

WYKEHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 6:30pm on Monday 21st July at the St John Office, Wykeham Business Centre.

Present:

Cllrs. Lady Downe (Chairman), J P Terry (Vice Chairman), L S Day, and Mr G Parkin (Clerk).

Also present for part of the meeting were D J Jeffels (Borough and County Cllr.) and PC Bilton.

No members of the public were present.

1. Apologies for absence

R A H Sword

2. Declaration of Interests and Register of Interests

In accordance with the adopted Code of Conduct, it was AGREED to grant dispensation to all Members to allow them to contribute to the discussion of all agenda items. This decision is in the interests of the inhabitants of the Parish and will facilitate effective consideration of the business. Voting dispensations will be considered as and when they become necessary.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 19th May 2014

The Minutes were AGREED to be true records and were duly signed by Lady Downe.

4. Matters arising

- The Clerk confirmed that after protracted negotiations with AVIVA and Zurich, the insurance had been renewed with the current insurers (AVIVA) and that it included provision to allow the hiring out of the marquee.
- The contribution from Wykeham Estate relating to the loan of the marquee was still outstanding and it was AGREED that the Clerk would try to conclude this matter to the satisfaction of all parties.

ACTION – Clerk to liaise with Cllr. Sword to resolve.

- There was deemed to be no specific implications for the Parish from the Draft Street Collections Policy.

- The decision by NYCC to remove funding for grass cutting which falls outside their statutory duty (road safety) has now been confirmed by letter dated 12th June. It was AGREED that the Clerk would discuss the matter with Cllr. Jeffels and send a letter to NYCC if appropriate.

ACTION – The Clerk to discuss the matter with Cllr. Jeffels and report back to Lady Downe.

- It was confirmed to Cllr. Jeffels that the outstanding issue of the potholes in Ruston had now been resolved.
- Cllr. Jeffels advised that the planning for Wykeham Quarry was ongoing with a probable timeframe of 2-3 months.
- There was a general discussion on the implications of the Openness of Local Government for the Parish Council. Cllr. Jeffels advised that the Council could consider a “Notice of Exclusion” to be erected by the landlord on any of the venues that are used for Parish Council meetings. It was AGREED that the Clerk and Cllr. Sword would look into this further and also seek advice from YLCA.

ACTION – The Clerk to discuss the wording with Cllr. Sword for a notice to be erected.

5. Police Report

PC Bilton joined the meeting and the agenda was suspended to allow him to comment on the report.

Whilst the crime figures have doubled since the last report, PC Bilton explained that a marginally small increase in incidents has a dramatic overall impact on the statistics. The reporting of crime and staffing available for the area is also a limiting factor to be taken into consideration.

PC Bilton added some detail to the incidents reported and the possible connection to the annual Seamer Horse Fair.

6. Finance

Members received the latest Financial Statement (attached as appendix 1) and noted the Receipts and Payments made since the last meeting on 19 May 2014. Requests for payments were noted and cheques duly authorized.

The Clerk outlined the status of changing the bank mandate. The various rules/procedures that now prevail within the banking industry will require representatives of the Parish Council to visit the bank to conclude the matter – It was agreed that Lady Downe (Chairman), Cllr. J P Terry and Mr G Parkin (Clerk) will attend the bank.

ACTION – The Clerk to contact the bank to arrange a suitable date/time for the visit.

7. Consultations and Liaison

a) Scarborough Borough Local Plan

There was thought to be nothing of significance affecting the Parish within the draft Borough Local Plan and it was AGREED that no further action was required prior to the end of the consultation period.

b) Openness of Local Government Bodies regulations 2014

The Clerk outlined the implications of the proposed new law that was shortly to pass through parliament that would allow the legal right to film Parish Council Meetings. YLCA have been consulted and we are to await their briefing guidance on how parish councils should embrace the new laws. In the opinion of YLCA and despite the recent representations made to NLCA, the law will come into force with very little concession to the substantial adverse reaction that exists.

8. Planning Applications

- **Wykeham Quarry Planning Permission C4/11/00099/CC**

Cllr. Sword has agreed to provide an update on this planning application for the next meeting having just attended a recent meeting with Hanson UK.

ACTION – The Clerk to liaise with Cllr. Sword to make this available for the next meeting.

- **Wykeham Business centre - 14/ 013 05/ FL planning consultation**

Members did not raise any objections to the application and it was AGREED that no action was required.

9. General Correspondence

The Clerk commented on the significant volume of correspondence that had been received since his appointment and the difficulty of “grading” the importance and subsequent onward distribution of such communications to the members of the council.

All correspondence was reviewed by the members and guidance provided to the Clerk accordingly.

The Clerk commented on recent difficulties of placing Statutory Notices on the three Parish Notice Boards. A significant amount of general advertising prevailed with some attached by means of a heavy duty staple gun. Discussion took place about segregation of a “public” area and an “official” area but do to the very limited space available, it was AGREED to give the mandate for the Clerk to remove any general advertising that adversely impacted on the performance of his duty.

10. Public Question Time

No business to record.

11. Confidential item – Parish Council vacancy

The Clerk provided an update to the members on the status of the vacancy.

The Statutory notice had been placed on Parish Notice boards to advertise the Casual Vacancy and no requests for an election were filed with the Returning Officer at Scarborough Borough Council by the closing date of Wednesday 25th June 2014.

Accordingly, the Council is now allowed to co-opt a member onto the council and a notice has been placed on the notice boards inviting applications with a closing date of 27th July 2014.

Cllr. Terry informed the members of his intention to resign his position at the next meeting due to a change of personal circumstances.

12. Date and Time of next meeting

Confirmed: Monday 22nd September 2014 at 6:30
St John's Office, Wykeham Business Centre

Duly signed by Lady Downe (Chairman) 22nd September 2014