

Minutes of a Meeting of Strensall and Towthorpe Parish Council held on Tuesday 11th August, 2009 in the Village Hall

Agenda Item 1 – Attendance: Parish Councillors P. Jesse (Chairman), K. Marquis and N. Smith (Joint Vice Chairman), R. Plant, Miss E. Blacklee, J. Scott, A. Swales, J. Chapman, A. Young, I. Cuthbertson, Mrs. S. Nunn, Mrs. J. Smith, C. Chambers and D. Baxter.

Agenda Item 2 – To Receive Apologies for Absence: None

Agenda Item 3. – To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14th July 2009 – The minutes of the meeting held on 14th July 2009, having previously been circulated. On the proposition of Cllr Plant, seconded by Cllr Nunn, it was unanimously agreed that the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record of that meeting.

Agenda Item 4. – Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 14th July 2009 (for information only) None

Agenda Item 5 – Affordable Housing – Update by Mr. Michael Jones City of York Council Rural Housing Enabler. – Mr. Jones gave an update on the current situation regarding the provision of affordable housing in Strensall. Mr. Jones gave a report on findings so far relating to identified sites in the village. After some discussion Mr. Jones agreed to investigate further the possibilities of three sites, i.e. 22 Princess Road, Farriers Chase and The Tannery. The Parish Council reiterated the history of the site between 82-100 The Village which was in the Green Belt. Mr. Jones was informed that this was the subject of High Court action in 1991 which resulted in the land being taken out of development and a land swap being approved. The Parish Council would continue working to protect the green belt areas in Strensall and Towthorpe and objected to any development on this site.

Agenda Item 6 – Police Report/ Cllr J. Smith's Police Liaison Report – Mrs. J. Smith gave the Police report which identified an increase in crime rate. PSCO Hannon also gave a resume of events and indicated that arrests had been made and court actions were awaited. Cllr Smith urged Councillors to ensure that she was made aware of any incidents reported to the police. A note was also to be put in Outreach.

Agenda Item 6 – To receive the report of the Planning Sub-Committee – Cllr Chapman reported on the Planning Meeting of 28th July 2009 as follows:-

1. Attendance: J Chapman (Chairman), R. Plant, J. Scott, E. Blacklee, C. Chambers, P. Jesse, D. Baxter, A. Young and I Cuthbertson

2. Apologies: None
3. Declarations of Interests:
4. Planning Applications:
 - a) 09/01257/FUL – 7 Steadings Yard – Loft Conversion with velux roof windows – no objections but neighbours must be consulted
 - b) 09/01281/FUL – 4 Lakeside gardens – alteration to roof of previously approved rear extension no objections but neighbours must be consulted
 - c) 09/01234/FUL – Vale of York Caravan Park, Sheriff Hutton Road –
Erection of a single storey services/recreation block

The Parish Council is finding it somewhat very difficult to follow developments on this site and planning applications seem to follow development which has already been carried out. Can you please advise exactly what the position is with regard to planning applications/decisions for this site.

The touring part of the caravan park should have been removed in accordance with planning approval given for planning application no. 06/01054/FUL. This application was for 'alterations to existing Caravan Park including the removal of the existing touring caravan and caravan storage areas and the development of new area to accommodate 30 holiday cabins.

Unless City of York Council Planning Authority can prove otherwise, this caravan park goes against the original planning application. If this is true then this application should be turned down and refused. This cannot be upheld as the original planning approval was not for touring caravans.

We strongly advocate that use of the services/recreation block should be restricted to users of the site only.

- d) 09/01273/FUL – 58 Moor Lane –
Two storey and single storey rear extensions, first floor extension and porch to front, alterations to roof structure and replacement garage with first floor room above
Planning Application 09.01273/FUL

The Parish Council do not object but wish to make the following comments or seek safeguards as set out below:

1. With regard to the garage – the beech trees need to be looked at and we request that a site visit is made by the TPO Officer. Tree roots could be under the proposed site for the garage and therefore damaged by any excavation work to be carried out.
2. Bats – We request that the Conservation Officer should look at the proposal.
3. Yorkshire Water to be consulted with regard to surface water run off and the sewage system.
4. Neighbours must be consulted.
5. Decision Notices received from City of York Council:

Ref:	Location	CYC Dec.	PC Rec:
09/01154/FUL	39 Park Gate	Approve	n/objections
09/00834/FUL	5 Lakeside Gardens	Approve	n/objections
09/01117/FUL	Hoxne Farm	WITHDRAWN	
6. Any other business:
Planning updates as available: None

Cllr Chapman raised the matter of the LDF Report. Cllr Plant said that in the report, Strensall was mentioned as no longer classed as a village but was now classed as a Local Service Centre and Local Service Centres were second areas in line for development after the City. Cllr Wiseman said that she was strenuously contesting this classification of Strensall as there were no services in Strensall and was very concerned that this would open the door to expansion of the areas which are blocks in the Green belt and was concerned as to how it can be justified making Strensall a service centre. Whatever the outcome of the LDF the completed process will be valid for the next 20 years. After a long discussion it was agreed that a working party be set up to work through the LDF documents. The working party would consist of Cllrs N Smith, Young, Chapman, Mrs. J. Smith, Miss E. Blacklee, R. Plant and any other Councillor who wished to attend. The meeting of the working party would be held on Thursday 20th August at 7.00p.m. in the Village Hall.

Agenda Item 7 – To receive a report on Long Term Planning from Cllr N. Smith. – Cllr Smith referred to two reports which had been issued. One was the Survey results and the other an action plan. After some discussion it was agreed that the survey results would be published in full and distributed to all residents. Approval was given for the printing to be done at a cost of no more than £250.00. Cllr N Smith agreed to do this and put plans in place for distribution. A public meeting would be held on 30th September at 7.30p.m. and the action plan would be decided after that meeting. Cllr N Smith would work on publicity based on that meeting.

The action plan was not for public consultation at this stage and Councillors were reminded that this was confidential at the moment. It was agreed that the same group would meet, including Cllr J Smith to work out proposals relevant to the Survey and the Hogg Trust Fund to ratify at the next Council meeting. This meeting was to be held on 31st August at 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall. Cllr Plant asked what was the status of the Action Plan – was it to be held in reserve dependant upon feed back from the public meeting. Cllr N Smith said that the action plan could be changed if necessary. Cllr Jesse said the point about the railway station should be removed or changed. Cllr N Smith said that the action plan was not for ‘tabling’ at the moment. Cllr J Smith was to contact Sharron Hutchinson at City of York Council regarding youth projects. Cllr Cuthbertson said Global should be contacted. Cllr Swales said he was disappointed that all the above proposals did not include Durlston Drive as this was in a very delicate situation at the moment and would fall to pieces if there was no support.

Agenda Item 8 – To receive a report on Youth/Sports Association from Mrs. J. Smith
- see above.

Agenda Item 9 – Finance

Expenditure

The following accounts were presented for approval for payment this month from the General Account:

	Code	Inc VAT	exc VAT
S. Walker	100	£382.58	£382.68
J Chapman	102	£13.94	£13.94
Deans Landscapes	303	£303.60	£264.00
Haxby Sawmills	306	£93.17	£81.02
Stoneplan	406	£322.00	£280.00
Campbells of Malton	306	£321.18	£369.36
J Atkinson	306	£144.00	£165.00

Receipts:

NIL

Cemetery Account:

Payments

NIL

Receipts:

NIL

Report of Finance Meeting 4th August 2009 – Cllr Marquis – Cllr Marquis reported on the Finance Committee Meeting minutes which had been circulated with the Agenda.

With regard to the Standing Orders Cllr Scott and Cllr Nunn were to check through these and propose any necessary amendments to the next Parish Council Meeting.

Cllr Marquis said that further information on 106 payments had been obtained City of York Council but needed to be studied before any further comments were made.

The Meeting approved the minutes and recommendations. The minutes are attached and form part of this meeting.

Agenda Item 10 – To receive councillor’s reports and or updates

Highways– Cllr Young reported that the matter of the one way system for Southfields Road had been raised by a resident and he would make further enquiries with City of York Council. With regard to the residents request for the closure of the footpath from the fish shop to Southfields Road, it was noted that this was a public right of way and could not be closed. The resident would be contacted. The SLOW signs on Sheriff Hutton Road Bridge were to be painted on the road in the next few weeks and the hedge at the bottom of the bridge could be cut back shortly. It was reported that there were problems with the new road surface but the contractors were aware of this.

Streetlights – nothing to report at the moment.

Village Traffic Study - None

Play Equipment – Cllr Scott reported that all was satisfactory at the moment.

Environment Committee – Cllr Scott had studied a recent letter from City of York Council regarding licensing but felt that this did not warrant a response from the Parish Council at this time.

Open Spaces – The matter of the land offered from the Green Belt Group was in hand and letters would be sent shortly. Cllr Chapman reported that he was meeting with BTCV on 17th August 2009.

Youth – see above

Bus Shelters – no report from Cllr Swales. Cllr Jesse reported that the bus shelters at Newton Way and Knapton Close had been damaged. **Action Cllr Swales.**

Cemetery – Cllr Jesse reported that rubbish had recently been dumped again at the cemetery and York pride had removed this. Notices had been put up.

York Pride/Ward Committee – Cllr Jesse and Cllr Marquis had attended a meeting today but there was nothing to report at this stage.

Sports Association – see above

War Memorial – There was no further report. Tenders for the refurbishment work had been deal with and Cllr Plant was now dealing with the necessary planning consents.

YLCA – Nothing to report.

Agenda Item 11 – Publicity/ Website/Newsletter. – a meeting was to be held on 25th August.

Agenda Item 12 – Robert Wilkinson School – nothing to report

Agenda Item 13 – To consider correspondence received

Cllr Jesse referred to letters received from residents in connection with 5 Northfields and a response was being prepared.

An application for a pitch licence for a catering van to be sited at the Army Medical Centre on Towthorpe Moor Lane had been received from the applicant. City of York Council’s Licensing Department provided with comments about the application by the Parish Council.

---o0o---

Signed.....
Chairman

Dated.....

POLICE WARD REPORT

July 2009

Strensall/Earswick/Stockton on the Forest

There was a total of 22 crimes reported in the ward during July which is a slight increase from 17 in July last year. There were no particular areas that showed a significant increase with most categories showing small increases compared to last year.

There were arrests made however for the theft of a car and a burglary in the village during July and those responsible will be appearing in Court in due course. These individuals are also believed to be the ringleaders in the instances of anti social behaviour in the village, particularly in the Southfields Lane area of the village. The team have concentrated their patrols in this area with the Mobile Office being deployed whenever it is available.

As with Haxby, the team have been working with Trading Standards and have launched No Cold Calling zones in Earswick village and there are more to be launched in mid August.

Notes of Meeting of Finance Sub-Committee of Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council held in Strensall Village Hall on Tuesday 4th August 2009.

1. Attendance:- Councillors P.Jesse (Chairman), K. Marquis, Miss E Blacklee, R. Plant and J. Scott.
2. Apologies:- Councillor N. Smith
3. Declarations of Interest:- None
4. Review of Finance Regulations and effect on Standing Orders:- Following the report by the Internal Auditor the Finance Regulations approved on 27th November 2008 were updated and based on the model supplied by YLCA. Thanks were expressed to Councillor Plant for carrying out this task. Councillor Jesse proposed the revised regulations will be presented to the August meeting of Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council with a recommendation for adoption. This was seconded by Councillor Marquis and approved unanimously. As a result of the revision of the Finance Regulations it will be necessary to examine and amend Clauses 63 to 68 inc and 91 to 98 inc of the Standing Orders. Until this task is completed the amended Finance Regulations will over-rule the aforementioned clauses of the Standing Orders.
5. Internal Auditor's correspondence:- The contents of the reply, dated 29th June 2009, from the Internal Auditor in respect of telephone banking were noted.
6. Clarification of the Clerk's Gratuity:- Following recommendation by the Internal Auditor for the previously agreed gratuity payable to the Parish Clerk on retirement to align that gratuity under the terms of the Local Government [Discretionary Payments] Regulations 1996. Councillor Marquis proposed that the revised arrangement be adopted and this was approved unanimously. It was noted that there was no alterations required to the wording of the relevant clause in the Parish Clerk's contract of employment.
7. s106 Funding Payments – Managing Income and Plans for Expenditure:- It was proposed by Councillor Marquis that a spreadsheet document be kept indicating the payments made to the Parish Council under the s106 scheme and this document would also show how and when the funds were spent. This was approved unanimously. Councillor Marquis agreed to compile a suitable spreadsheet.
8. Strensall Tigers request for pitch funding 2009/10 season:- Following the discussion at the July 2009 meeting of the Parish Council it was agreed that financial support would again be given to fund the hire of the Howard Road

football pitch for the 2009/2010 football season by using reserve funding if necessary. Proposed by Councillor Scott and approved unanimously.

9. Funding for Councillor's courses/training:- Councillor Jesse spoke about a residential course available to councillors but it was agreed that the scope of the particular course may not meet the needs of the Parish Council and Councillor Plant proposed that no action be taken for councillors from Strensall with Towthorpe Parish Council to attend that particular course. Councillor Marquis seconded the proposal but recommended that when the 2010/2011 budget is set that due regard is made to the costs of training courses. This was approved unanimously.
10. Refurbishment of War Memorial:- Councillor Plant reported on the Tendering Process which had taken place at 10.30 am on 30th July 2009. Two tenders had been received (£692.42 and £1350.00 both exclusive of VAT). Councillor Plant proposed that the firm quoting the higher amount be accepted to carry out the work as the cost also included "total stonework re-pointing and repair". It was also noted that neither quote included work on the lettering as this was considered to be work which did not yet need to be carried out. The proposal was agreed unanimously.
11. Ward Committee Grants and Funding:- Councillors were advised that grant applications had been made for Ward Committee funding for one additional streetlight to be provided at the junction of Lords Moor Lane with Flaxton Road and for a Feasibility Study of the conversion of the footpath on Strensall Road between the Six Bells roundabout and the parish boundary at Towthorpe Moor Lane to be a dual purpose pedestrian and cycle route. The latter was to be made in conjunction with Earswick Parish Council who had also submitted a similar proposal for Strensall Road between the aforementioned parish boundary and the junction with the A1237. It was also noted that discussions had taken place with the Street Environment Officer to use York Pride Funding to re-seed the verge on Haxby Moor Road between The rear of the Robert Wilkinson School Entrance and Strensall New Bridge. Either bollards or fencing would also be provided to prevent further verge damage.

The meeting closed at 20.45.