

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE

WHEATLEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY 14 JUNE 2010

Present: Councillor M Nicholls (Chair)  
Councillors Mrs M Nicholls, J R Lamb,  
B Maddison, Mrs E Carr and Mrs C Stogdale

Apologies: Councillor Mrs M Goyns, E Goyns and  
Mrs L Stewart

1 THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on 17 May 2010, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved and signed by the Chair.

2 COMMUNITY POLICING

There were no Police present at the meeting.

3 STREET WARDENS

There were no Street Wardens present at the meeting.

4 CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Request for Financial Assistance

(i) Haswell and District Mencap Society

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request for financial assistance from Haswell and District Mencap Society.

RESOLVED that a donation of £300 be made from the Section 137 budget.

(2) Letter of Thanks

The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter of thanks from Wheatley Hill Rockets.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(3) Parish and Town Councils Conference

The Clerk reported the receipt of an invitation from Durham County Council to attend a Parish and Town Councils Conference to be held on 19 July 2010.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(4) Haswell and District Mencap Society - Anniversary Carnival Event

The Clerk reported the receipt of an invitation from the Haswell and District Mencap Society to attend a carnival event to be held on 26 June 2010.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

5 PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

Consideration was given to the following planning application received from Durham County Council: -

Conversion of two Bungalows into one, rear extension and vehicular crossing at 51/52 Peterlee Cottages for Mr I Jackson.

Members expressed concern that the applicant had held approval for this conversion for a number of years and to date no work had been undertaken. Members suggested that if the application was to be approved then a time limit should be stipulated as a condition of approval.

RESOLVED that the concerns of Members be forwarded to Durham County Council.

6 DELEGATES REPORTS

(i) Wheatley Hill Clinic

The Chair provided an update on the situation regarding the Clinic. Members were advised that further information regarding the demolition of the building was awaited and discussions with the Doctors at the surgery were ongoing. It was pointed out that if agreement could not be reached in relation to this site then other sites would be considered.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(ii) Wheatley House

The Chair provided Members with an update on the situation regarding Wheatley House and advised that a meeting was scheduled to be held with Mrs S Pearce, AAP Area Co-ordinator, on 22 June 2010 at 1.30 pm in Wheatley House. All Members were encouraged to attend.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

7 HEAD GROUNDS PERSONS REPORT

General

The Clerk advised that routine work had been undertaken in the Cemetery since the last meeting, details of which were outlined.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

8 CLERK'S REPORT

(1) Allotments

(i) Waiting Lists

Members were provided with details of waiting lists for allotments and stable blocks.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(ii) Complaint

The Clerk advised that a number of complaints had been received regarding tenants burning waste material at the allotments which caused a problem for other tenants, particularly those racing pigeons over the weekend.

RESOLVED that the Clerk write to all allotment and stable block holders requesting that they refrain from burning waste material at the allotments.

(2) Greenhills - Play Area

The Clerk advised that following the last meeting the Greenhills Centre were advised that the Parish Council would fund the cost of the repairs to the play area in the amount of £2,125.50 excluding VAT. The Centre was also advised that in future all repairs would need to be undertaken and paid for by the Greenhills Centre.

In addition the monthly inspection of the play area undertaken by Durham County Council and the annual ROSPA inspection would similarly have to be paid for by the Greenhills Centre.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(3) Cemetery Wall

The Clerk advised that the Cemetery Wall was in a state of disrepair. Over the years a number of repairs had been carried out but the severe winter weather during 2009/10 had caused additional damage.

An approach was made to Mr Thubron who had previously undertaken repairs to the wall. Mr Thubron had subsequently advised that he was unable to undertake the repairs and recommended a local builder to provide the Parish Council with a quotation for the work.

Members were advised that the quotation provided was for the builder plus one labourer to work at a cost of £140 per day excluding materials. However, the quotation provided no indication of how long the work would take or the cost of materials.

The Clerk expressed concern at the lack of detail in the quote and suggested that further enquiries be made with the builder.

RESOLVED that the Clerk contact the Builder to discuss the quote in greater detail.

9 PAYMENTS AND ORDERS

The Clerk presented Members with a written report of all payments and receipts made since the last meeting.

Members were also provided with details of the financial position of the Parish Council in comparison with the Annual Budget.

RESOLVED that the report be received and the payments itemised be approved.

10 RISK ASSESSMENT

The Clerk advised that there was nothing to report.

11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Road/pathways Repairs

Members reported a number of locations throughout the village where attention was required to the paths and roads and included 2 Woodlands Avenue, 10 Byron Street, 18 South View and 1 Shakespeare Street.

RESOLVED that the Clerk contact Highways Action Line to report the repairs.

..... Signed

..... Dated