

PURSUANT TO NOTICE A MEETING OF ACKWORTH PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD ON MONDAY 9 MARCH 2009 AT 7.15 PM, IN THE PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNITY CENTRE, BELL LANE, ACKWORTH.

Present: Cllr A Garbutt, in the Chair

Cllrs: S Balfour, R Barnsley, J Evans, Mrs P Garbutt, Mrs S Hollyhead,
D Johnson, D Lloyd, W Storey and K Wilson

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

C 1.1 Apologies were accepted from Cllr R Hirst and Cllr S Tonkinson for reasons recorded in the attendance book.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

C2.1 Cllr R Barnsley – Friends of Brackenhill
Cllr A Garbutt – re post box

3. WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE WILL GIVE AN EXPLANATION OF THE NEW STRUCTURE FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING – PACT (POLICE AND COMMUNITY TOGETHER) MEETINGS. INCLUDING NOMINATIONS FOR PACT PANEL MEMBER'S REPRESENTATIVES.

West Yorkshire Police were not in attendance. It was agreed that this would be discussed if they arrived.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9 FEBRUARY 2009

C4.1 Cllr Balfour proposed and Cllr Mrs Hollyhead seconded that they be accepted as a true record. All Councillors agreed. The Chairman duly signed them.

5. TO RECEIVE THE CLERKS REPORT ON MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 9 FEBRUARY 2009

C5.1

- Village Green – contact with Legal Services at Wakefield MDC
- Website – the company are unable to carry out the work. It was agreed to look at the options.
- Howard School – email from Miss Jackson who will discuss the car park at their next governors meeting.
- Line Dancing – waiting to hear from them.
- Ackworth Heritage Group – no reply

- Dando Way – Cllr Wilson and the Clerk attended a meeting recently with officers from Highways they would pass the concerns on to Wakefield MDC's drainage team and Countryside Department.
- SLCC training session – Cllr Johnson, Cllr Tonkinson and the Clerk are attending

6. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE ACCOUNTS INCOME, EXPENDITURE AND BANK RECONCILIATION TO END FEBRUARY 2009

C6.1 A list of accounts to end February had previously been circulated to all Councillors. The total amount of expenditure for February was £12,020.95. The Clerk answered questions on the accounts. It was proposed by Cllr Balfour and seconded by Cllr Barnsley that the bank reconciliation is approved. It was further proposed by Cllr Storey and seconded by Cllr Mrs Hollyhead that the income is approved. It was further proposed by Cllr Johnson and seconded by Cllr Storey that the expenditure is 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 9 MARCH 2009

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

8. TO APPROVE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMITTEES

C8.1 Following the decision to set up committees and to use the recommended terms of reference from Yorkshire Local Councils Association the Clerk had written terms of references for each Committee and Working Group. These had been distributed to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

Cllr Storey proposed and Cllr Balfour seconded that subject to the following amendments the terms of reference are approved. All Councillors agreed. Amendments to be made: Village Events no. 4 – quorum is 4. Road Safety Working Group – No. 3 should read – at the end of the paragraph SELRAG etc ... can be in attendance.

7.35 pm Cllr Mrs P Garbutt arrived.

9. TO RECEIVE A LETTER FROM YORKSHIRE LOCAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATIONS REGARDING THE NEW POWER OF WELL BEING FOR LOCAL COUNCILS – TO DISCUSS AND DECIDE IF THE COUNCIL INTENDS TO USE THIS POWER AND TO APPROVE TRAINING COSTS IF NECESSARY

The Clerk gave a brief explanation of the new power. A short discussion took place.

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs P Garbutt and seconded by Cllr Balfour to make a commitment to use the new power once all the criteria is met, which includes Councillors being trained. Voting took place – 8 Councillors voted in favour and one abstained. It was therefore RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to YLCA confirming that Ackworth Councillors require training.

10. TO DISCUSS A REQUEST BY 2ND ACKWORTH RAINBOW UNIT FOR A GRANT

C10.1 An application form had been received and the request was briefly discussed.

Cllr Evans proposed and Cllr Barnsley seconded £250

Cllr Johnson proposed and Cllr Garbutt seconded £200

Voting took place on the amendment – 8 Councillors voted in favour and 1 abstained.

It was therefore RESOLVED that a grant of £200 is given to the 2nd Ackworth Rainbows

11. TO RECEIVE A LETTER FROM STEPHENSON & WROE RE CARR BRIDGE PLAYING FIELDS RENT REVIEW

C11.1 The letter received gave details of the increase in the rent from 1 October 2009. The Clerk reported that Ackworth School had agreed to this increase. After a short discussion it was proposed by Cllr Balfour and seconded by Cllr Mrs Garbutt to accept the increase. All Councillors agreed. It was therefore RESOLVED that the Clerk signs the document accepting the increase.

12. TO DISCUSS AND APPROVE HIRING CHARGES FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNITY CENTRE FROM 1 APRIL 2009

C12.1 A short discussion was held taking into account the increased costs of electric and gas charges along with other increases.

It was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr Mrs P Garbutt to increase the hire charges by 6% with a rounding of the figures. Voting took place 8 Councillors voted in favour and 1 abstained.

It was therefore RESOLVED to increase the rent by 6%.

13. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLAYING FIELDS AND CHANGING ROOM COMMITTEE ON 23 FEBRUARY 2009 AND TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDING – THE INTRODUCTION OF CHARGING FOR USE OF THE PLAYING FIELDS AND CHANGING ROOMS, PERMISSION TO SITE A BASKETBALL HOOP AND SURFACE AT BRACKENHILL PLAYING FIELD, ADDITIONAL FENCING AT LOW ACKWORTH PLAY AREA.

Cllr Barnsley declared an interest in the item regarding Brackenhill field.

C13.1 Cllr Balfour proposed that the minutes be accepted and the recommendations approved. All Councillors agreed. The introduction of charges would be further discussed at the next Playing Fields Committee meeting with a recommendation put forward to the next Parish Council meeting.

14. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE EVENTS COMMITTEE 12 FEBRUARY AND 5 MARCH 2009

C14.1 Cllr Balfour proposed that the minutes be accepted and noted. All Councillors agreed.

15. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE ROAD SAFETY WORKING GROUP

C15.1 Cllr Balfour gave a brief update on the South East Link Road. Cllr Evans said he was disappointed with Wakefield MDC's response to the condition of the A628 Moortop Hill. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Wakefield MDC expressing the Parish Council's concerns. The minutes were accepted and noted.

16. TO DISCUSS THE RE SITING OF THE POST BOX TO THE GREEN

C16.1 Cllr A Garbutt and Cllr Mrs P Garbutt both declared an interest in this item and left the room.

C16.2 Cllr Evans was elected Chair for this item.

C16.3 A letter had been received from a local resident regarding the re siting of this post box. Cllr Balfour explained that from the Road Safety Working Group the Clerk had been asked to contact the Royal Mail. This was proving to be difficult and conflicting information had been given.

A discussion took place. It was agreed that the post box needed to be put back on the side of the road it originally was on. Several sites were suggested.

Cllr Balfour proposed that the Clerk writes to Royal Mail Customer Services to ascertain the criteria for siting a post box, what if any permission is needed and who is consulted on the site chosen. All Councillors agreed this.

17. PLANNING – TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY WAKEFIELD MDC

C 17.1 It was agreed to note the following applications unless otherwise stated.

- 09/00275/FUL Oakfield Park School, erection of two conservatories, new roof over courtyard, extensions and external alterations.
- 09/00157/FUL 2 Low Farm Lane – first floor extension to side
- 09/00137/OUT Mill Lane (land at) – residential development 4 dwellings (re submission of application 08/02353/OUT)

18. TO APPROVE THE CEMETERY FEES FOR 2009/10

C18.1 The Clerk reported that she had received a list of cemetery fees from Wakefield MDC and that she had applied the formula of a resident of the village pays 60% of the fees and a non-resident pays 20% above Wakefield MDC fees.

A list of new fees to be implemented from 1 April 2009 had previously been circulated to all Councillors. It was proposed by Cllr Balfour and seconded by Cllr Mrs Garbutt that the fees be approved. All Councillors agreed.

19. TO DISCUSS ADDITIONAL COSTS OF MEMORIAL TESTING

C19.1 The Clerk reported that Lancaster's had as previously agreed fitted ground anchor systems to memorials which were not originally purchased from them. This occurs where we are unable to contact the owner of the grave. When the base stone has to be straightened there is an additional fee of £20. Where there are kerbs set which require additional work the cost is £30.

The Clerk reported that out of the 22 he had fitted the ground anchor system to only 1 had incurred the additional cost.

Cllr Mrs Garbutt proposed that the additional fees are paid. All Councillors agreed. It was further agreed that the Clerk keeps a record of any further additional payments and reports to Council on a regular basis.

20. CEMETERY

C20.1 **Burial Rights** – P16 James Edward Logan, P17 Margaret Lloyd, P27 Emma Elizabeth Taylor

21. TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

C21.1 All correspondence was noted unless otherwise stated:

- Town and Parish Standard – February 2009
- LCR March 2009
- Letter from NCM re opening on 4 March 2009

Three additional items of correspondence were accepted, as they required a response:

- West Yorkshire Probation Service – requesting use of a room and toilet facilities for 6 workers whilst they undertake work in the village. Also asking if we have any work for them to do. It was suggested that all the hedgerows and footpaths needed a good tidy up and litter pick. It was agreed to allow them use of the changing rooms at Carr Bridge.
- E-mail received from West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive re Stakeholder meeting on Wednesday 11 March 2009.
- Plans received from Mr Berry for the proposed additional storage at the Parish Rooms. It was agreed that the Clerk write to three local builders inviting them to put in an estimate of costs to build the proposed works to enable the Parish Council to take a decision to proceed with the plans.

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.