

HESSAY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30PM IN THE CHAPEL SCHOOLROOM, HESSAY, ON THURSDAY 10 MAY 2007

Present: Cllrs Neil Huntington, Nick Booth, Amanda Carlyle, Scott Jefferson and Roger Hildreth. Also present were three members of the public and the Clerk, James Mackman.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

07.025 – ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN (FROM NOW UNTIL THE 2008 ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING)

Councillor Huntington was elected as Chairman for the ensuing year. He congratulated the newly elected Councillors and thanked the retiring Councillors for the work they had put into supporting the Parish Council over the years.

07.026 - TO RECEIVE CHAIRMAN'S SIGNED DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE OR, IF ABSENT, TO AGREE A DATE BY WHEN THAT DECLARATION MUST BE SIGNED.

Councillor Huntington signed the Chairman's Declaration.

07.027 - IF THE NEWLY ELECTED CHAIRMAN IS NOT PRESENT, TO AGREE WHO SHALL CHAIR THE REMAINDER OF THIS MEETING.

As Councillor Huntington was present there no action was necessary on this agenda item.

07.028 - INTRODUCTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS

Each of the Councillors gave a short résumé about themselves.

07.029 – TO CONFIRM SIGNING OF DECLARATIONS OF OFFICE

The Clerk confirmed that all Councillors had signed a Declaration of Office.

07.030 - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Councillor Booth declared an interest in agenda item 07.037b.

07.031 - TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All Councillors being present there were no apologies for absence.

07.032 - TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 22 MARCH 2007

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 March 2007, having been circulated and read, were accepted and signed as a true record.

07.033 - CLERK'S REPORT:

(a) Progress on Paddocks (Min 07.015a)

Councillor Hildreth gave a lucid explanation as to what a paddock is, what can be done with a paddock, and what can't. The Clerk reported that Gareth Arnold had not submitted his report on paddocks and agreed to press Mr Arnold into completing his report (**Action Clerk**)

(b) Progress on "Passing Places" signs (Min. 07015b)

The essence of this subject was explained to the new Councillors. The Clerk is to pursue Council officer, Robin Sweetman, to have the missing sign replaced. (**Action Clerk**)

(c) Progress on re-instating street signs (Min. 07.015c)

No progress. **(Action Clerk)**

(d) Progress on removal of gravel and polythene (Min. 07.015d)

No progress. **(Action Clerk)**

(e) Progress on road sweeping (Min 07.015e)

It was reported that the village roads had been swept today. However, it was noted that no schedule had been received and the Clerk agreed to pursue this. **(Action Clerk)**

(f) Progress on water pumping station hedge (Min 07.015f)

Councillor Hildreth reported that Yorkshire Water have replaced the hawthorn hedge at the pumping station. Councillor Hildreth and Stuart Cariss had applied mulch to the hedge bottom, watered the hedge and cut it back to encourage it to grow in what is a very dry period of weather.

(g) Progress on 7.5 tonne sign (Min 07.015g)

There was no consensus as to the effectiveness of the new signs on the A59. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Managing Agents of the Industrial Estate to ask that a sign be erected inside the Estate to indicate that heavy vehicles should not make a right turn out of the gate onto New Lane. **(Action Clerk)**

(h) Progress on the drain cover in Main Street (Min. 07.015e)

No progress.

07.034 - TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED BY THE CLERK

07.034.1 - The Clerk read or referred to the following items of correspondence

- (a) The City Council has agreed to remove the prickly hedge inside the children's play area in Main Street. There was no mention of the hedge being replaced.
- (b) Harrogate Borough Council is organising a seminar on Community Land Trusts (CLT) on 15 May. Councillor Booth will endeavour to attend. CLT is a mechanism for the democratic ownership of land by the local community and is one way to bring about affordable housing.

07.034.2 - It was agreed that the correspondence received since the March Parish Council meeting, as listed below, be circulated to the Councillors

- (a) NYCC - People, Paths & Places
- (b) Y & H Assembly - Assembly Digest, Issue 5 - March 2007
- (c) Y&NY PFA - The Playing Field - Spring 2007
- (d) YCVS - Voluntary Voice - April 2007
- (e) YCVS - Voluntary Voice - May 2007
- (f) YLCA - York Branch information

07.035 - FINANCE

(a) To receive a financial statement

The Clerk presented a detailed report showing the income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2007. The balance of funds held in the Halifax Building Society on 31 March was £4,240.12.

(b) To agree accounts for payment (net of VAT);

James Mackman	Clerk's salary net - April	£119.39
Post Office Ltd	Income Tax	£33.44
YLCA	Annual subscription	£69.00

(c) *To note income received*

City of York Council

First half year's precept

£1,125.00

(d) *To sign the Annual Return*

The Clerk presented the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2007 and explained the significance of Section 2, the "Annual Governance Statement". Each Councillor had been given a list of the eight statements making up Section 2. The Councillors agreed with all nine items on the Statement of Assurance and the Chairman and Clerk signed the document. The Clerk explained that the figures in Section 1 of the Annual Return were subject to audit and that should any figure need to be altered the Parish Council would be notified. The Councillors agreed that the Chairman and Clerk should sign the document.

(e) *To complete a new building society mandate or consider opening a current account at HSBC*

It was resolved that two accounts be opened at the HSBC; one being a current account and the other an interest bearing account. It was agreed that the signatories be Councillors Huntington, Booth and Jefferson. The Clerk will sign the mandate to facilitate telephone banking but will not sign cheques. It was also resolved that the Halifax Building Society Account be closed and the funds transferred to the HSBC.

07.036 - PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) *To consider the following two Planning Applications*

Ref: 07/00625/FUL – Conversion of barn (unit 2) to 1no. dwelling including external alterations at Croft Farm, Main Street by Mrs J Sanderson.	No objections
Ref: 07/00792/FUL – Conservatory to rear at Fieldside House, Main Street by Mr P Rhodes.	No objections

(b) *To note Local Authority Planning Decisions*

It was noted that the Local Planning Authority had approved the following two applications:

Ref: 06/02868/FULM – Construction of 9-hole golf course and fishing lake (resubmission) at North of England Clay Target Centre, Tinker Lane, Rufforth by Philip Thompson.

Ref: 07/00179/FUL – Erection of two-storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory at Barn End, Main Street by Mr Carter & Mrs Ray.

07.037 - PARISH COUNCIL LAND - TO RECEIVE PROGRESS REPORTS AND MAKE APPROPRIATE DECISIONS ON

(a) *To consider further work at the Village Pond*

It was noted that Stuart Cariss had strimmed the grass round the pond. Councillor Jefferson volunteered to sandpaper and then apply wood preservative to the seat by the pond. It was agreed to defer further discussion on the subject of the pond until the July meeting. (**Action Councillor Jefferson**)

(b) *To consider a request to build a hut on the allotment*

It was agreed to accede to a request from Nick Booth for a second hand hut to be erected on the allotment. Councillor Booth took no part in the discussion.

(c) To consider splitting the allotments into three

Following a request from a resident for an allotment it was agreed that the allotments should be split into three and that there would be no charge for the third allotment in the current year.

07.038 - TO AGREE THE CONTENT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL'S WEBSITE

It was agreed that the following items should be included on the Parish Council's website on The Local Channel. Adopted minutes (as many historical minutes as practical), Councillors details and photographs, the agenda for the forthcoming meeting which would include planning applications. An aerial photograph of Hessay Main Street is to be shown on the front page. **(Action Clerk)**

07.039 - TO DISCUSS OTHER MEANS OF COMMUNICATING WITH RESIDENTS

It was suggested that Parish Council communications should be emailed to all residents. Councillor Jefferson is to check on the legality of this mode of communication with special attention to the Data Protection Act. **(Action Councillor Jefferson)**

Councillor Carlyle is to arrange for Parish Council notices to be published in the Church Magazine. **(Action Councillor Carlyle)**

07.040 – TO ADOPT THE STANDARD BOARD'S MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS 2007 INCLUDING PARAGRAPH 12

The Clerk explained that the new Model Code of Conduct came into operation on 3 May. It covers all branches of Government, not just Parish Councils. Paragraph 12 does not apply to Parish Councils unless it is specifically adopted. This paragraph relates to prejudicial interests and gives Councillors the same rights as residents to be heard on a subject. It was resolved that the Parish Council adopts the Standard Board's Model Code of Conduct for Parish and Town Councils including the whole of paragraph 12 of the Code.

07.041 – TO AGREE ON COUNCILLOR TRAINING

It was agreed that the Councillors should attend a YLCA training session as soon as one became available. **(Action Clerk).**

07.042 - TO RECEIVE COUNCILLORS' COMMENTS

Councillor Booth asked that newly elected City Councillor Ben Hudson be asked to attend the July Parish Council meeting **(Action Clerk)**

07.043 - TO RECEIVE THE CITY OF YORK COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

None.

07.044 – TO AGREE THE DATE OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 24 May at 7.30pm. The Clerk would prepare a draft agenda from which Councillor Carlyle would prepare a flyer and a poster which she would distribute. **(Action Councillor Carlyle)**

07.045 - TO AGREE THE DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was agreed as Thursday 12 July 2007.

There being no more business the meeting was formally closed at 10.42 pm

Chairman..... 2007

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