

DUNFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2008 AT 7.30 P.M.

AT THE PARISH COMMUNITY CENTRE

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

In attendance: Two members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES

None.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th August were accepted as an accurate record

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1 BT payphones

BT are running an 'adopt a kiosk' scheme for red phone boxes and a 'sponsor a kiosk' scheme for others. If a red kiosk is adopted, the telephone is removed and the adopter becomes responsible for maintenance. If a kiosk is sponsored, the payphone service remains but the sponsor becomes responsible for maintenance, line rental and upkeep. It was decided that neither options were viable for the Council for the three payphones located within the Parish area.

3.2 Old People's Bungalows

Berneslai Homes has a set procedure for letting properties based on needs, not the length of time on a waiting list. It was agreed that no further action could be taken.

3.3 Crowedge Play Area

The grass has been cut by Barnsley MBC. Councillor Devons reported that at her last inspection the handrails on the large slide were chipped, wood was still missing and the wall has fallen down again. The chippings had also gone hard. Councillors queries when the next ROSPA safety inspection is due.

IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk will establish when the next inspection is due by contacting Jo Birch at Barnsley MBC.

3.4 Yorkshire Councils Joint Annual Meeting

This event is to take place in November and will be attended by Councillors Pestell and Drewry.

4. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Copies of the statutory notice giving notice of the Council's plan to cover the vacant Councillor post were distributed. The notices are to be displayed prominently for a period of 14 days. If, after 14 days, 10 electors within the Parish do not request an election the post may be filled by co-option.

5. WOODHEAD/NATIONAL GRID

Nothing further to report other than two provisional dates have been arranged for a consultation exercise. No further work has been carried out although there has been an article in the press regarding the possibility of a road through one of the tunnels as an alternative to Mottram by-pass which had caused confusion and concern.

6. COMBINED MEMBERS MEETING

Nothing further to report, other than the Government appears to be moving away from the idea of wind turbines.

7. YOUTH CLUB MATTERS

A successful meeting was arranged by Margaret. At the pre-meeting, two young people, Ben and Rhona, were elected to sit on the Management Committee. There is a need for a formal constitution, which it was felt should incorporate the 'ten golden rules' of behaviour. The accounts were approved and accepted and are to be audited independently. It was also decided that the group should be independent from the Parish Council. Insurance is to be determined, although it was felt it may be covered by the Hall insurance. A 50p entrance is charged and youth leaders are paid out of youth club funds. Fundraising is to be looked at. £50 has been spent on new CD's. The police have offered two dates for the Christmas disco, either Friday 21st November or Saturday 22nd November. It was also noted that there is a 'spare' CRB (police) check for anyone who would like to be involved with the club.

8. DUNFORD PARISH RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

There has not been a recent meeting. There are concerns regarding the difficulties experienced in securing funding.

IT WAS AGREED that Councillor Pestell will progress this and report back.

9. DUNFORD PARISH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The agreement is still to be signed. The storeroom has been cleared out using a skip and this is now tidy. Those who helped to do this were thanked. The next meeting is to be held on 23rd September and all are welcome to attend.

Chair:

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Date:

10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

10.1 2008/1190 – Culverting of watercourse, creation of pond and associated landscaping involving engineering and land filling operations. Land off Birds Nest Lane, Holmfirth, HD9 7TG

No objections other than some concern expressed about water drainage.

10.2 2008/1100 – Formation of car park (resubmission), farmland adjacent to Whams Model Aircraft Flying Field, Brown's Edge Road, Ingbirchworth, Sheffield.

Councillor Cockburn expressed an interest and left the meeting for this item. There were no objections to the proposal.

IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk will contact the Planning Department with these decisions.

11. ACCOUNTS APPROVAL

The accounts from the last meeting were approved.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

12.1 A letter has been received from Stagecoach regarding local consultation when changes to bus services are proposed, with an offer to attend the next meeting of the Council if required.

IT WAS AGREED that the letter should be noted and the situation monitored.

12.2 Minutes from the last meeting of the East Peak Innovation Partnership meeting held on Tuesday 2nd September 2008 were distributed for information. The next meeting is to be held on 14th October at 6.30 p.m. in Room 1, St. John's Community Centre, Penistone. Councillor Drewry will attend. Hunshelf has asked for £21,000 of funding through the Ramblers Association. There is a possibility of funding available through this scheme and information has been passed on to Lindsay.

IT WAS AGREED that Councillor Pestell will progress this.

12.3 Councillor Drewry has written to the Chief Executive of Barnsley MBC regarding the gritting of Don View. A response is still awaited.

12.4 A copy of the last Area Forum agenda was distributed for information.

12.5 A draft of a letter to be sent to the Post Office regarding branch closures in the Penistone area was considered and approved. A copy is also to be sent to Nigel Bath.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Pestell stated that an area of land at Middlecliffe, currently used as a playground, is up for sale by auction and expressed concern that two strips of land nearby may also be sold and developed for housing. He felt that the Parish Council should attempt to acquire the land to prevent this happening. However, it was pointed out that should the land come up for sale the Parish Council will be made aware through Planning when an application is received. It was felt that the cost implications of acquiring the land could be too great for the Parish Council.

IT WAS AGREED that Councillor Drewry will make enquiries of Jo Birch about the 'playground' status of the land.

Problems are again being experienced with cows from New Maythorn Farm straying onto the road and damaging cars. Someone at Hepworth's said they would deal with it.

IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk will write to the Farmer expressing concerns and the situation monitored.

It was pointed out that the Standing Orders of the Council were developed in 1938 and are now out of date. It was felt that a new Constitution should be drawn up.

IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk will investigate an appropriate model. It was also agreed that that eight copies of the revised Councillor Handbook should be purchased from the Local Council Association as existing copies are out of date.

It was felt that the Newsletter should be revised, with a possible distribution twice per year. A copy of the Hepworth newsletter was distributed for information.

The Council Clerk's contract will be approved outside the formal meeting.

14. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd October 2008 at 7.30 p.m. At the Parish Community Centre.