

Little Houghton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held Monday 7th July 2008

Present: Mr J. Betton (Chairperson)
Mrs J. Jones
Mrs B. Turner
Mrs J. James (Clerk to the Council)

Attended: Cclr Roy Fisher

Action

1. Proposed Development in Little Houghton

The representatives of UK Coal are again not in attendance this evening; they are still awaiting a response from Barnsley MBC to their proposals. **Action** Clerk to advise when UK Coal indicate they are able to update on proposals

JJ

2. Apologies

No apologies were received.

3. Minutes of previous meeting 2nd June

The minutes of the above meeting were agreed and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters raised by residents

Measuring of land around Windsor Crescent

Concern was raised over measuring taking place at a number of places in the parish, attendees were advised that there is no planning application that the Parish Council is aware of and that measurements are in all probability the Borough Council surveying and valuing its assets.

Parking on Windsor Crescent

Residents raised concerns over emergency vehicular access on Windsor Crescent given the amount of on street parking. This matter has been raised repeatedly with the Borough Council to no avail however **agreed** Cclr Miller to raise with Highways to see if a scheme could be developed to address this issue.

RM

Speeding Traffic on Middlecliffe Lane

Residents raised concerns over speeding traffic on Middlecliffe Lane and were advised that this has been brought to the attention of Highways and the police on a number of occasions, speeding enforcement action has been taken and further traffic surveys are being undertaken.

Antisocial behaviour by young people with alcohol and on motor cycles

Residents raised concerns over antisocial behaviour and criminal damage by young people and were advised that this had been brought to the attention of the Safer Neighbourhood Team who are investigating the problem. Residents were advised to make contact with the Golden Line, Safer Neighbourhood Team and Police on each and every occasion of nuisance so that they can build up a full picture of their concerns and incidents.

Accident Rotherham Road

Residents reported a minor collision on Rotherham Road believed to be caused by speeding; they were advised that concern over traffic calming has been raised with Highways on several occasions however traffic surveys and accident records do not indicate that this stretch of road meets the criteria in the Road Traffic Acts for further traffic calming measures.

5. Matters Arising

Traffic calming Rotherham Road.

The Clerk wrote to Mr Carnall asking for an indication as to when the promised painting of the solid white lines around the chicanes on Rotherham Road would take place and to ask if the results of the further speed survey were available, a response is still awaited.

Play equipment Little Houghton & Health & Safety checks on Playground Equipment

The Clerk reported that she was still trying to get a joiner who was interested in carrying out repairs to the play equipment ramp and that Mr Gerrard has removed the wooden stump on the trim trail. It was reported that the padlock has been taken off the barrier. **Action** Mr Betton to ask Mr Gerrard to replace the lock.

Rotherham Road land at side of Post Office

Barnsley MBC have advised that they do not own the land and therefore are unable to build any form of wall or erect bollards to restrict vehicular access.

Loose waste bin in Middlecliffe play park

Barnsley MBC have advised that they are aware that the waste bin is loose again, it is not a safety issue at this time however they will arrange for a repair as soon as is practicable. **Middlecliffe**

Play Park Equipment

Barnsley MBC have advised that they have checked the play equipment and no fault was found.

Tipping in the square rear of Middlecliffe Lane

Cclr Miller reported that Barnsley have agreed to maintain the square until such time as any development scheme is progressed.

Rotherham Road drainage ditch.

Barnsley MBC have advised that the drainage ditch has been cleared. Work to prune the hedge will take place in the autumn once nesting birds have flown.

Fly tipping

The Clerk has written to Barnsley MBC regarding the fly tipping off Park Springs Road towards Grimethorpe opposite the lay-by on the old railway line/bridle path. It is uncertain as to whether the tipped waste has been removed.

Fence: Bus turning circle

The Clerk has written to UK Coal requesting repairs to the fence in the bus turning circle to prevent fly tipping and access by motorbikes, a reply is still awaited.

Co-option of Parish Councillors

The Clerk provided information on the role and responsibilities of parish councillors for anyone interested in becoming a member of the parish council and outlined that the vacant seats can be filled by co-option. The process is that a serving parish councillor may make a nomination which then requires seconding and a vote, a majority decision is binding. The parties interested in becoming Parish Councillors were reviewed with the aim of extending representation across the whole of the Parish however as none of the potential co-optees are known to serving Parish Councillor it was agreed to ask them all to submit a short statement outlining what they feel they would bring to the Parish Council and what benefit they could offer to the life of the parish. **Action** Clerk to write to all interested parties.

JJ

Motor Cycle Nuisance - Recreation Ground

Barnsley MBC and the Police Safer Neighbourhood team have been in contact to advise that enforcement action is planned.

6. Correspondence

Barnsley MBC Planning decisions – noted

7. Finance

Accounts are due for payment from:

Mr. Gerrard Payment June/July

Middlecliffe Club – July rent

£

110.40

20.00

Income received

Barnsley MBC interest on investment account

244.79

Financial Statement

Current Account

2,006.36

Investment Account

12,050.00

There was unanimous agreement to the payment of the above accounts.

Audit of Accounts 2007/08

The accounts have been sent to the BDO Stoy Hayward for audit.

8. Any other business

Overgrown hedge and vermin infestation rear of 16 Lesmond Crescent

A resident has made contact with the Clerk and she has agreed to write to Barnsley MBC asking them to cut and tidy the hedge at the rear of this property and along its length as it forms a boundary to the allotments and requested Environments Health address the vermin infestation.

Action Clerk to write to Barnsley MBC requesting remedial action.

JJ

Albert Crescent

It was reported that the trees and shrubs are overgrown on Albert Crescent, **action** Mr Betton to ask Mr Gerrard to prune and cut back the trees.

JB

Weeds in highway Windsor Crescent

The weedkilling that has recently taken place was by tractor and has not been applied to the footpath. **Action** Clerk to contact highways.

JJ

Mary Street - side of Asherfleet

It was reported that the hedge along side the access road is over grown. **Action** Clerk to write to Neighbourhood Pride to ask for the hedge to be cut.

JJ

Ragwort

This is now in full flower. **Action** Clerk to remind Barnsley MBC of the need to undertake weed treatment.

JJ

9. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting and will be held at 7pm on **Monday 1st September 2008** in Middlecliffe WMC.

Cc to Cclrs R Fisher, T Smith, D. Wainwright

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

In order to comply with the above and wishing to make information freely available to interested parties the Parish Council displays its minutes in Middlecliffe WMC and Middlecliffe Post Office.