
GRANTLEY, SAWLEY, SKELDING AND EAVESTONE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: Thursday 17th May 2012
TIME: 20.29 hrs
LOCATION: Sawley Village Hall
PRESENT: Councillors John Scannell (Chair), Martin Kirbitson (Vice-Chair), Trevor Kitchen, June Learoyd, Mike Lumb, Martin Soley and Rachel Wigginton.
IN ATTENDANCE: Iona Taylor (Clerk)
District Councillor Margaret Atkinson
Ted Dodsworth and Ken Walmsley

1. WELCOME

Councillor Scannell welcomed all those present to the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Councillor Scannell declared a personal interest in the planning applications at Old Hall Farm, Grantley due to the proximity of the application site to his home.

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS OR STATEMENTS – none.

4. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from County Councillor Paul Richardson and Ted Flexman.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting held on 13th March 2012 were approved and signed.

6. ITEMS CARRIED FORWARD FROM THE LAST MEETING

6.1 Grantley noticeboard.

A quotation of £920 from Peter Dean of Galphay has been obtained by Councillor Lumb after attending a meeting of the Grantley Village Hall Management Committee.

It was agreed that the Council's preference would be to use this local contractor, even though his quote is slightly higher than that from other companies. It was noted that the board will be made from oak, with safety glass. Councillor Lumb would ask for the wood to have preservative applied so as to stop it swelling with water ingress.

Subject to receiving confirmation from Grantley Village Hall Committee that they are happy to pay half of this amount it was agreed to proceed to order the noticeboard from Mr Dean.

6.2 Fence at Picking Gill – no progress to be reported.

6.3 Broadband.

It was agreed that whilst it is not inclined to pursue specific grant funding, the Parish Council should continue to press for improved broadband in this area at every opportunity, including the next round of consultation meetings with Harrogate Borough Council.

6.4 Oil purchasing co-operative – to be deferred to next meeting.

7. INSURANCE

The Clerk's recommendation of renewing with Came & Company on a three year deal of £352.35 was noted. The purpose of a 3-year binding agreement is so that the Parish Council knows that for the period of the agreement the premiums will only increase slightly (due to the property sums insured being index linked). The rates applied by Aviva at the start of the agreement will be maintained at the same level throughout the period. The annual premium will increase slightly but not because of a rate increase. If Aviva breaks the agreement and increases its rates the Parish Council is free to seek alternative insurance.

It was agreed that Councillors Soley and Wigginton should review the renewal invitation before proceeding to take advantage of the three year deal.

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8. UPDATE ON DIAMOND JUBILEE & COMMUTED SUMS PROJECTS IN SAWLEY

Councillor Kitchen reported that the previously considered works, funded by commuted sums have been undertaken and a claim submitted to Harrogate Borough Council. The Clerk will circulate an updated balance sheet to Councillors.

Following recent e-mail correspondence amongst Councillors it was noted that the Parish Council has purchased, at a total cost of £547.10, the Sawley jubilee mugs directly from the supplier so that VAT can be reclaimed. The Small Grants Scheme money (net amount of £455.92) will be reimbursed by the Jubilee Working Group.

9. PARISH ROOM PROCEEDS

9.1 Application to Small Grants Scheme from Mr James Johnston.

After consideration it was agreed that on this occasion a grant should not be made to Mr Johnston as the Parish Council would like the scheme to be publicised again so as to give the opportunity of distributing the funds more widely amongst other members of the public.

9.2 Investment bond.

It was agreed that £32,750 of the Parish Room Proceeds should be invested in a Cambridge Building Society 2 year business saver bond which pays an interest rate of 3.25%.

In line with the decision at the Annual Parish Council Meeting the signatories on this account will be Councillors John Scannell and Martin Kirbitson and the Clerk (Iona Taylor).

9.3 Renovation of Sawley Church Clock.

Three quotations, as listed below, have now been received for this project to service and overhaul Sawley Church Clock, to include reinstating the chiming mechanism.

<i>Time Assured</i>	The Cumbria Clock Company	English Clockmakers
£4239.00	£5660.00	£6650.00

It was noted that Time Assured remains the Council's preferred contractor as they are not only the cheapest but their engineer also has experience of working on this clock.

These quotations will be forwarded to Fountains Parochial Church Council who are in the process of obtaining a faculty (similar to planning permission) to allow the works to be carried out at the earliest opportunity.

10. HIGHWAYS

10.1 Sawley bus bay scheme.

The Clerk reported on correspondence between County Councillor Paul Richardson and Mr Eccles whose home is adjacent to the proposed site of the new bus bay.

The Parish Council's previous decision on this matter (taken at its meeting on 29th March 2011) was referred to and upheld.

County Councillor Richardson and Highways North Yorkshire will be advised of this and asked to progress the project as soon as possible.

10.2 Outstanding highways issues.

Concerns about the quality of temporary repairs being executed on behalf of Highways North Yorkshire were noted and will be conveyed to them.

Particular concerns were expressed about the ongoing poor condition of the road surface in Grantley between the central road junction and Old Hall.

11. PARISH CARETAKER

A number of tasks were agreed for inclusion on the job list.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported on items received, including:

12.1 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.

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12.2 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. On Ted Flexman's advice this Parish Council has requested wildflower seeds.

12.3 Digital television 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.

12.4 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 of £10,001 - £25,000 is now £100.

13. FINANCIALS

13.1 Bank balances as at 17th May 2012.

HSBC Current a/c - ****9716	£500.00
HSBC Savings a/c - ****9208	£10,608.47
HSBC Special Projects a/c - ****4933	£505.70
HSBC Parish Room Proceeds Current a/c - ****1839	£67.66
HSBC Parish Room Proceeds Savings a/c - ****1847	£65,124.74
HSBS Sawley Small Grants Scheme a/c - ****2224	£2,943.62
Santander Bond	£50,000.00
Skipton Bond	£32,876.26
TOTAL	£162,626.45

13.2 Payments made prior to or at this meeting.

It was noted that a number of payments made at the end of the 2011/12 financial year were approved as part of the annual accounts.

The following payments were also approved and recorded:

- Iona Taylor (Parish Room Proceeds Administration, March 2012)£67.66
- Iona Taylor (Clerk, March 2012) £350.41
- Iona Taylor (Clerk, April 2012).....£76.50
- Walled Garden Scheme (Caretaker – March 2012, Invoice 787) £160.80

13.3 Monies received prior to or at this meeting.

The following receipts were recorded:

- Harrogate Borough Council (Precept, 1st Part) £3112.00
- North Yorkshire County Council (Picking Gill Compound Rental) £550.00
- HM Revenue & Customs (VAT Reimbursement, 11/11/11 – 31/3/12)..... £214.40

14. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

14.1 Consultations on applications.

Reference	Proposal	Council's Decision
6.51.109.FUL 12/01649/FUL	Two storey extension at 8, Church Close, Sawley.	No objection to principle or design of extension, but comments re. parking displacement on to highway.
12/01682/FUL	Retention of the conversion of pole barn to stable at Old Hall Farm, Grantley.	No objections.
12/01681/CLEUD	Application for certificate of lawfulness for existing use of barn as garage and games room at Old Hall Farm, Grantley.	Confirmation of position expressed in application.

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14.2 Comments on applications sent to Harrogate Borough Council since the last meeting.

Reference	Proposal	Comments sent from Council.
12/01062/FUL	Erection of replacement porches at 1 & 2 Town End Cottages, Grantley.	No objections.
6.42.34.B.CLEUD 12/00360/CLEUD	Application for certificate of Lawfulness for the existing use of land as domestic garden at 3, Town End Cottages, Grantley.	No comments submitted.

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

Reference	Proposal	Update / Decision
6.42.63.FUL 11/05189/FUL	Erection of agricultural building and formation of new access at land comprising OS field 4750, Grantley.	Application refused and appeal lodged.
12/01062/FUL	Erection of replacement porches at 1 & 2 Town End Cottages, Grantley.	Passed
Planning Enforcement Investigation: 12/00197/PR15	Alleged works to entrance of field and laying of hardcore to create a car park which in turn may damage supply of springwater, ref refused application for detached storage building, car parking spaces and vehicular access at land comprising OS Field 2736, Eavestone.	Investigation ongoing, map to be obtained.
Planning Enforcement Investigation: 12/00196/PR15	Works to widen driveway, change of use of field as car park at land comprising OS Field 2736, Eavestone.	Investigation ongoing, map to be obtained.

14.4 Report from CPRE training on Neighbourhood Planning.

Councillor Wigginton submitted a detailed report on the recently held training.

It was agreed that Councillors should obtain further information on the cost of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan.

15. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was confirmed as being on 24th July 2012 at 19.30 hrs in Grantley Village Hall.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that the pub in Sawley is for sale, but agreed that no action is required from the Parish Council.

Meeting closed at 22.00 hrs.

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

SIGNED: (Chairman)

DATE: