

Appleton Wiske Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall meeting room on Monday 1st December 2003, that commenced at 7.30PM.

Present

Cllrs: Ken Blackwood (Chair), June Ferguson, Roy Ingleton, Derek Partington, Lena Taylor and Olwen Young. Emily Wren (Clerk). Apologies received from Janet Pederson. 1 member of the public attended.

1. Public Comment

None

2. Minutes of the October 2003 Meeting

The minutes of the October 2003 Meeting had been circulated. It was resolved that the minutes of this meeting be confirmed and were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. Matters arising

- a) **Signs to slow traffic, Hornby Road** – It was noted that triangle and slow signs at the Rounton/Picton entrance to the village have been painted over. It was resolved that Mike Roberts, Highways Department at Thirsk should be asked to reinstate signs at all entrances to the village, and to move the 30 sign to the far side of the Wiske bridge.
- b) **Village Newsletter** – Cllr Ferguson was congratulated for the first Village Newsletter which had been well received. Contributions for the next edition to be submitted by the end of January. 250 copies cost £18. It was agreed a colour cartridge and pack of paper should be purchased unless Cllr Partington can identify another printing source. An additional volunteer for the Prescription Collection service has been identified.
- c) **Appleton in Bloom** – Cllr Partington set out the priorities (and approximate costs) for next year. These include purchase of a new mower (£2,000), wildflower/riverside fence (£305), notice boards in front of Post Office & wildflower area, gate by Wiske bridge, replace village signs, stand pipes and water butts, fence and gate around pumping station (£560) and a hand mower. Discussions are continuing with a variety of bodies who may be able to assist.
- d) **Village Green Access** – Cllr Blackwood provided an update. A letter re. R Atkinson's application had gone missing, but this had since been resolved. No progress update had been provided for this meeting as requested. R. Atkinson's solicitor maintains the location of access will not change: Cllr Blackwood emailed a response that he believes it will. There was a consensus that Cllrs Blackwood and Partington should measure and record the existing site of access. It was also agreed that a final plan of action with deadlines should be agreed with the solicitor, otherwise the Council should, even at this late stage, move solicitors. It was noted that Pear Tree Cottage has been sold with no application for an easement, and it was questioned whether Bruce Cottage requires an easement. It was proposed that a letter should be sent to the Vendor and Estate Agent to point out the lack of access.
- e) **Tree Maintenance** – Mr A Walters confirmed the work would be done shortly.
- f) **RoSPA Report** – Cllr Blackwood confirmed he is carrying out necessary actions.
- g) **Neighbourhood Watch** – Some interest has been expressed and Cllr Blackwood agreed to help set up a meeting.

4. Correspondence

- a) **M Davies & D Rhodes re proposed purchase of 9 Hunters Ride** – A verbal response had been given to this letter, confirming the planning department were the appropriate body to consult.
- b) **HDC Comprehensive Performance Assessment**– It was agreed that this should be completed by Cllrs Ferguson & Blackwood.
- c) **N Yorks Minerals & Waste Local Plans** – Cllr Blackwood agreed to review this document.
- d) **Police Budget Review** – Cllr Blackwood will attend this meeting.
- e) **Grass cutting** – A letter from AiB was received putting the case for an increase in grass cutting cost to £510 (maximum 17 cuts @ £30 per annum). Cllrs agreed AiB have done a very good job of grass cutting, but to satisfy the requirement to be a quality council a comparator will be sought to ensure best value.
- f) **ARA/Skatepark insurance** – A letter was received requesting assistance towards the cost of providing safety inspections and of insuring the Skatepark. The request was supported with well presented arguments. It was resolved that the Chairman should, in the first instance, look into the cost of providing shared insurance cover with ARA.

- g) Ingram Grange Farm Footpath** – To facilitate the redirection of this footpath, considered at an earlier meeting, it was resolved that the Council would take on the application, at no cost to the Council.
- h) Parish Website** – Information on an initiative was received which could be of interest to the village website.
- i) Fire & Rescue Service** – The Council was invited to make comments on the current service.

5. Circulars

Other circulars received were considered not urgent and were passed to councillors to read.

6. Planning Matters

Equestrian Riding Arena, Southolme, Appleton Wiske – This amended application (the proposal to illuminate the area was withdrawn) was approved subject to appropriate drainage provision.

7. Financial Matters

- a)** Agreed to pay E Wren £89.56: £60.42 for salary as Clerk Nov 03 –(8hrs x £7.553) & £29.14 Clerk's expenses Dec 02-Sep 03 (Ch 300441)
- b)** Agreed to pay Village hall £6.80 for hire of meeting room Oct 03 (Ch. 300442)
- c)** Agreed to pay Prospect Garage £18.25 petrol &£46.51 mower repairs total £64.76 (Ch. 300443).
- d)** Agreed to pay Southolme Farm Adventure Toys £150 for fireworks (Ch. 300444)
- e)** Agreed to pay Mazars £117.50 for audits 01/02 & 02/03 (Ch. 300445)
- f)** Reconsidered the purchase of a grit spreader in the light of advice that there is considerable maintenance involved.
- g)** Parish Council Accounts 2001/2002 & 2002/2003– The Auditors comments were considered. An asset register needs to be completed before the next accounts are submitted.
- h)** A financial report was received to assist with the setting of the precept for the next financial year. It was resolved that further consideration was needed, and therefore the suggestion of a modest increase should be put to the meeting in January 2004.

8. Reports from Representatives

The Minibus door has been replaced under an insurance claim

9. Concrete footpath adjacent to Post Office

The poor state of repair of this piece of village green was noted. Cllr Ingleton agreed to obtain a quotation to patch the path to maintain safety.

10. AOB

- a) Dog Fouling** – It was noted that Mr George Johnson had made the kind offer of being willing to talk to dog owners about training their dogs.
- b) State of Village Green** – It was noted that a patch of grass on the Post Office side of Front Street has become damaged due to overuse. The area may need some repair. Also a trailer has been left on the village green for some time. Cllrs agreed to talk to the people involved.
- c) Firework Display** – Concerns were raised about safety at this year's firework display. Fireworks landed on the play equipment within the area cordoned for spectators, and one landed on a child. The high wind was agreed to be the significant factor. It was agreed to share these concerns with the event organisers.

11. Public Comment

None.

The meeting closed at 9.55pm.

Signed..... Date..... Page 419