

DUNFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 2ND APRIL 2009 AT 7.30 P.M.

AT THE PARISH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Councillors M. Drewry (Chair), B. Cockburn, L. Devons, A. Kaye, K. Mitchell and V. Parkin.

In attendance: Four members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Pestell and Councillor Steve Webber (BMBC)

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th March 2009 were accepted as an accurate record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Crowedge Play Area: It was agreed that a Community Support Fund application form would be obtained to attempt to secure funding for improvements to the play area.

3.2 Newsletter – Community Support Fund Application: It was reported that all funds were already allocated before the Area Forum meeting.

3.3 First Responder Service: Members were reassured that the Dunford parish area is covered in case of emergency and trained community volunteers are provided with equipment, including defibrillators and oxygen. It was reported that Gerald Parker at Maythorn covers the Dunford area right up to Holmfirth. The locality manager for Yorkshire Ambulance Service with responsibility for the First Responder Service is Dave Smith, who has agreed to attend the meeting on 4th June to deliver a presentation about the service.

3.4 Dunford Parish Residents Association – funding report: Councillor Mitchell had been unable to find any information relating to funding in the documents left by Lindsey Cook. She will now attempt to make contact by e-mail to obtain the information.

3.5 Highways issues

Grit bins: The Council has been asked for the locations for grit bins where there are concerns. Members felt that two grit bins should be placed at Middlecliffe (there is presently one bin here); one should be placed outside 24 Foxholes Grove, Crowedge (where the turning bay is); one at Townhead; one at Dunford Bridge car park and one at Carlecotes near to the old parsonage.

Flouch access: It was reported that anyone *creating* a new access into their property needs permission from the Council (Barnsley MBC), either a S184 access crossing to go across the footway/verge, or on classified roads such as A, B or C-roads they'd need planning consent as well as a S184. However, no consent is needed from the Council for any landowner to seal off/close an access, regardless of whether they have more than one access into their land or not. They can just do it, and there's nothing the Council can do to prevent it.

Street lighting at Hazlehead Crossroads: It was reported that the improvements to the crossroads including street lighting originated from Barnsley MBC's traffic department as part of an accident reduction scheme. The junction has been lit in accordance with British Standards, to continue the street lighting to Hazlehead Bridge, a 350m gap, would cost approximately £35,000. The recorded accidents relate to the crossroads where the improvements have been carried out and with rising energy prices and maintenance costs for operating street lighting it has to be carefully considered if this is necessary.

Mud on Lee Lane: This was inspected by Highways Inspectors but at the time of their visit the road was clean.

Members were advised that any highways related problems can now be reported directly by e-mail to: roads@barnsley.gov.uk.

4. Dunford Parish Community Association

It was reported that the Health and Safety Risk Assessment has been completed and is ready to sign. The two people who had been trained in food hygiene had done very well, scoring 93% in the assessment. The website and signage is now up to date. Several bookings have been received recently, including a mountain rescue event in October. The Gala is to take place on 25th July and planning for this is well underway. A qualified electrician is on the committee and has been carrying out work so that the electrical certificate can be obtained. This has included improvements to the coloured lights, which are now easier to turn on and off. Arrangements for the cleaner are to continue on an 'as and when' basis as this is working well.

5. Joint Strategic Waste Development Plan

There is nothing to report. It was agreed that this should be removed from the agenda.

6. Planning Applications

2009/0281: Erection of a single storey side extension to dwelling at 18 Brook Hill Lane, Carlecotes: No objections

2009/0095: Installation of a wind turbine(resubmission), site to the south of martin Nest Farm, Grime Lane, Victoria, Hepworth – revised location plan: No objections.

2009/0360: Erection of a two storey rear extension to dwelling at Whams Lodge, Whams Road, Penistone S36 4HJ: No objections

7. Crime and Safety Sub-Group

Councillor Kaye reported that a youth had been arrested at Maythorn for alleged drug dealing at Whinscar Reservoir. A group of people had been arrested for stealing Land Rovers, having stolen over 250 in a 12 month period, with three vehicles found at Conisbrough. Two cars at Crowedge have been broken into. PC Mark Silcock is investigating the motorbike problem. There are proposed changes in legislation in respect of child protection and these will be investigated to determine how community groups will be affected.

8. Clerk contract of employment

The Clerk's Personal Development Review has been completed. Cllr Drewry reported that the Clerk has worked an average of 27.5 hours per month but is only paid for 20 hours.

IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk should be paid for the outstanding hours and that from April 2009 onwards the Clerk's contract should be increased to 25 hours per month, to be reviewed in 12 months' time.

9. Finance

Monthly accounts were considered and approved.

10. Correspondence

The following items of correspondence have been received:

- Request for funding from the Dunford Parish Senior Citizens Association.

IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk will write to the DPSCA for clarification as to what the funding will be spent on, in accordance with financial regulations.

11. Any other business

Councillor Parkin reported that a Rottweiler had been seen carrying a baby piglet and Councillor Cockburn was aware of a dog seen worrying sheep and chasing a man on a bicycle. Councillor Devons had looked after a stray dog as it was the weekend and the dog warden service was not available. It appears that the problem of stray dogs is increasing and Councillors expressed concern about the availability of the dog warden service.

IT WAS AGREED that Councillor Kaye will take this issue to the next meeting of the Crime and Safety Sub-Group and that the Dog Warden service will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Councillor Parkin expressed concern about the safety of children playing 'chicken' on a road with a 40 miles per hour speed limit and felt that this should be reduced to 30 miles per hour.

Councillor Mitchell felt that the school bus should turn into the estate rather than children having to cross an often busy road to catch the bus.

IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk will contact the bus company to find out if this is possible.

12. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 7th May 2009 at 7.30 p.m. at the Parish Community Centre.