

**Minutes of the Meeting of Weaverthorpe Parish Council, held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2011  
at 19:45 in Weaverthorpe Village Hall**

**Present:** F Shellard (Chair) M Rowland G Downes  
J Mason C Howe T Thomson  
J House (Clerk)

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from J Fisher and A Milner.

**2. Items to be raised by members of the public**

There were no members of the public present.

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2011**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair as an accurate record of the meeting.

**4. Matters arising**

Land behind Rarey Farm. The fence has gone up but no signs were erected. Correspondence received from Accent on 20 June 2011 stated that the design of the signs was almost complete and then they would appoint a contractor to erect the signs. Comments were made by those present that the signs may not be effective, but it was agreed that the effect could only be measured once they were erected.

The fence was seriously damaged by a motor bike colliding with it, over the weekend of 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2011. A photo of the damage has been sent to Accent and NY Police. Accent have replied to say they will arrange to get the fence repaired.

Dog fouling continues. Further signs have been put up, with little effect, in fact one incident was next to a post which had a sign on it. The RDC Dog Warden is to give a talk to the school children and is arranging for RDC Streetscene to spray signs on the pavements.

T Thomson asked if the situation with regard to the additional name on the War Memorial had been finalised. The Clerk informed the meeting that the relative had agreed to pay the cost and the Clerk had given permission to the Stonemason to progress the works, with no cost to the Council.

**5. Finances**

The following invoices were approved by the Council:

Autela Office Services two invoices for payroll - £24  
HMRC – Tax deducted from Clerks salary - £49.80  
Clerk's expenses: Postage and stationery - £55.74

The 2010 VAT refund has been received from HMRC - £146.06

The grass cutting order for 2011 from NYCC has been received to the value of £1294.44.

Rural Action Yorkshire have sent the renewal for membership. In accordance with a discussion that took place about value for money in 2010, it was agreed not to renew this membership.

Balances before the above payments were made are:

Current account £2605.49  
Reserve Account £2013.84

All paperwork has been sent for external audit and a notice placed on the Village notice board regarding public access to the audited accounts as required by legislation.

## **6. Correspondence**

The mobile library service will cease from 16<sup>th</sup> September 2011. A letter from NYCC is asking for suggestions on how to provide alternative services. The views of all the users is being sought by giving of a flyer before the final visit.

Countywide Civil Parking Enforcement. Parking enforcement by NYCC already happens in Harrogate and Scarborough. Their plan is to extend to all areas of North Yorkshire. A questionnaire has been sent which was completed by the Council.

The statistics from Safer Ryedale for April, May & June 2011 were reviewed showing an overall increase in incidents in the Valley.

NYCC Highways Department have written with an update on some of the main developments and challenges facing them in the coming year. Taking into account inflation the budgets have been cut by 15%. This will result in highways repairs being limited to safety issues, Winter maintenance budgets being maintained, a reduction in road safety education and training, a significant reduction in the use of consultants and a review of staffing structures.

The Chair of RDC has written to ask for a donation by the Council to his Charity fund. It is not the policy of Weaverthorpe Parish Council to use taxpayers money to give to charities, so this will be declined.

ROSPA have sent a communication to confirm inspection of the playground equipment during September, as agreed at last meeting

YLCA have informed the Council of their Joint Annual Meeting on 23 July 2011 at Poppleton Community Centre.

Councillor Ron Haigh has written to inform the Council that he is resigning from NYCC. As a result of this there will be a by – election in September.

The YLCA have sent a flyer on websites. There is also a Questionnaire, but it is not clear what they want from the questionnaire. The Council felt that the valley website is sufficient to provide information that this Council wants publicised. It was agreed to forward the same to Rachel Macdonald who manages the Valley web site.

## **7. Planning**

The planning application for two wind turbines at Duggleby Wold Farm has been approved. The project managers indicated that the owner of the land would consider contributing to a Community Scheme. The Village Hall Management Committee will be asked to provide details of a project which the Council could request funding for. This will benefit the whole community.

An application has been received for two 34.2 metre high wind turbines at Ling Farm, Green Lane, which the planning application says will be visible on High Street. After much discussion about the application and the benefits that farmers have been promised by such developments, the Council had no objections to raise.

Vellco have applied for permission to erect a new office building and restroom to replace an existing building. No objections were raised to this application.

Following poor reinstatement of grass around War Memorial after service work was carried out for the plot adjacent to Dale Farm, the Clerk wrote to the owner to request proper reinstatement. The owner confirmed verbally that this would be done and it has been levelled out. Further works have left a poor reinstatement and the Council requested that another letter be written requesting proper reinstatement and asking if there are any further works to be done, can they do it properly first time around.

There has been activity in Carvels pit at the east end of the village. Grading has been carried out on the whole site, the gate moved back to form an entrance and a container placed on the land. There was concern that the owners may be intending to use the land for some purpose unknown. The Chair, Clerk and one of the Councillors has been in touch with RDC Development Control and have received different information. The Council asked the Clerk to write to RDC to clarify the position and ask them to observe the situation.

## **8. Police Business**

C Howe reported that he had attended a recent CAP meeting at which the local police Inspector had explained the impact of reductions in staffing as a result of Government cutbacks. Even though there are reductions normal service will be provided.

## **9. Parish Plan**

J Mason reported that there had been no meetings of the Parish Plan group but that the improvements to footpaths along the valley and the traffic calming in adjacent villages has been given approval. The LEADER bid is also progressing.

## **10 Co-opting of new councillors**

The Clerk gave the following update:

An advertisement was placed in the Warbler and put on the Parish Notice Board.

One telephone call was received to say that three people were interested. That person was asked to request a letter from the three people in accordance with the advertisement on the notice board. Subsequently one letter was received

which was from one of the applicants giving the names of that person and two others. The letter was only signed by two of the applicants. The letter did not contain any information that was requested in the advert namely "Applicants should state why they would like to be a councillor together with any skills and experience they can bring to the role."

The eligibility of three applicants was checked and it was found that one of the applicants was not on the Register of Electors. RDC were asked if the applicants had to be on the register and that was confirmed. That person was written to, explaining that the application could not be taken any further.

No other applications were received by the closing date of 10<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

Application forms were sent to the remaining two applicants and requesting that they be returned by 24<sup>th</sup> June 2011. The reason for sending application forms was that it is good practice, recommended by the YLCA, and also to get the information on why these people wanted to be Councillors in order to give the Council some information for selection.

No application forms were returned so it is assumed that they have changed their minds.

There are therefore no candidates for co opting.

#### **11. Any other business**

C Howe informed the meeting that he had attended the funerals of the late Messers Williamson and Todd on behalf of the Council.

He also asked if the Council should consider an Emergency Plan.

The post holding the junction sign and the dog bin outside the School entrance on Main Road is badly corroded. The Clerk has requested replacement by NYCC, but in view of the budget restraints that were reported earlier in the meeting, it is unlikely that anything will be done in the near future.

It was noted that Yorkshire Water are adopting the maintenance of shared sewers on private land. This is a HMG initiative and letters are going to all homes.

The meeting concluded at 20.55.

The next meeting will be held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2011.