

TOPCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Monday January 17th, 2011 in the village hall

Councillors present G. Key (Chair,) D. Bowman (Vice-chair), A. Jameson-Allen, M. Bowen, J Heidstrom
Apologies Cllr Huxtable, PC N Warby

11/001 Apologies received from Cllr Huxtable and PC Warby

11/002 It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday November 15th, 2010 be accepted as true record and be signed by the Chair.

Proposed by AJA, seconded by JH

11/003 Declarations of interest: None

11/004 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS

i) JH expressed concern that another vehicle had crashed into the front wall of his pub, this time causing material damage. It was agreed that JH should approach the Highways Agency directly, involving his insurers to ensure that that corner is well gritted in bad weather. The PC will also write expressing concern. **Action JH/GK**

ii) JH and DB will repair shed door at playing field. **Action DB/JH**

iii) Necessary works to the play area highlighted by the RoSPA report have been completed by the supplier.

iv) No progress to date on the bailiffing of fishing rights. **Action:-GK**

11/005 ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

i) GK reported that he had had a meeting with the vicar regarding the non-payment of burial fees, ownership of the cemetery and the fact that the cemetery is getting full. They discussed other possible locations for a cemetery in the village but in the absence of anything available or suitable the possibility of reusing the back of the churchyard, an area which had fallen into disrepair was being considered. It has been established that a burial ground where all graves are over 100 years old may be reused.

After further investigation, it had also been established that the current cemetery belongs to the diocese but was being maintained by the PC as it had fallen into a state of disrepair some years ago. The payment of burial fees over to the PC had been intended to contribute towards the costs of maintenance. The PC concluded that if the church continued not to pay over burial fees then the PC would be within its rights to stop providing maintenance.

The possibility of putting memorial plaques on the back wall of the cemetery shelter had also been discussed. The diocese is to consider whether this would be acceptable and what format such plaques should take. **Action: Diocese**

ii) No progress made yet on the bailiffing of fishing rights but GK to draw up appropriate documents for review and laminating. **Action:- GK**

11/006 PLANNING

i) Approval sought for routine maintenance to trees in Deans Square. Approved by the council, proposed MB, seconded JH.

11/007 PLAYING FIELD SUB-COMMITTEE

i) JH raised concerns over the safety of some of the branches of the large oak tree halfway down the right hand hedge of the playing field. JH to speak to Dave Burton of Treescape to get a quote for surveying and trimming.

ii) Malcolm Morley has put the mower batteries on trickle charge. No further maintenance required at present.

iii) The football club will cut the grass over the coming year. JH to train volunteers. **Action: JH**

iv) The National Lottery fund has checked the audit trail for monies contributed to the play area and has confirmed that paperwork meets its requirements.

11/008 OPEN SPACES MAINTENANCE

Cemetery plans recorded in minute 11/005 (i)

11/009 VILLAGE PROJECTS

The council noted that the tarmac had started to lift on the pavement by the shop. GK to add to letter to Highways Agency. **Action: GK**

11/010 FINANCES, CHEQUES AND COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION

- i) Community account statement - £4,145.01
- ii) Business reserve statement - £4,701.95
- iii) Parish Council elections will be held in May. A contested election will cost £800 compared to an uncontested election of £100. Councillors will consider whether they wish to stand again.
- iv) The clerk expressed concerns over proposals to use internet banking. Discrepancies were noted between information provided by the bank to GK and further information sent to the clerk. IP to speak to the bank. **Action: IP**
- v) Cheque for £2,063.30 payable to NYCC (£1,756.00 + £307.30 VAT) for grasscutting proposed by MB seconded by JH.
- vi) Cheque for £7.48 payable to Anne Marie Barningham, IP to ask AMB to sign a receipt. Proposed MB seconded JH. **Action IP**
- vii) Cheque payable for £110 to Topcliffe Village Hall proposed by JH, seconded DB.
- viii) Cheque payable for £379.39 payable to Isobel Peters (£348 salary + £31.39 expenses) proposed by MB and seconded by JH.
- ix) The council discussed whether to subscribe to membership of YLCA at £241 per annum. The clerk to speak to the council's insurer to establish how much advice would be available from them if required. **Action IP**

11/011 CORRESPONDENCE

- i) CoBRA scheme, the council agreed to take no action.
- ii) The clerk raised the council's awareness that the 2011 census will take place 27 March 2011.

Next meeting: 21st February 2011 at 7pm in village hall