

## HESSAY PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00PM IN THE CHAPEL SCHOOLROOM, HESSAY, ON WEDNESDAY 9 MAY 2012

**Present:** Councillors Mark Barratt (Chairman), Andrew Hardcastle and Roger Hildreth. Also present were City Councillor Chris Steward, five members of the public, Richard Catton from The Press and the Clerk, James Mackman.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

#### **12.038 - ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Councillor Barratt was proposed and seconded and unanimously elected as chairman.

#### **12.039 - TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMAN'S SIGNED DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Councillor Barratt signed the Declaration.

#### **12.040 - ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Councillor Hildreth was proposed and seconded and unanimously elected as vice-chairman.

#### **12.041 – TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

None.

#### **12.042 - TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Helen Candy and Penny Taylor.

#### **12.043 - TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14 MARCH 2012**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2012, having been circulated and read were accepted and signed as a true record

#### **12.044 - TO RECEIVE THE CITY OF YORK COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

City Councillor Chris Steward reported:

- The Beckfield Lane tip has now closed despite a last minute attempt to keep it open
- As Ward funding has been cut from £32k to £4k it has been agreed that £500 be awarded to keep the Rufforth Outreach Post Office open and the balance used to support the Youth activities.

#### **12.051 - TO DISCUSS THE POTENTIAL OF THE FACT THAT HESSAY IS THE CENTRE OF YORKSHIRE**

It was agreed to bring this agenda item forward to this point on the agenda but for clarity the minute is shown below.

#### **12.045 – TO MAKE DECISIONS ON PARISH COUNCIL LAND**

*(a) Registration of Parish Land - To receive an update and make appropriate decisions*

Councillor Hardcastle reported that he and Councillor Hildreth are drawing up the wording for the Statutory Declarations that are needed.

*(b) General maintenance of the pond area*

- i. It was reported that the area is still looking good. Thanks were given to Stuart Cariss for keeping the grassed area trim.
- ii. Councillors Candy Hildreth & Barratt have planted snowdrops in the pond area and English bluebells in Willow Garth and the pond area.

*(c) Willow Garth*

- i. *Provision of a replacement tree for the removed tree.*

It was agreed that the replacement tree would be bought and planted towards the end of the year.

- ii. *To discuss grant funding & Yorventure's response to the use of BTCV improving the area for wildlife*

The Clerk reported that Yorventure had said that they would look to give a grant towards the £900 cost of the work for the first year but had requested a breakdown of the amount. BTCV had been asked to supply the figure. It was agreed that once the figure is to hand the Clerk should complete the grant application form. **(Action Clerk)**

*(d) Allotments*

All four allotments now have tenants. The recently planted hedge appears to have established. It was agreed that if tenants wish to add netting to stop rabbits from gaining access to the allotments they should do the work but with no expense falling on the Parish Council.

*(e) Marking Jubilee trees*

It was agreed that some of the elderly residents of the village be asked if they can identify trees that were planted to celebrate past Jubilees.

*(f) Other areas*

No report.

**12.046 - TO NOTE LOCAL AUTHORITY PLANNING DECISIONS**

(a) It was noted that there had been no plans for the Local Planning Authority to approve.

(b) The Clerk reported that the City Council had just sent a questionnaire which asks for details of how a Parish Council deals with planning applications, the number of meetings in a year, the equipment it has access to and various other questions. The feeling of the meeting was such that if at some point in the future paper maps were not issued, then suitable equipment should be provided for the Parish Council to view planning applications and make decisions jointly during meeting. It was agreed to circulate the questionnaire for Councillors to consider. **(Action Clerk)**

**12.047 - TO DISCUSS CONTINUING IMPROVEMENTS TO COMMUNICATION INCLUDING REVIEWING PROGRESS ON THE PROPOSED WEBSITE**

It was reported that there has still been no response for the request for photographs for the Parish Council's website.

**12.048 - TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF THE PHONE BOX IN MAIN STREET**

After a discussion it was resolved to take no further action on this subject.

**12.049 - TO DISCUSS JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS WITHIN THE VILLAGE**

As part of the big lunch initiative there is to be a Jubilee Faith Supper and sing song at the Methodist chapel on Tuesday 12 June 2012 at 7.30 pm.

**12.050 - TO DISCUSS BROADBAND NORTH YORKSHIRE & BROADBAND PROVISION WITHIN THE VILLAGE**

It was agreed that a survey would be carried out by means of a questionnaire to every household asking for their experience with their broadband connection. **(Action Councillor Barratt)**  
NYnet is to be asked if Rufforth School is connected to the fibre optic circuit for North Yorkshire Schools and, if it is, if it would be possible for Hessay to be connected to it. **(Action Clerk)**

**12.051 - TO DISCUSS THE POTENTIAL OF THE FACT THAT HESSAY IS THE CENTRE OF YORKSHIRE**

Reference was made to the article in the Yorkshire Post in which it was stated that Hessay is the geographical centre of Yorkshire. The fact that in the not too distant past the same fact had been claimed for Whixley led the Councillors to believe that the centre may be moved again and that it would be unwise to construct a physical marker on the site. Also, the site identified in the article is in the middle of a privately owned field so it would be impractical to put a marker there. It was resolved that a note about the currently accepted fact should be included in the Parish Council's website. **(Action Councillor Candy)**

**12.052 - TO DISCUSS ROAD AND PATH SWEEPING, POTHoles, BROKEN SIGNS AND THE STATE OF THE FOOTPATH IN NEW ROAD**

The fact that the footpath between Park Garth and Croft Farm is overgrown with vegetation and the gutter is in urgent need of attention for the same reason is to be reported to the City Council. The Clerk is to ask Community Payback if it can help clear the area. **(Action Clerk)**  
Large vehicle accessing Hessay industrial estate continued to cause problems with the road surface of new road, it would be beneficial if the entrance to the industrial estate could be improved to allow the vehicles more space to turn within the industrial estate rather than in the highway.

**12.053 – TO DISCUSS THE SUBJECT OF THE A59/NEW ROAD JUNCTION**

It was reported that the signs have now been painted.

**12.054 - TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON VILLAGE POLICING**

Note of the following incident in Hessay had been received from Nigel Colley PCSO 5642, Rural West Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team.

16 Mar	Theft	Batteries taken	Shirbutt Lane
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**12.055 - FINANCE**

*(a) Financial Report*

The Clerk presented a detailed report showing the actual income and expenditure for the year for the period to 9 May 2012. The report reflected the receipts and payments (net of VAT) below.

The bank balances at 9 May were:

Current Account	£500.00
Business Money Manager Account	£8,775.59

*(b) To agree accounts for payment*

136	Hirst Bros	Felling Willow Garth tree	£500.00
137	Hessay Methodist Church	Annual donation for use of the School Room	£100.00
138	Naturescape	Bluebells & snowdrops	£112.30
201	YLCA	Annual subscription	£94.00
202	James Mackman	Clerk's salary net – April & May	£260.04

203	Post Office Ltd	Income tax – April & May	£65.00
204	James Mackman	Expenses	£6.46
<i>(c) To receive a report on income received</i>			
	HSBC	Bank interest	£0.78
	City of York Council	First half-year's precept	£1,375.00
	Dr Taylor	Allotment rent	£20.00

*(d) To agree to subscribe to the YLCA for 2012-13 - £94.00*  
It was agreed to subscribe to the YLCA for the current year.

*(e) To agree the Statement of Accounts on the Annual Return*  
The Clerk gave an explanation of the figures in the Statement of Accounts on the Annual Return. It was agreed that the Chairman and the Clerk should sign the form.

*(f) To agree the Annual Governance Statement on the Annual Return*  
The Councillors considered the questions in the Annual Governance Statement of the Annual Return. It was agreed that the Parish Council response to all the questions is “Yes” and the Chairman and Clerk signed the form.

#### **12.056 - CLERK'S REPORT:**

*(a) Progress on the repairs to the pavement outside No. 6 Main Street (Min. 12.034a) – (Nov 09)*  
No news to report.

*(b) Progress on the repairing of potholes in New Road (Min. 12.034b) – (Jul 11)*  
A recently created pothole had been filled in by the City Council within 48 hours of being reported.

*(c) Progress in reclaiming the Parish Council's Christmas tree lights (Min. 12.027) – (Mar 12)*  
Councillor Candy now has the Christmas tree lights in her possession.

*(d) Progress on replacing Cat Lane finger post (Min. 12.030c) – (Mar 12)*  
No news on this subject.

#### **12.057 - TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED BY THE CLERK**

*The Clerk referred to the following items of correspondence*

- (a) CYC – A questionnaire on how the implementation of electronic planning may affect the Parish Council. (See minute 12.046b)
- (b) Mazars - 2012 External Audit papers

*It was agreed that the correspondence received since the March meeting, as listed below, be circulated to the Councillors*

- (a) Clerk & Councils Direct - May 2012 Issue 81
- (b) Julian Sturdy - Report on Stockton on Forest meeting
- (c) NYCC - Mineral & Waste Development Framework - Minerals Options etc (memory stick)
- (d) Rural Action Yorkshire - Country Air, Spring 2012
- (e) YLCA - White Rose Update, Issue 2/12

#### **12.058 - TO CONSIDER MINOR MATTERS AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

*Minor Matters*

None.

*Items for the next agenda*

The entrance to the Industrial Estate in New Road  
Speeding in the village  
Heavy vehicles travelling through the village

**12.059 - TO AGREE THE DATE OF NEXT MEETING AS WEDNESDAY 11 JULY 2012  
AT 7.30PM**

It was agreed to hold the next meeting a week earlier than normal to allow Councillors to attend the Yorkshire Show on the second Wednesday of the month so the meeting will be held on 4 July 2012 at 7.30pm.

There being no more business the meeting was formally closed at 9.44pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....

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