ARKENDALE, CONEYTHORPE & CLARETON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING IN ARKENDALE PARISH CHURCH, WEDNESDAY 28th. MARCH 2007 @ 7.30 p.m.

Present: T. Braithwaite (Chair) W. Lill (Vice Chair) P. Topham S. Shipman Peter Thorndyke (Clerk / Financial Officer to the Council) There were 3 member of the public in attendance.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

S. Yorke was unable to attend and sent his written apologies.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday January 31 2007, as previously circulated, were approved unanimously and duly signed by the Chairman.

3 CORRESPONDENCE

PTh listed the correspondence received since the last meeting. These will be (or have been) circulated to the Parish Councillors:

3.1 Letter from HBC re 'Light Bulbs for Recyclers' and a notice re same subject.

3.2 Letter from HBC re 'Commuted Sums'

3.3 Letter from HBC re 'Harrogate Spring Clean April 2007' - PT was asked to send out notices of 'Clean Up Arkendale' days on the 14th and 15th April. PTh would arrange to borrow equipment from HBC, put up notices on the notice board, and e-mail as many contacts as possible.

ACTION: PTh

3.4 Letter from NY Fire and Rescue Services informing us of the benefits they offer.

3.5 Letter from HBC re 'Car Parking Policy Review.

3.6 Letter and booklet from 'Enjoy England' about St. Georges Day Festivities.

3.7 Letter from the Audit Commission re Mazars being appointed again as the auditors for Town and Parish Councils for 2006 / 2007.

3.8 Letter and booklet from 'Communities and Local Government' about a revised model code of conduct for local authority members.

3.9 Letter from NYCC re their proposal for a new Unitary Council for NY.

3.10 Letter from HBC about potential Local Government Reorganisation, arguing against Unitary Authorities.

3.11 Leaflets from the NY Criminal Justice Board - 'Working Together for Justice In NY.'

3.12 Letter and booklet from HBC re 'Shop fronts Design Guide'.

3.13 'White Rose Update' and YLCA advice note re elections, from the YLCA.

3.14 Letter from HBC re 'Draft Corporate Rural Community Investment Plan 2007 / 2008.

3.15 Letter from Yorkshire Water telling us that the work to improve water pressure in Arkendale had been completed.

3.16 Letter from HBC re 'The Big Lottery Fund' in relation to children's play areas.

3.17 A pack of information from NALC re the role of local councils.

3.18 From YLCA: a basic guide to the 'Freedom of Information Act' and the 'Environmental Information Regulations (2004)'

3.19 A letter from the Audit Commission confirming that Mazars have been appointed as auditors.

3.20 A copy of 'Country Air' the newsletter of the YRCC.

3.21 From HBC: a revised price list for services they provide.

3.22 From Temple Spa: an advert for party hostesses to sell their products - if anyone does so the PC will receive 2.5% of their earnings.

3.23 From HBC - a note about subsidised bus contract renewals, none of which directly affected these parishes. PTh was asked to put the existing bus timetables on the Arkendale village notice board.

ACTION: PTh

4. <u>FINANCE</u>

The Parish Councillors unanimously ratified the following payments:

To Arkendale PCC - £56.00 for the use of the church for 4 meetings at £14.00 per meeting.

To Arkendale PCC - £28.00 for the use of the church for 2 meetings at £14.00 per meeting.

To P. Thorndyke - £509.99.00 being the salary for the clerk / financial officer for the 6 months ending 31.03.07.

Invoices / back up calculations were presented for each of these payments.

PTh said that now we appear to have a settled council, we needed to redo the bank mandate. This would need a council minute and he agreed to put an item on the agenda for the next meeting.

ACTION: PTh

5 THE MAR

The Mar now has water in it and no further action was contemplated in the immediate future.

6 VILLAGE ROAD SIGNS

PTh said that, following the last meeting, he had contacted a John Burton at HBC, about our application for a grant for village signs incorporating a road safety message, and had been informed that a decision would not be made until the end of March - beginning of April. PTh was asked to chase up if nothing was heard in the next two weeks.

ACTION: PTh

7 PLANNING MATTERS

There has been one application for planning permission since the last meeting - No. 6.500.220.DFUL from Mr S M Buckle to convert agricultural buildings to living accommodation at Limebar House, Wincup Lane, Marton Cum Grafton.

8 POLICE MATTERS AND VANDALISM.

Nothing to report, except that there was further evidence of fly tipping on the road between Arkendale and Clareton near the A1. TB said that he would talk to his usual contact at .HBC about a clean up in that area. Following the correspondence received from the Fire Service (see above 3.4), PT was asked to contact them and request that they utilise their speed-monitoring device in the area.

PTo confirmed that he was talking directly to HBC re the parking of cars on the village green in Coneythorpe.

SS asked if it was OK for her to contact the relevant authorities direct about road potholes and a broken water hydrant near her home. This was confirmed and SS agreed to contact NYCC roads department in Starbeck about the matters.

WL raised the matter of the hedges encroaching onto the road on the Arkendale to Stavely road. It was believed that these stood in private property and PT agreed to contact NYCC highways to see what could be done.

ACTION: PTh & SS

9 NEW NOTICE BOARDS

It was noted that the new Coneythorpe notice board had been received and installed on the wall of the Tiger public house. This had cost just over £600, but VAT of 17.5% would be recovered and a grant of £500 had been received so the net cost to the parish council was negligible.

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

This was scheduled for Wednesday 16th May at 7.30 pm in Arkendale Parish Church. This meeting would incorporate the AGM, the PC meeting and the annual Village Meeting. TB wished to publicise this more widely in order to generate a larger gathering. He and PTh would discuss outside the meeting.

ACTION: TB & PTh

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.20 pm

POST MEETING

PTo asked how the number of Parish Councillors was decided, because he felt that with the growth of Clareton and Coneythorpe, those areas might not be properly represented. PTh agreed to look into the matter.

ACTION: PTh

.....(Signed)

Chairman