

TOPCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday April 10th, 2006 in the village hall

Councillors present: G Key (Chair), H Wilson, V Rawlings,

Apologies: T Brown, R Smith

Also present: Cllr N Huxtable, Lynn Heidstrom, Ray Parker, Dave Bowman

MINUTES

509 It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on Friday March 20th, be accepted as a true record and be signed by the Chairman.

510 MATTERS ARISING AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- (1) Sgt Ben Frank of the Thirsk Crime Office reported that two youngsters have been identified as causing damage in the village. Charges are not being pressed however. Councillor Wilson said that it's important to report incidents as and when they occur in order to identify a possible pattern. Posters are being displayed on noticeboards. Some empty stables were recently set on fire and the fire services and police were summoned. A culprit has been caught and is paying damages. Councillor Key felt that parents often believe their children are blameless but he thought that if there was increased vigilance in the village, youngsters might be less inclined to commit acts of vandalism. Councillor Rawlings reported that he had found evidence of drinking and smoking in the cemetery shelter. A motion was proposed and seconded to replace a tree which had been destroyed in Jubilee Gardens.

511 ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- (I) The new bench site will be either Jubilee Gardens or the top end of the Sheepwash where there is a pleasant picnic spot.
- (ii) It has been decided that there will be a village tidy-up on 24 June, beginning at 10 am. At 4pm there will be a barbecue on the playing field. Chairman Key felt that this would be preferable to the Sheepwash as there are facilities and fresh water available.
- (iii) The fishing rights having been established at the Sheepwash, the Chairman requested that Eccles Haddon be appointed the Council's solicitors as they are experienced in parish council work. It would be helpful to have an official solicitor and the firm do not charge any fee unless asked to provide a particular service.
- (iv) Parking on the verge in Long Street has resulted in damage to the grass as motorists pull over to avoid blocking the road between the doctors' surgery and Barningham's farm. Chairman Key had received a quote for £589.50 for raking and returning. Plastic netting would cost £2,500. Posts would be useful to prevent the damage being repeated to the new turf but the Highways Department had informed the Council that this would not be allowed. Chairman Huxtable said there were posts in Easingwold and he advised that the matter be pursued. The sign asking motorists to "Kill your speed, not a child" needs replacing. Dave Bowman asked if a temporary sign warning drivers when they were speeding could be erected on Long Street where speeding traffic is a problem
- (v) The replacement of the millstone, recently damaged by a road traffic accident, will be covered by insurance. A new millstone will probably have to be made.

512 PLANNING

- (i) Construction of two warehouse buildings, hard standing and car ports for Severfield Rowen at Dalton Old Airfield Industrial Estate, Dalton – Approval recommended
- (ii) Alterations and extensions to existing warehouses and production units at Wagg Foods, Dalton Old Airfield Industrial Estate, Dalton – Approval recommended although some concern was expressed about increased traffic and the infrastructure of the bridge.

513 PLANNING PERMISSION HAS BEEN APPROVED

- (i) Thornhill, Station Road, Topcliffe – change of use of land from agricultural to agricultural and equestrian use. Construction of a stable block.

514 PLANNING PERMISSION HAS BEEN REFUSED

- (i) Rosecroft, Long Street, Topcliffe for Mr and Mrs P Ellis - Construction of two dwellings

515 PLAYING FIELD SUB-COMMITTEE

Councillor Wilson reported that the safety surface needed some maintenance work and the hut on the playing field needs repainting.

516 OPEN SPACES MAINTENANCE

- (i) The grasscutting contract will be awarded to the Facilities Management at Bedale Hall. The Chairman is writing to Steve Gibb to this effect.

517 VILLAGE PROJECTS

- (i) The Community Arts Project finally attracted eleven participants
- (ii) Charles Collinson will be asked to maintain the village website.

518 FINANCES

- (i) A cheque has been received for £509.76 – rates rebate for the Youth Engagement Group.
- (ii) Barclays Bank Community Account Statement - £4, 335.84.
- (iii) StepSaver Interest Statement - £1851.57.
- (iv) Contribution made to Topcliffe & Asenby Senior Citizens' Club - £72
- (v) Hire of village hall for Parish Council meetings – payment due from April 2004 - £200
- (vi) Water rates for playing field - £83.15
- (vii) YLCA Membership - £202
- (viii) Mazars re end of year accounts
- (ix) HDC – invoice for wheelie bin hire at Topcliffe Cemetery - £152.75
- (x) Barclays Business Reserve Account Statement - £1860.34
- (xi) Payment to Vicki Moores – clerk's salary - £420.

.519 CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) HDC – Register of Members' Interests
- (ii) Wicksteed – invitation to exhibition
- (iii) NYCC – Review of contracted bus services
- (iv) NYCC – plans for the local tip
- (v) HDC – Communication between HDC and the parishes and minutes of District/Parish Liaison Meeting
- (vi) Survey on rural crime
- (vii) Shaping Health – Invitation to join Patient Forum
- (viii) HDC – Commercial Waste Clearance Agreement
- (ix) YLCA – revised subscription fee
- (x) Allianz Cornhill

Next Meeting: Monday 19 June at 8 pm

AGM: Saturday 6 May at noon at the Toll Booth