

Minutes of the Open Parish meeting held on Tuesday 31 March 2009.

Present: Mr Frank Clay (Vice Chairman); Mr Derek Fairweather (Reporting Officer);
Mr Harry Carter, Mrs Jill Gill; Mrs Doreen Putnam.

Ward Cllr Mrs Julie Abraham Ward and Cllr Mrs Helen Gilmour.

Four members of the public were present.

Apologies

Mr Paul Donkin, Mr Stephen Burdick, Mr Lee Franks, Mrs Elaine Eggett, Dr Harry Hooper,
Mrs Gwyneth Banks and Dr Julia Lawrence.

1. Chairman's report

The Parish Council is a statutory body with certain duties as laid down by Parliament. The Councillors are elected every four years, at the last election held in 2007, insufficient candidates were nominated therefore, no election was held.

We are a tier of local government, other tiers known as principal authorities, have a legal duty to deliver services such as health care, education, town and country planning, the environment and social services. We, as a parish have the legal power to take action but our powers are not as wide reaching as other levels of local government and we have fewer statutory duties and more freedom to choose what actions to take. Our main role is to represent the interest of this community and to improve the quality of life and the environment for all the residents of the Parish. We are, in effect, a sounding board for you the residents of this Parish. If you have concerns that you wish to bring to the notice of the Parish Council in the first instance, contact the Clerk to the Parish Council by writing to Ms Anne Padgett 1 Cedar Close Hornsea HU18 1TY.

You may attend the meetings of the Parish Council normally held on the last Tuesday in the month, commencing at 7.00pm. Dates, times and location are advertised on the Parish notice boards in advance of the meeting. You will not be allowed to speak without the permission of the Chairman and will be asked to leave the meeting should any item of a confidential nature arise.

One of the main duties of the Parish Council is to set the parish precept – that part of the council tax required by the Parish Council to carry out its statutory duties. For the financial year 2009/2010 we have held the precept at the same level as for the last financial year, the amount being £22,700.00.

We have, in the last 12 months, carried out an upgrade to the street lights in part of the Parish as follows: Melton Fields, Temple Walk, Temple Walk to Holly Hill footpath, Holly Hill, St Anne's Walk footpath to St Helen's Church, Ladywell Gate footpath to St Anne's Walk, Melton Bottom and Common Lane. The total cost of this was £27,145.75. It is intended to carry out a clean-up operation in and around Melton Pond. It was thought that a colony of newts lived in the pond and these are a protected species. An environmental survey had to be carried out and it was proved that no newts were in or around the pond. We then had to apply to ERYC to carry out a clean-up. This has now been granted and we will be moving forward on this during the year.

The Council is consulted on planning application affecting the parish and, while our comments are listened to and noted, we do not have the right to pass or deny planning permission. Again, we would welcome your comments on application that might affect you or your surroundings.

One of the main concerns at the moment is the proposal, by the Highways Agency, to close the footpath on the north side of the A63 between South Hunsley School and the footbridge at the bottom of Cowgate. This would cause all the pupils who live in Brough/Elloughton and that part of Welton to the south of the A63, to walk through the village on their way to and from school. This, we feel, could pose a risk to the pupils as the footpaths are rather narrow in places and, at the times they will be walking through the area, traffic will be heavy. Another concern of the Council, and also the residents of Common Lane, is the future of the old school. This building is slowly deteriorating and is becoming an eyesore. We are pressing the County Council for answers and action on this problem. Unfortunately, when the school was gifted to the County Council by the Harrison Broadley family, it was stipulated that it was for educational purposes only and that appears to be a problem as it would appear to be a somewhat complicated procedure to get that stipulation changed or removed.

Attendance list April 2008 to February 2009

	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	TOTAL
Cllr Paul Donkin	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓	x	x	6/11
Cllr Frank Clay	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	9/11
Cllr Derek Fairweather	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	10/11
Cllr Mrs Gwynneth Banks	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x	8/11
Cllr Stephen Burdick	✓	x	✓	x	x	✓	x	x	x	x	x	3/11
Cllr Harry Carter	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	9/11
Cllr Mrs Elaine Eggett	✓	x	✓	x	✓	x	✓	x	✓	x	✓	6/11
Cllr Lee Franks	x	✓	x	✓	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	3/11
Cllr Mrs Jill Gill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	10/11
Cllr Harry Hooper	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	x	x	✓	✓	x	✓	7/11
Cllr Ms Julia Lawrence	x	✓	✓	x	✓	x	✓	✓	x	x	✓	6/11
Cllr Mrs Doreen Putnam	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	✓	✓	8/11

2. Planning Officers Report

During the twelve months ending 31 March 2009, the Parish Council dealt with 57 new applications. Of the latter the East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) decisions were:

Approvals	36
Refusals	7
Withdrawals	4
Undecided	3

We also noted a further 3 withdrawals among the new applications which may give an indication that greater attentions is being given to the preparation of applications.

The Parish Council, in striving to maintain the rural nature of the village, raised objections to 20 applications. We have been dismayed with some of the decisions and questioned the validity in respect of the planning policies. It has now been admitted that Welton falls into a vacuum, particularly with regard to sustainability. Housing developments have been allowed even though there has been strong condemnation expressed by the Conservation Officer and a statement by the Forward Planning department that Welton is well supplied with housing approvals for several years ahead.

We will continue to make strong representations to ERYC to come forward with a clear statement of relevant planning policies.

Three applications are worthy of special mention:

- Conversion of the Dale Road water mill to residential use
- Conversion of "Welton Garth" to office use

In both cases the Parish Council is faced with the decision to accepting a change of use to preserve the fabric of a listed building or to simply let a village landmark fall into disrepair.

The development off Creyke Lane sparked a plethora of objections. In our view, these were summarily dismissed by the Planning Officer and disregarded by the planning sub-committee. The Parish Council is still in contention with ERYC over the way in which the decision was reached.

3. Issues and matters of concern.

A resident of Common Lane raised concerns regarding the appalling state of repair of the road. There had been correspondence with both the developers and ERYC – at present there would appear to be no way forward.

It was pointed out that Common Lane had been adopted up to the school playing field. There had been issues regarding the correct enforcement of planning regulations by the previous developer, namely that all houses should be lit (street lighting) prior to being occupied. The Ward Councillors confirmed that action was in the process of being taken and that ERYC had adopted the remainder of Common Lane. Action was being taken by Mr Worledge of ERYC against Bovis for payment of the bond to pay for the updates required for Common Lane.

Concern was expressed regarding the number of vehicles parking in the turnaround by Melton Pond. The suggestion was that yellow lines should be placed on the road to prevent any parking. There were also concerns regarding the volume of foreign lorries using the area. Ward Cllr Mrs Abraham stated that she would make enquiries regarding some form of restriction to prevent parking.

The state of Melton pond was raised. It was pointed out that work was due to commence, funded by the Parish Council, to clean up the area including a new seating.

It was reported that two swans were presently on the Beck and were being aggravated by school children from South Hunsley School. It was agreed that this should be reported to the police for action.

There were no other issues raised and the meeting was closed.

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Mr Harry Carter, Mrs Jill Gill; Mrs Doreen Putnam.

Ward Cllr Mrs Helen Gilmour.

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of the meetings held on 24 February, after being previously circulated, was approved as an accurate record of events and duly signed by the Vice Chairman.

2. Apologies

Mr Paul Donkin, Mr Stephen Burdick, Mr Lee Franks, Mrs Elaine Eggett, Dr Harry Hooper, Mrs Gwynneth Banks and Dr Julia Lawrence.

3. Declaration of Interests

Cllr Derek Fairweather - nominated Member of the Trustee Committee

Cllr Harry Carter - nominated Member of the Trustee Committee and Member of the Social Club.

4. Matters arising

It was reported that Mr Richard Pearson had reported that some re-planting of trees had taken place to replace those which had been felled. However, there were concerns and the replacement trees were not of the same type felled.

Cllr Carter stated that he was still concerned about the tree which had been felled near to his property. He was surprised that a tree of its size was not the subject of a tree preservation order. The tree in question was a Horse Chestnut (removed from the rear of No 4 Temple Walk.

It was agreed that the Clerk should prepare a notice to advertise for a replacement Councillor as no response had been received from Cllr Burdick.

5. Parish Waterways Sub-Committee

No report available

6. Transport Sub Committee

No report available

7. Planning

The Planning Report was submitted and approved by all present.

8. Police report

It was reported that two crimes had been reported in the period 24/02/09 to 30/03/09.

07/03/09	Theft	Gibson Lane, Melton
07/03/09	Theft	South Hunsley School

9. Report by East Riding Councillor

Cllr Mrs Gilmour asked those present if there would be any issues with there being a bollard placed by the entrance to Brickyard Lane to restrict access onto private land to prevent fly-tipping. All those present were in favour of such action being taken.

The following issues of concern were raised:

Bovis estate - it was reported that there was a great deal of concern regarding the state of the roads. Also there was an increasing problem with dog fouling.

Bow Road – Omya – it was reported that an area close to the pit workings had been fenced off. This was causing concern as the Trans Pennine Walk was very close by and the proximity to the pit workings could constitute a danger to those walking.

10. Finance

The following expenditure was approved:

Clerk's salary (£279.96), plus half-yearly payment for storage/etc (£50.00) plus expenses (£13.77) = £343.73
Clearway - £257.60
Audit Commission -- £155.25
ERNLLCA Membership - £465.00

13. Standing Orders

It was agreed that the proposed additions to the Standing Orders should be reviewed at the next meeting.

14. Correspondence

ERYC – Shoreline Management Plan 2 – Exhibitions
Parish News
Community Protection Unit
Car Parking road shows

ERNLLCA – details of spring conference

15. Any items of concern to be brought to the attention of the meeting

The following were raised:

Concern was registered regarding the lack of feedback from ERYC with reference to the old school.

It was agreed that at a future meeting, the Community Emergency Plan would need to be discussed.

16. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 28 April 2009