

ARKENDALE, CONEYTHORPE & CLARETON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING IN ARKENDALE PARISH CHURCH, WEDNESDAY 5th DECEMBER 2007 @ 7.30 p.m.

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday September 19th 2007, as previously circulated, were approved unanimously and duly signed by the Chairman.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

- 3.1 Fire & Rescue Summary Accounts
- 3.2 Country Air (YRCC Newsletter)
- 3.3 NYCC Minerals and Waste Development Framework (CD).
- 3.4 Letter from HBC re retention of Highways Agency
- 3.5 Letter from HBC re potential grant for traffic claming measures on Moor Lane / The Reins, Arkendale
- 3.6 Letter from The Standards Board re further information about our adoption of the revised code of conduct.
- 3.7 National Salary award for clerks 2007 – 2008.
- 3.8 Consultation on Hackney Carriages in Harrogate
- 3.9 Parish Briefings – New Code of Conduct
- 3.10 Consultation on HBC budget 2008 – 2009
- 3.11 HBC revised Strategic Plan 2005 – 2008
- 3.12 Letter from BTCV about BBC breathing places grant. *It was decided not to pursue this.*
- 3.13 Letter from 'Firebird' re new house being built on South View, Arkendale.
- 3.14 NYCC Winter Maintenance review
- 3.15 YLCA Advice Notes on Public Participation in Meetings, the use of Parish Polls, and public involvement in the Health Act
- 3.16 HBC Free rural affordable housing coach tour and lunch.
- 3.17 Minerals and Waste Development Framework – preferred options. *Discussion took place about the fact that Allerton Park was cited as a preferred option for a new waste disposal site and incinerator. Concern was expressed about the potential increase in traffic along the A59 that this might cause, which would exacerbate the problem at the junction of the road to Flaxby, there was uncertainty about the impact on local air quality, and there was a view expressed that noise levels would increase. PT was asked to draft a letter highlighting the concerns, to the consultation group, copying it to J. Watson, our local county councillor, and to A. McIntosh, our local MP.*

ACTION: PT

4. FINANCE

The Parish Councillors unanimously approved the following cheque payments:

A cheque for £58.75 to Mazars being the audit fee for 2006 – 2007.

A cheque for £50 to the Village Hall trustees. This was given as a grant as in previous years, as the Parish Council recognised the importance of a village hall to the community.

A discussion took place about the cost / etc. of the village website and PT was asked to place an item about this matter on the next agenda.

ACTION: PT

PT presented figures for spending in the fiscal year to date compared with budget and forecast, which indicated that unless about £1,000 was spent in the next few months, a surplus would be carried forward again.

On the basis of the amount spent to date and the potential surplus, PT proposed a budget for 2008 / 2009 that showed an unchanged precept of £2,600. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve this budget and PT was asked to submit it to HBC at the earliest opportunity.

5. PLANNING MATTERS

The following decisions were noted:

A decision of the Planning Inspectorate to allow Mr P. Barkers appeal for a joinery workshop at Park View Cottage Arkendale.

A decision of the Planning Inspectorate to allow Mr Mckenna & Mr Bradshaw permission to build an extension at the Granary & Bothy in Coneythorpe.

It was noted that on a few occasions, it had not been possible to ensure that all parish councillors had seen planning applications before the due date for submission. It was agreed that this was unacceptable and it was further agreed that no – one should hold onto an application for more than 5 days, so that circulation of the documents would quicken.

It was noted again that work on the reading room on Moor Lane had been stopped for over a year, thereby creating an eyesore. PT confirmed that he had spoken to HBC planning department who had again said that there was nothing they could do unless safety was compromised or building regulations were breached.

6. POLICE MATTERS (SPEEDING ETC.) (INCLUDING PROPOSAL FOR TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES)

It was agreed that vehicles were passing through the villages at excessive speeds. A proposal was made that the Parish Council should apply for a grant of £5,000 for traffic calming measures, particularly on the road running past the Bluebell towards Ferrensby. Concern was expressed about speed bumps being employed and the use of vivid yellow paint in a rural environment.

It was agreed unanimously that PT should prepare and submit the grant application, with a view to having detailed discussions about the actual measures to be employed if the grant is forthcoming.

ACTION: PT

7. FLY TIPPING, VANDALISM, VILLAGE MAINTENANCE (INCLUDING PROVISION OF WPB IN THE VILLAGES.

It was noted that fly tipping was still rife in the area.

TB proposed that we should have two clean up days per year, instead of just the one. PT agreed to contact HBC to see if they would be happy to supply the equipment.

Discussion took place on the feasibility of having waste paper bins in Arkendale. It was not clear who would empty them, and since most waste was thrown from passing cars, it was not certain that they would help to improve the situation. PT was asked to find out if HBC would supply them and arrange to have them emptied.

ACTION: PT

8. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS

It was agreed that the public would be given the right to talk as part of public sessions, called during parish council meetings, and that their questions / comments would be minuted. TB wanted the meetings to be as informal as possible, and would treat all members of the public equally, giving them equal rights to speak.

9. COLOUR CODING OF CIRCULATED CORRESPONDENCE

The possibility of the clerk colour coding circulated correspondence to indicate levels of importance was discussed but it was decided it would not be practical. PT said that he would send advance notice, via e-mail, of any really important matters contained in the blue folder.

ACTION: PT

10. E-MAIL ADDRESSES FOR ARKENDALE RESIDENTS

PT reported that, despite advertising on the village notice board he had no further e-mail addresses to add to the 30 he already had.

11. DEVELOPMENT CONTROL POLICIES

It was agreed that there was no further action that the Parish Council could take on this matter

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

The proposed dates for meetings, as shown on the agenda were considered and the dates agreed were Tuesday, 29th January 2008, Wednesday 26th March 2008, and Wednesday 14th May 2008 (AGM and Village Assembly). The dates for 2008 – 2009, (all Wednesdays), are July 16th, September 24th, November 19th, January 28th, March 25th and May 27th (Village Assembly and AGM).

.....(Signed) Chairman