not wish to continue to fund the caretaker to trim the riverside path between West Tanfield and Sleningford Watermill caravan site, due to budget constraints and the fact that the path is not in Tanfield parish. It was however agreed that it could facilitate this service if local businesses were prepared to pay for it, something that the Clerk will investigate.

8. BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS EVENT

A limited response has been received to the Council's survey of public opinion about continuing the bonfire and fireworks event. A total of 4 responses to a survey on the Tanfield Hub facebook page were received, with 3 indicating that the event should be scrapped.

It was agreed that a further opportunity should be given for people to express their opinion, possibly at the Village Shop.

9. HIGHWAYS

9.1 Speeding in West Tanfield.

The Clerk reported that the parish is not scheduled for visits by the mobile speed camera van, or indeed any enforcement action, because the results of the most recent speed checks carried out by the Hambleton Community Safety Partnership in 2011 reported that:

"It is often found that perceived speed is significantly higher than the actual recorded speed and in this instance it is what the data and analysis have identified."

The Clerk has been advised that speed data is usually considered valid for 3 years. It was therefore agreed that the Parish Council should complete further speed referral forms, requesting new speed checks, in 2014. It was noted that there is a significant waiting list for the checks to be carried out.

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9.2 Updated highways fault sheet.

The following points were noted:

<i>Ref.</i>	<i>Issue</i>	<i>Update / Outcome</i>
TPC 2-11	30mph sign, Corby Bank.	New sign installed.
TPC 6-12	Demolished village sign, Nosterfield.	5.7.13 – asked when Parish Council can expect new sign to be installed.
TPC 7-12	Bend warning sign, Main Street, West Tanfield	5.7.13 – Asked when will be rehung or better still replaced.
TPC 9-12	Fly-tipping on Corby Bank, West Tanfield	David Parkinson advised no evidence of material remaining.
TPC 10-12	Lights near central roundabout in West Tanfield.	David Parkinson advised all lights currently working.
TPC 2-13	Highway flooding.	Advised that drains have been cleared near village shop, but bigger picture not being addressed.
TPC 3-13	Flooding / drainage issues at Fore Lane, Thornborough.	3.5.13 – Followed up with HNY as understand landowner given permission therefore when will works be done. Discussion at meeting indicated that water flows in opposite direction to proposed solution. To be brought to Highways' attention.

9.3 Condition of B6267.

It was noted that this item had been raised at the recent Quarry Liaison Meeting. Lafarge Tarmac had shared local concerns about the condition of the road as their vehicles also use the route. It was agreed that they would write to the Highways Authority expressing their concerns and asking for remedial works to take place. It was however noted that they are not the sole users of this route and the problem is compounded by all the HGV use of the road.

The North Yorkshire County Council Planning Officer attending the Liaison meeting had indicated that he would also raise the issue with the Thirsk Area Highways Department, however the Clerk expressed doubts as to the effectiveness of this approach.

The suggestion of obtaining financial contributions to the road infrastructure as part of planning permissions was raised by the Clerk at the Liaison meeting; however difficulties with ensuring an equitable application of this system were noted.

Repairs detailed in the 2013/14 and 2014/15 schedule of works were noted (see item 9.4).

9.4 Highways Capital Programme 2013/14 and 2014/15.

The following programmed works on the B6267 were noted:

- 2013/14 – B6267, Nosterfield to Thornborough (£23,475)
- 2013/14 – B6267, Nosterfield to Well (£15,227)
- 2014/15 – B6267, Lime Lane, Kirklington (£11,151)

It was agreed that these are insufficient and do not appear to tackle the worst section of road near Upsland. It was therefore resolved that the Hambleton Community Safety Partnership and William Hague MP should be asked to provide support in securing appropriate and effective works. The Parish Council's concerns will also be raised with Highways North Yorkshire.

10. QUARRY LIAISON REPORT

The Clerk's report on the recent meeting held on 25th June 2013 was considered by Councillors. The following key points were noted:

- Output remains low as a result of the ongoing recession affecting construction in the South and East Yorkshire areas which are this quarry's primary markets.
- This has had an impact on the time taken to extract material from the Ladybridge site which is now behind schedule in terms of its planning permission. It is therefore expected that an application to extend the permission for an additional 18-24 months beyond the initial October 2014 deadline.
- Lafarge Tarmac is in discussions about supplying material for the next phase of the A1 upgrade.
- In a change to previous practices Nosterfield Quarry and Lafarge Tarmac representatives are now meeting with North Yorkshire County Council Officers on a quarterly basis. This means that there is now a better working relationship on an ongoing basis, rather than a reporting relationship once a year.
- Any significant changes to the restoration proposals resulting from these discussions would of course be subject to consultation via the usual planning process.
- The Quarry continues to try to do all it can to maximise opportunities to reclaim as much land as possible i.e. to reduce the size of lakes and execute 'dry' restorations, whether that be back to agricultural uses or for nature conservation.

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- Soil stripping and excavation works continuing on the Ladybridge site are monitored by an archaeologist, although little of significant interest has been found.
- Lafarge Tarmac's application for an extension to Nosterfield Quarry is on hold pending the submission of additional environmental information by Nick Beale. This has been delayed by the necessary restructuring as a result of the recent Lafarge and Tarmac merger, but is expected to be submitted within the next few months.
- It is proposed to re-erect an information board between the central and southern henges. It was noted that his board contains the Parish Council's name at the top. Councillor Pennock confirmed that Lafarge Tarmac (who are overseeing its installation) will be ensuring that all necessary permissions are in place. The Council reaffirmed its position as agreed at the July 2011 meeting:
"It was once again agreed that the Parish Council has no objections to this board being re-erected, subject to the necessary permissions being obtained."
- As discussed at the Council's June meeting, it was noted that Lafarge Tarmac are submitting areas for future extraction for inclusion in the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan being prepared by North Yorkshire County Council & partners.

11. FINANCIALS

11.1 Financial report.

<i>Bank Balances as at 5/7/13:</i>	
Santander Business Current a/c - ****4380	£4,955.73
Santander Business Reserve a/c - ****7222	£50.00
NatWest Current a/c - ****4884	£2.46
NatWest Business Reserve a/c - ****2668	£0.10
TOTAL	£5,008.29

<i>Payments to be approved and recorded:</i>		
<i>Payee</i>	<i>Details</i>	
West Tanfield Memorial Hall	Hall Hire on 8.4.13	£14.00
Iona Taylor	Clerk - April 2013	£239.24
Iona Taylor	Clerk - May 2013	£234.36
Iona Taylor	Clerk - June 2013	£341.33
HMRC	PAYE - April 2013	£51.40
HMRC	PAYE - May 2013	£49.40
HMRC	PAYE - June 2013	£61.40
Farm & Land Services	Caretaker (April) - Invoice 3849	£90.00
West Tanfield Memorial Hall	Hall Hire on 13.5.13 (Invoice AS/180)	£14.00
Walled Garden Scheme	Invoice 1203 - WT Cutting in April	£84.00
Walled Garden Scheme	Invoice 1201 - N'field Cutting in April	£21.00
Walled Garden Scheme	Invoice 1202 - T'boro Cutting in April	£21.00
West Tanfield Memorial Hall	Hall Hire on 10.6.13 (Invoice AS/185)	£7.00
West Tanfield Memorial Hall	Hall Hire on 10.7.13 (Invoice AS/188)	£14.00
TOTAL		£866.33

<i>Receipts to be recorded:</i>		
<i>Received From</i>	<i>Details</i>	
North Yorkshire County Council	LEADER Instalment	£159.00
Hambleton District Council	Precept - 1st Part	£3,150.00
HMRC	VAT Reimbursement (1/9/12 - 31/3/13)	£365.18
TOTAL		£3,674.18

11.2 Donation to Hambleton Citizens Advice Bureau.

It was resolved that a donation of £100 be made to cover the 2013/14 financial year.

11.3 Transfer of bank accounts.

It was noted that only Councillor Pennock needs to submit his ID and form to NatWest.

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12. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported on items received, including:

12.1 Winter weather agents toolkit.

The Clerk will try to obtain and circulate an electronic copy of this document, produced by Rural Action Yorkshire, which aims to help communities prepare for adverse weather in winter.

12.2 District / Parish Council Liaison.

The Council was ambivalent about proposals for regular liaison meetings with Hambleton District Council as it feels that there are already adequate methods of communicating with the District Council as and when required.

12.3 Changes to streetlighting.

Councillor Pennock reported on North Yorkshire County and Hambleton District Councils' proposals for 'part-night' streetlighting. This involves turning off streetlights between midnight and 5am in an effort to save money and help meet carbon reduction targets. There will be some exclusions to this, such as near road junctions or in the vicinity of care homes. It was resolved that this Parish Council has no objections to the proposals which will be advertised to residents in August.

13. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

13.1 Consultations on applications – none.

13.2 Updates and decisions on applications received from Hambleton District Council since the last meeting.

<i>Application No.</i>	<i>Proposal</i>	<i>Decision</i>
13/00264/FUL	Construction of 2 holiday cottages and 3 workshop/office buildings at land to rear of Hillside Cottage and off Back Lane, Thornborough.	Refused
13/006654/FUL	Single storey lean-to extension at Robin Hill, West Tanfield.	Passed
13/00875/FUL	Change of use of agricultural land to equestrian and construction of a stable block / store at Binsoe Hill Farm, Binsoe.	Passed
13/00596/FUL	Construction of an agricultural storage building at Stonehaven, Nosterfield.	Passed

13.3 Partial review of Hambleton Local Development Framework (LDF).

It was noted that Hambleton District Council is about to embark on a selective policy review of the LDF. The date of a forthcoming meeting to help the District Council find out if Parish Councils think that the plan is working was noted and representatives of this Council will attend.

14. EMPLOYMENT DOCUMENTS

It was resolved that the Clerk's contract of employment and the Staffing Committee Terms of Reference be approved.

15. COUNCIL'S DOCUMENTS

It was resolved that the revised Standing Orders and new Retention of Documents and Information be adopted.

16. NEXT MEETINGS

It was agreed that the Parish Council should meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7pm from now on.

The next planning meeting, if required, will be held on 6th August 2013.

17. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

- Councillor Pennock reported that the planning application for a substantially larger replacement dwelling at Silent Springs near Nosterfield is due to be determined by a Planning Inspector at appeal. This is of significance to this Parish Council as access to the property is from the B6267.
- Proposals for further development in North Stanley were noted.

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

Meeting closed at 20.43 hrs.

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

SIGNED: (Chairman)

DATE: