

Hovingham with Scackleton Parish Council
Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting
held in Hovingham Village Hall
on **Thursday, 1st May 2008**

Action
by

Present:

Councillors: I. Battersby (Chair), A. James, K. Harrison, C.R. Wainwright, M. Wilson, W. Swann, P. Chapman

Clerk: Mrs. J. Wood

Electors present: Mr. P. O'Rourke, Mrs. A. Chapman, Mr. R. Thompson, Mrs G. Green and Mrs M. Wilson.

Also present: County Councillor C. Wood, Mr. Richard Marr (Highways Dept., NYCC), Mr. Richard Owens (Passenger Transport Manager, NYCC)

1 Apologies

None

2 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 6th March 2008

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th March 2008 were approved. Proposed Cllr. K. Harrison, seconded Cllr. P. Chapman.

3 Matters arising from the above minutes

Messrs. Carter Jonas of Harrogate have agreed to a meeting, to be arranged, with the Parish Council, to discuss the Hovingham Estate's Village Plan. The Clerk to arrange this meeting for Wednesday, 14th May.

Clerk

Hedge cutting, alongside the footway to Wath. Deans of Slingsby to be asked to cut this hedge on the first possible date, after the growing season.

M.W.

Cllr. C.R. Wainwright informed the Parish Council that the kickabout area, to the rear of the Malt Shovel, is privately owned. It was agreed that the owner should be approached for permission for local children to play on this land, or enquire about possibility of leasing the land for the purpose. Hall Green is currently being used as a kickabout area, however, the question of safety arose, due to close proximity to the road.

Extra County councillor C. Wood introduced the Assistant Director of Integrated Passenger Transport, North Yorkshire County Council, Mr. Richard Owens. Mr. Owens attended this meeting to explain the changes to the bus service and to apologise for the lack of communication from his department, which meant that the Parish Council and residents of Hovingham were not informed of the new timetable. When the new timetable came into use on Monday, 28th April, some passengers were not picked up at Hovingham. Mr. Owens apologised for this and informed the meeting that the driver was being retrained. Cllr. P. Chapman said that the lack of information had caused great inconvenience to passengers in the village and asked what the procedure was for passing information on to the public. Mr Owens assured the meeting that the normal procedure was to inform the Parish Council, who could then pass on the information to residents, but that management had been unaware that this information had not been correctly passed on. Steps will be taken to ensure that this situation does not arise again. The new timetable has reduced the service to Malton to 2-hourly, instead of hourly, but extended to include a regular two buses daily to Helmsley and Castle Howard.

Questions being asked by electors at this time. Cllr. K. Harrison said that, as it had been agreed that Electors' should have the opportunity to ask questions after the main business of the meeting, these questions should be held over. However, the Chairman pointed out that Mr. Owens had attended this meeting for the purpose of discussing the bus service and that he would leave after this item, therefore any questions from electors should be allowed at this time.

Cllr. P. Chapman said that he had attempted to contact NYCC, but the department was

not available for enquiries. He had contacted Stephensons, the bus contractor, who did respond, but not helpfully. He asked Mr. Owens what the usual procedure for enquiries was for the department. Mr. Owens said that the department could be expected to respond within 20 days of an enquiry. Cllr. P. Chapman said that an acknowledgement of the enquiry, much sooner than this, would be acceptable.

Cllr. I. Battersby asked for clarification of the procedure regarding changes in transport arrangements. Mr. Owens said that a public document is available, which will be emailed to the Clerk.

Cllr. K. Harrison said that, as the public are encouraged to use public transport, resources should be available for them to do so.

Cllr. P. Chapman said that the extra service to Helmsley was a positive move, however, the reduced service was not good for travellers to Malton. On the positive side, the bus now goes down Church Street only twice a day, instead of ten times a day, as previously. Cllr. P. Chapman to arrange a public meeting, for interested people. Mr. Owens said he would be happy to attend such meeting.

County Councillor C. Wood thanked the Chairman for accepting the apology offered by Mr. Owens. Mr. Owens then left the meeting.

County Councillor C. Wood introduced Mr. Richard Marr, Area Manager, Highways Department, North Yorkshire County Council.

Following Cllr. C. Wood's initiative, twelve sites in Ryedale are to have trials of speed matrixes. Hovingham should have two solar powered matrixes in place by the end of May and the trial is to last for approximately one month. There was some discussion about optimum sites for these. One will be placed approximately opposite the Worsley Arms Hotel, the other will be close to Hall Farm Cottages. Ideally it would be preferred before the entrance/exit to Pasture Lane, however, some trees near to Hall Farm would shade it from the light necessary to power it. A vehicle speed count has already been done. Cllr. P. Chapman asked if the monitoring log would be available to the Parish Council. Mr. Marr said that it would be. County Councillor C. Wood asked Mr. Marr to keep the Parish Council informed, through the Clerk. Cllr. K. Harrison said that although the police had been in the village recently, with speed guns, their efforts may not be successful, as they were too obvious. They had, however, managed to catch several motorists speeding. These motorists were given a warning.

The Chairman thanked County Councillor C. Wood and Mr. Richard Marr for attending.

Cllr. W. Swann asked Mr. Marr for his comments regarding the condition of the road and footway at Scackleton, for which she has repeatedly asked for attention. Mr. Marr agreed to visit the site on the same day as the proposed site meeting at Hovingham.

4 Grass Cutting

The contract for grass cutting is awarded to Cliffords of Slingsby. However, NYCC made the first cut, in error. Cliffords will do future cuts. Mr. Shepherd-Cross to continue to cut Top Green fortnightly.

5 Street Furniture

Following a complaint from a resident about the furniture outside the shop on Park Street, Cllr. I. Battersby said he would talk to the proprietor to obtain an assurance that the pedestrian footway would not be obstructed. Whilst it does not encroach upon the footway whilst it is not in use, when customers are using the tables, there is a tendency to spread out, causing an obstruction.

There had also been a further complaint about vehicles being parked too close to the road junction, ('opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction.' - [Laws RTA 1988, sect 22 & CUR reg 103] Highway Code) Cllr. P. Chapman agreed to write to P.C. Goodwill for advice on this matter.

6 Cemetery

Two trees require pruning. Cllr A. James agreed to do this. The footpath approaching the cemetery had been muddy, during recent rains. Cllr. A. James to inspect this when

I.B.

P.C.

A.J.

dry, to ascertain if any repairs are required. Otherwise, the cemetery appears in good order.

7 Planning Applications

An application has been received in respect of land to the north of Mossburn House, Park Street, for the erection of a four bedroom dwelling with detached double garage for Hovingham Estate. No objections were raised by those present.

8 Correspondence

As there is an increasing use of email for correspondence, which are generally forwarded to the Parish Councillors by the Clerk, the Clerk suggested that any information documents requiring their attention will be scanned and emailed to all parish councillors, thereby allowing them to see documents sooner than if they were circulated in the usual way. All documents and correspondence will be retained by the Clerk and can be viewed on request.

Clerk

9 Finance

9.1 Financial Report

Transactions since last meeting:

Receipts: Cemetery £70; Car Parking £35.60; Precept, 1st Instalment £1,375.00.
Payments: Printing: £24.75; Paint, £60; YLCA Subscription, £123;
Payments pending: Insurance, £258.19; Printing, £25;
Receipts pending: Hands, £37.50.

Bank Accounts:

Current Account, £ 465. 60
BPA A/c. No.1. £ 332. 42
BPA A/c. No.2. £ 3433. 16
Contingency A/c (Post Office). £ 609. 77 (Plus interest to be added).
Total assets: £ 4595 26 as at 1st May 2008

9.2 Website

As proposed at the meeting on 6th March, Cllr M. Wilson proposed, Cllr. W. Swann seconded and all agreed that up to £120 per year may be spent on the Community website www.hovingham.org.uk

At a meeting held at the Village Hall in April, nine people attended. It was decided that this website will have many uses and several people will be willing to help with content and input. It is estimated that approximately 70% of our community has access to the internet, whilst 30% do not. It was suggested that some open sessions may be held, at the Village Hall, to introduce non-users to the internet and demonstrate the Hovingham website.

Members were informed that a 'fuel pool' is being planned. This is a private initiative and, whilst the Parish Council supports this scheme, in principle, it is not in any way responsible. Cllr. K. Harrison declared an interest, relating to his position within the BATA company. Members of the community who wish to join in the scheme for bulk purchase of heating oils may email fuel@hovingham.org.uk to register their interest. This is also open to residents who do not use email. Briefly, heating oils would be delivered to all members of the pool on the same day, each being responsible for payment of their own bills.

10 Scackleton

The condition of the footways and the road has already been mentioned, above. The noticeboard is still in want of replacement. The clerk is still awaiting some estimates.

The grass has previously had three cuts a year. Cllr. W. Swann proposed an increase to five or six cuts, as necessary. Seconded Cllr. M. Wilson. The contractor is to be asked to send his estimate for this, for agenda next meeting. The first cut will be, as usual, after the daffodils have died down, on or before 2nd June.

Cllr. K. Harrison said that there is still no sign at the top of the lane to Hovingham Lodge. He was informed, by Cllr. A. James, that some residents had objected to a sign being

Clerk

placed there. A 'No Through Road' sign is to be provided by Highways Dept., NYCC.

11 Electors' Questions

Mr. P. O'Rourke asked if the Parish Council could explain the activity on land to the left of Mowbray Crescent, behind his house. Cllr. M. Wilson said that Hovingham Estate were considering making that area over to allotments.

12 Matters that the Chairman wishes to draw to the attention of the Council

None

13 District Councillor C.R. Wainwright's Report

Cllr. C.R. Wainwright said that RDC were asking parishes outside Malton for their comments regarding the redevelopment of the town centre. There is a proposal to move the livestock market to the old Showfield site and develop the 28 acre site. However, this is an undeveloped, greenfield site, outside the Local Plan. There have been proposals to extend the Community House in Wentworth Street and also Smithson Court. Local parish representatives are asked why they think that Malton is failing to attract visitors, businesses, shoppers. Proposals will be discussed at the Parish Liaison meeting on 20th May at Ryedale House. Cllrs. A. James and K. Harrison will attend.

A.J.
K.H.

14 Any other business

The Chairman said that the development of a Village Plan would be a key priority for the coming year.

The AONB will hold an open day at the Village Hall, to highlight developments, on 2nd June, which will be open to residents from the surrounding area. This will be followed by a meeting for residents, at which it is hoped to establish a steering group to take this project forward. Hovingham and Scackleton should be represented within this group, which should consist of seven or eight people and should be chaired by a non-Parish Council member of the community. Proposed Cllr. P. Chapman, seconded Cllr. I. Battersby.

Mr. R. Thompson and Mrs. G. Green agreed to send a notice, under the 'HandS' banner, informing residents of the forthcoming meetings regarding bus services and the Village Plan, as and when the dates for these meetings are arranged.

15 Date of next meeting

Wednesday, 23rd July 2008 at Scackleton Church, at 7pm