

PURSUANT TO NOTICE A MEETING OF ACKWORTH PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD ON MONDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2011 AT 7.15 PM, IN THE PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNITY CENTRE, BELL LANE, ACKWORTH.

Present: Cllrs: S Balfour, in the Chair

Cllrs R Barnsley, P Davies, J Evans, Mrs J Evans, D Marshall
And R Molloy,

District Councillor Mrs J Askew

4 members of the public

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Chairman invited members of the public to speak if they wished to do so. One resident asked if we had consulted with library staff for figures on rate of usage, day to day attendances etc. The Chairman responded to say that we had not consulted Ackworth Library staff direct but a meeting was set up with officers from Wakefield MDC to discuss this issue.

Cllr Mrs Askew reported that she was attending a meeting to discuss the METRO review of bus services.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their comments and moved into the formal Parish Council meeting.

1.To receive apologies for absence

C1.1 Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Hirst, Mrs S Hollyhead, T Hollyhead,

W Storey and K Wilson as per reasons recorded in the attendance book.

2. To receive declarations of interest

C2.1 Cllr Molloy declared an interest in item 21 Planning – in his role as District Councillor he is on the planning committee.

3. To Approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 July 2011

C3.1 Cllr Marshall proposed and Cllr Barnsley seconded that they be accepted as a true record. All Councillors agreed. The Chairman duly signed them.

4. To receive the Clerks report on matters arising from the Minutes of 25 July 2011

- Letter received from BOAR Cottage following a request for information of numbers of residents who benefit from the service. It was agreed to write back for clarification on amount spent for Ackworth residents.
- Telephone box – The telephone box is now sited at the rear of the Parish Council Community Centre. It was previously agreed that local schools would

be invited to see how we used to make telephone calls it was further agreed to write to Ackworth Heritage Group for their suggestions on other uses.

- Moles at the Cemetery – although the Pest Control Company had caught 4 moles at least another one has since appeared so our staff have set the traps recently purchased.
- The Field Maple Tree on Carr Bridge field, which has recently been decimated. The Arborticultural Officer at Wakefield MDC is pursuing the incident. Advice from the landscape company is to go ahead with tidying it up, as this type of tree is rare in this area.
- Best Kept Allotment presentation will be held on 6 October 2011, our Chairman will present the prizes.

5. To receive and approve accounts income, expenditure and bank reconciliation to end July 2011

C5.1 A list of accounts to the end of July had previously been circulated to all Councillors. The total amount of expenditure for July was £19,005.74; it was proposed by Cllr Mrs Evans and seconded by Cllr Barnsley that the accounts be approved. All Councillors agreed and the Chairman duly signed them.

6. To receive and approve accounts income, expenditure and bank reconciliation to end August 2011

C6.1 A list of accounts to the end of August had previously been circulated to all Councillors. The total amount of expenditure for August was £11,658.41; it was proposed by Cllr Barnsley and seconded by Cllr Mrs Evans that the accounts be approved. All Councillors agreed and the Chairman duly signed them.

7. To receive and approve a list of payments to be made and Petty Cash Account to 12 September 2011

C7.1 The Clerk had circulated a list of payments to be made and petty cash account at this evening's meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Evans and seconded by Cllr Davies that they are approved. All Councillors agreed and the Chairman duly signed them.

8. To receive and discuss a further grant towards the cost of the Parish Council 'Drop In'

C8.1 The Chairman explained that this request had come direct to the Parish Council without going to the Village Events Committee as the fund was running very low. A discussion was held.

Cllr Balfour proposed that this would be taken to the October Village Events Committee meeting for discussion, but in the interim a figure of £80 would be granted to allow the September and October meetings to go ahead. All Councillors agreed.

9. To receive and discuss a request for a grant towards the cost of Ackworth Senior Citizens Christmas Party

Cllr Balfour proposed that this request is supported in principle but the actual amount will be decided at the next meeting following clarification on the accounts. All Councillors agreed.

10. To receive a request from Ackworth & Pontefract British Legion to fund a replacement tree next to the memorial stone on the Green at High Ackworth

The cost to replace the tree including planting would be £70. The landscape company suggested that a Hornbeam rather than a crab apple tree would be a more suitable replacement.

Cllr Balfour proposed that the request is granted and the Clerk replies with the landscape companies suggestions. All Councillors agreed.

11. To discuss and approve the cost of planting spring bulbs on the Green.

C11.1 The Clerk explained that she had received a complaint in the spring of this year from a local resident regarding the lack of daffodils on the green. It was agreed to purchase spring bulbs and out staff would plant them. It was further agreed to inform the maintenance contractor not to cut the area where they are planted until they have died back.

12. To receive a report on the response to our Library Survey

C12.1 The Clerk read out the report along with all the comments received. She further reported that Wakefield MDC Library Services had contacted her at the beginning of September to ask that the word 'Closure' be removed from the survey. In consultation with the Chairman the wording was changed on the website last week. A meeting will be set up for Councillors to meet with Officers to discuss the way forward.

13. To receive a letter from Wakefield MDC Highways regarding the seat this was removed following the work on the petrol station.

C13.1 The Clerk read out the letter. A short discussion was held. It was agreed that the Clerk writes to the owners of the petrol station. Clerk to contact Highways for a map of the areas they are responsible for to enable Councillors to choose a site for a replacement seat. All suggestions to go to the next Road Safety meeting.

14. To agree to send a representative to sign the Parish Charter at Wakefield MDC on Wednesday 19 October 2011

C14.1 The Clerk had requested a copy of the charter but as yet had not received it. It was agreed that she would pursue this and distribute prior to the next meeting.

15. To receive an invitation from the Royal British Legion St Oswald Sub Group to the Chair of the Parish Council to be a guest at their Annual Festival of Remembrance on Sunday 6 November 2011

C15.1 The Chairman confirmed she would be attending.

16. To discuss the review by METRO of bus services in Wakefield District – in particular the Ackworth services

A short discussion was held. All Councillors agreed that we must endeavour to keep these services. Further information would be sought before the next meeting and a further discussion would be held at that meeting.

Information would be included in the next Newsletter.

17. To receive a letter from Wakefield MDC Planning Department re the Lodge House and Stone Wall, Pontefract Road, High Ackworth

C17.1 Letter received from Wakefield MDC's Conservation Officer. She is unable to assist further; her suggestions are to contact English Heritage. It was agreed to ask our representatives on the Ackworth Heritage Group to take this up, it was further agreed to write to the owner of the land re our concerns.

18. To receive the minutes of the meeting held with members of Low Ackworth Community Centre Committee on 16 August 2011

C18.1 A copy of the minutes had previously been circulated. These were noted. The Clerk reported that she had not yet seen a copy of the insurance for the building.

19. To receive minutes of the Road Safety Working Group meeting held on 30 August 2011

C19.1 Cllr Barnsley commented on the overgrown trees on Francis Terrace. On two separate occasions the tree roots had damaged water pipes in the nearest property. Wakefield MDC had been and replaced two dozen block paving bricks but not carried out any work on the trees. It was agreed to write to Wakefield MDC re this issue.

C19.2 It was agreed that the minutes be received and noted.

20. To receive the minutes of the Allotment Working Group Meeting held on 9 September 2011

C20.1 The meeting was postponed, as several members of the group including the allotment representatives were not available.

21. To receive and comment on Planning Applications received by Wakefield MDC

Cllr Molloy declared an interest in all applications and left the meeting

- 11/01467/FUL 83 Pontefract Road – replacement conservatory to rear
- 11/01669/TCA Ash Trees, 93 Pontefract Road – Notice of intention for T1 Ash tree to fell, T4, T5 and T6 Birch trees to crown lift and thin, T7 Birch tree crown lift/thin and draw back canopy, T8 Lawson conifer draw back, T11 Lawson conifer prune, T10 ornamental cherry tree crown lift
- 11/01060/SUB/01 126 Pontefract Road – discharge of condition 3 (stonework) from application 11/01060/LBC
- 11/01643/FUL 3 Chapel Garth – 2 storey extension to side and new driveway to side
- 11/01646/FUL 45 Millgate – residential dwelling – 1 dwelling – re submission of 01/00942/FUL
- 11/01636/TPO Holyroyd 2 Doncaster Road – Horse Chestnut, Silver Birch and Hawthorne to prune
- 11/01396/FUL and 11/01440/CON Demolition of stables, 1 no. dwelling and cessation of livery business. Redevelopment of site comprising 6 no. detached dwellings, garages, amendments to access and landscaping at Priory Cottage, Pontefract Road – The Clerk reported that she had submitted an objection based on the comments sent to the agent in June 2011. Clerk to ask how we request that this is referred to the Planning

Committee as all three of our District Councillors are on the Planning Committee.

It was further agreed that the Chairman organises representation to the Committee if this is required prior to the October Parish Council meeting.

22. To receive Burial Rights

22.1 C/Ashes Row C plot 10 Andrew John Gibson
C/Ashes Row C plot 11 Dorothy Lazenby
J4 John William Millard

23. To receive additional correspondence

- Invitation to South East Area Delivery Group – Cllr Balfour to attend
- Letter from First Impressions re the floral displays – accepted and noted
- Wakefield MDC – Invitation to attend Mayors Civic Parade on 24 September 2011 - Noted
- Rural Action Yorkshire – Membership subscription due and Country Air Magazine – Cllr Balfour proposed not to renew the membership this year. All Councillors agreed.

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETING ACT 1960) THAT THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED