

**Minutes of the meeting of Weaverthorpe Parish Council held on 21st
November 2011 at 19:45 in Weaverthorpe Village Hall**

Present:

T Thomson, A Milner, M Rowland, G Downes, J Mason, C Howe,
F Shellard (Chair), J House (Clerk).

Members of Public:

J Wilson

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from J Fisher.

2. Items to be raised by Members of the Public

J Wilson raised the proposed green energy programme which she had previous meetings about. The scheme involved solar panels on individual houses and a wind turbine for the benefit of the village as a whole. The revenue raised could be channelled into community projects. She is looking for the support of the Parish Council.

The council discussed the proposal and felt that a full presentation would help their understanding before a decision could be made on whether the Council would support the proposal.

It was agreed that this could take place at the next Parish Council meeting and that interested members of the public would also be welcome to attend.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 26th September 2011

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

C Howe gave an update on the Emergency Planning Training that he had attended with the Chair of YCWA, N Harrison on 28th September 2011.

There had been presentations from RDC, Hovingham Community Resilience Scheme, NY Police and the Met Office. NY Fire and Rescue were not present due to a major incident in York.

The Council noted that the hazards presented by extreme weather are particularly relevant to Weaverthorpe.

The majority of the potholes on the Sherburn Road have been repaired, those missed have been highlighted to NYCC Highways.

At a planning meeting held in October the Council agreed to request a hand salt spreader from RDC. Feedback is that we are very likely to receive the spreader. The Clerk has been in contact with Yorkshire Housing and they have no objections to us storing the salt in front of the garages at East Bank. The Chair has spoken to the only resident that uses a garage at that location

and he has accepted our proposal. Final conformation of the spreader being available is awaited, before the salt is ordered.

5. Finance

Invoices presented for payment were from Autela, for Payroll costs £12:00, Rospa, for the Playground inspection £75.60, and Grass cutting £1294.44. These were all approved for payment.

After these invoices have been paid the bank balances will be:

Current Account: £3233.35
Reserve Account: 2014.09

Precept: The Clerk estimated that the actual balance in the current account at the end of the 2011/12 financial year will be £1960, in addition to a reserve of £2000.

Estimated expenditure for 2012/13 which includes a contingency. would leave a balance of £1500 if the Precept were reduced to £3500. This would reflect the savings that the Council had made over the past two years.

The council agreed to reduce the Precept from its present level of £4000 to £3500 for 2012 / 2013.

6. Correspondence

North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue have sent a Summary of Accounts for information.

The Playground Inspection Report from Rospa gives an overall risk of Medium but everything is satisfactory. Only recommendation is further traffic calming measures, but it is unlikely that we will get any action from NYCC given the current budget restraints and difficulties in getting traffic calming measures along the valley. That situation will be kept under review.

A letter from NYCC regarding the withdrawal of the post bus had already been circulated and placed on the website and the notice board. The clerk has written to NYCC passing on the comments raised at the meeting which took place earlier in the year. The emphasis is that we have the opportunity to improve as part of the tendering process and we should not let this opportunity pass. The Clerks along the route of the service are seeking a meeting with Councillor Janet Sanderson to put some pressure on NYCC to emphasise the need for a better service.

A reply had been received from Accent to the letter sent in September. The responses were not conclusive and the Council agreed to await a formal planning application before making the points again.

A request from the Heritage Lottery Fund for a signature on an acceptance form for the village information board, has been received. This is required as the council will take ownership of the board once it is erected, as the Parish Plan Action Group will ultimately disappear. The council agreed to the clerk signing and returning the acceptance.

A copy of a letter had been received from NYCC to the Chair of Luttons and Helperthorpe Parish Council informing the Council that the footway improvements will happen, but not till next year.

Future standards of conduct for local authorities as part of the Big Society legislation were presented. The Council confirmed that it would continue to comply with the code of conduct provided by RDC.

Safer Ryedale Stats for September show that although there was a rise in the total number of incidents, total crime had reduced from 5 incidents last year to 1 incident this year.

A paper called Making it Happen from East Riding Council, which is their forward plan, has been received. The Clerk queried why it had been sent to Weaverthorpe Parish Council and the reply was that, as we border the East Riding they would like our comments. The document is 76 pages long and a reply is sought by 19 December 2011.

The clerk was asked to review the paper and reply if there is any impact on the village. Anything major will reported to the Council.

7. Planning

Planning approvals have been received for the following applications:

Dotterel Farm – approval for ménage.

Ling Green Farm, Green Lane, approval of 2 wind turbines.

Spaniel Farm, approval for one wind turbine.

There is a new application for Dale Farm, for the demolition and re building of existing agricultural building to form a one bedroom dwelling with parking and amenity area.

The Council had no objection to this application.

8. Police Business

There was nothing to report.

9. Parish Plan update

J Mason reported that the Planning Applications had been submitted for the village information boards. As a result of response to the applications, some

repositioning had been agreed. There is an objection in West Lutton that was preventing the project from moving forward at present. Grants have been approved but deadlines have to be met. The project is currently under review as a result of these developments.

10. Any other Business

J Mason raised an issue of parking by school parents at the start and end of the day. The rules are, that dropping off and parking of cars is on Main Road, where access to the school can be obtained via the footpath. As this footpath is currently covered in debris from the overhanging trees, parents are parking on Sherburn Road, causing a safety hazard on the bend outside the school entrance. J Mason was seeking clarification of who owned the footpath. It was confirmed that the school owned the footpath.

With that clarification it was noted that the school could therefore go ahead and instruct their grounds contractor to keep the path clear and obtain the necessary permission from the adjoining land owner to trim back the trees that were overgrowing the path. C Howe offered his help in an initial one off clean to alleviate the problem in the short term. That offer was accepted on behalf of the school by F Shellard, representing the School Governors.

It was noted that a touring caravan has been placed in Carvills Quarry, and that RDC planning have been informed.

The meeting closed at 21:00.

The next meeting will be held on 16th January 2012 at a new start time of 19:00 in Weaverthorpe Village Hall.