

**Minutes of the Meeting of Church Fenton Parish Council held at 7.30 p.m. on
Thursday 19th April 2007 at The Village Hall, Church Fenton**

Present - Cllr A Wharton (Chair)

- Cllr D Herbert
- Cllr Mrs M Robinson
- Cllr I Wrightson
- Cllr C Blakey

1. Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies were received and accepted for Cllr Mrs Hills and Cllr Mrs Morbey. There were no declarations of interest.

2. Public Session

Members of the public attended the meeting to express their concerns about the recent incidents surrounding the Youth vehicle in the village on the evening of Monday 16th April. There were a large number of youths who had gathered and caused considerable disruption and disturbance in the village. A resident was harassed and the police were called to deal with the situation.

A member of the public asked if the Parish Council or the Police had looked into a scheme used in another county, whereby if residents experience anti social behaviour they phone their neighbours and all the residents go out into their gardens. PC Richardson will look into this and report back at a future meeting.

A request was made for Neighbourhood Watch in the village. Cllr Wharton advised that a public meeting would have to be held to gain local opinion, and this could be looked at for the future.

A request was made that on the agenda the location of an area to be discussed should be made more clear i.e. Play Area, could be described as Sandwath Play Area, therefore indicating more clearly which site is being talked about. The Clerk noted this point and confirmed that this would be taken on board for the future.

3. Reports

District Councillor

Dist Cllr Cattanach advised that there have been some incidents of fly tipping on Broad Lane and this is being addressed.

County Councillor

No report.

Community Police

PC Jez Richardson attended the meeting and report on the following items:-

a) In March there were 15 incidents reported:-

- 2 x criminal damage
- 1 x violent crime
- 1 x theft from a motor vehicle
- 1 x burglary other i.e. Shed/garage
- 1 x theft of a motor vehicle
- 9 x Anti social behaviour

b) In April there were 9 incidents reported:-

4 x anti social behaviour
2 x theft from a motor vehicle
1 x burglary
1 x damage
1 violent crime

c) The incident involving the youth vehicle has been addressed and the member of the public did not wish to take the matter further at this stage. A resident at the meeting, confirmed that she was prepared to make a statement regarding the incident and PC Richardson agreed to speak to her outside the meeting.

d) The Police were asked by the Youth group not to be in the village at the same time as the vehicle, as they wanted to try and engage with the youths, and felt that the police presence may hinder this. This is now being looked at.

e) An update from the last Joint Action group (JAG) meeting was given, and it was confirmed that there are now increased police patrols in the area.

f) The Police, together with the Parish Council may pursue a leaflet drop in the village, which asks parents the question 'Where are you're Children'.

Cllr Wharton advised that he had spoken to Drew Fussey, Safer and Stronger Community Officer at SDC, who confirmed that he was making further enquiries into the incidents relating to the visit if the mobile youth vehicle.

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th March 2007 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed Cllr Wrightson, seconded Cllr Mrs Robinson and agreed unanimously.

5. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising not on the agenda.

6. Correspondence

For Discussion and Consideration

a) The Clerk advised that a Summary Draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan for North Yorkshire had been received and that that members were being asked for any comments. It was agreed that this item would be deferred to the next meeting.

b) Following the previous meeting, where clarification was sought on a number of issues relating to the transfer of the Sandwath Play Area, a response has been received from Selby District. The letter advises that the following the transfer of the play area into the ownership of the Parish Council the funds would be released to the Parish Council, and should be held in a separate account designated for the upkeep of the area, which can include the insurance aspect.

Members of the public asked why there was a need for two play areas in the village. Cllr Wharton advised that the Parish Council were not consulted on the play area before it was designated as such. Another resident advised that it was fair to have more than one play area to 'spread' the children out, rather than them being at just one.

A resident asked what would be the benefit of transferring the play area to the ownership of the Parish Council. They were advised that by having ownership the Parish Council could take on board more easily

opinions of the residents about the area and were more local to deal with any issues arising from it.

Members considered the transfer of the play area and it was proposed by Cllr Herbert that the Parish Council should go ahead with the transfer, This was seconded by Cllr Wrightson and agreed unanimously.

c) Members to consider whether or not the re-direction service from Royal Mail needs to be re-newed. It was proposed by Cllr Wharton that the service is used for another 3 months. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs Robinson and agreed unanimously.

d) Cllr Wharton advised that he had received a number of documents from the previous clerk, following the letter requesting their return. However, a number of documents are still missing. It was agreed that Cllr Wharton would put together a list of documents still not received, and proposed that a solicitors letter be sent asking for these items. This was seconded by Cllr Wrightson and agreed unanimously.

e) It was agreed that members would consider items for inclusion in the Chairman's report, and that these would be forwarded to Cllr Wharton.

f) The Chairman was keen to understand if the skatepark issues highlighted in Mr Keith Ellis's election address were any different to the ones that the Parish Council were already aware of. Mr Ellis confirmed that this was indeed the case that they were one and the same issues.

g) The internal audit report suggested that members may wish to consider whether or not the Parish Council funds need to be placed in a higher rated interest account. Members agreed that they would wait until the year end accounts were finalised, to enable them to make a better judgment on this issue.

h) The internal audit report suggested that members should consider having all the Parish Council land valued, as this has not been undertaken for a number of years. It was proposed by Cllr Wharton that this be undertaken. Cllr Blakey seconded this motion and members agreed unanimously. Cllr Wharton will advise the Clerk of the relevant pieces of land.

i) The internal audit report suggested that members consider whether or not they wanted to take out insurance cover for libel and slander. It was agreed that the Clerk would check to clarify what the existing policy provided cover for in this respect.

j) Cllr Wharton advised members that there was a need to identify a place to store old Parish Council documents. Cllr Wrightson advised that there could be some room available in the village hall, and would take this request to their next meeting and report back.

For Information

- a) Selby District Local Strategic Partnership and Community Safety Partnership Joint AGM - 16th May 2007.
- b) Technical Update Seminar for Building and Construction professionals
- c) Parks and Play and Sports and Leisure Facility Construction Seminars and Exhibitions - 24th April 2007
- d) NYCC _ Newsletter, A new Council for North Yorkshire
- e) SDC – Parish and Town Council for North Yorkshire
- f) Selby Area Committee - 26th March 2007
- g) Invitation to Tadcaster Town Council Meeting on Unitary Authority - 24th April 2007
- h) The Parish Perspective newsletter

7. Planning

Applications for Consideration

None.

Applications Approved

2007/0113/FUL - Erection of a conservatory to the rear, The Sidings, Sandwath lane, Church Fenton – GRANTED.

Applications Withdrawn/Refused

2006/1631/OUT - Land North of Gate Bridge, Main Street, Church Fenton – REFUSED.

8. Finance

Balance and forecast as at 26th March 2007 - £7847.59

The following accounts were passed for payment. Proposed Cllr Wrightson, seconded Cllr Mrs Robinson and agreed unanimously:-

- a) A Thomas – internal audit 05/06 - £ 76.20 (821)
- b) P Baxter – grass cutting - £ 50.00 (822)
- c) W H G Kendall – grass cutting – invoice 1580 - £387.99 (823)
- d) W H G Kendall – grass cutting – invoice 1581 - £352.50 (823)
- e) B Metcalfe - £ 62.80 (824)
- f) Royal Mail – redirection - £ 23.95 (825)
- g) J Bradley – salary April 2007 - £166.66 (826)

Income

None.

9. Representatives Reports

- a) Members expressed thanks to both Cllr Herbert and Cllr Hills for all their hard work and commitment whilst they have been on the Parish Council.
- b) Concern was raised about the streetlights on the Sandwath development not being lit. the Clerk will chase this matter.
- c) Cllr Wharton advised that a new rota for inspecting the play area would need to be devised. He confirmed that he would undertake the inspection for May. It was also noted that the ROSPA inspection needed to be arranged.
- d) Cllr Herbert advised that there had been another attempted break-in at the bowling club. CCTV has now been installed.
- e) Cllr Wrightson advised that there had been damage to the bus shelter opposite the village hall and that this was in need of repair. It was agreed that the Clerk would obtain a quotation for the work and it was suggested that anti-climb paint be used to prevent youths from climbing and causing further damage.

10. Clerks Report

The Clerk updated members on the following points:-

- a) Traffic Calming – The Clerk advised that she had written to North Yorkshire Highways, requesting a full and detailed breakdown on the current position on the scheme, together with a request that Brian Watson attends the meeting to explain the situation. No response has been received, despite being chased.
- b) Funday – The Clerk advised that she had written to the residents who were organising the event and advised the position. To date no response has been received. Cllr Wrightson advised that he has been in contact with the organisers and asked for the item to go on the next agenda for further discussion.
- c) Street Lighting – Confirmation has been received that the funds from the Safer Community Lighting

Project are secure and that the project is now being moved forward.

11. Agenda Items for Next meeting

- a) Vibration from trains affecting houses on the Sandwath Development
- b) Installation of a Mosquito system to tackle anti social behaviour
- c) Neighbourhood Watch
- d) No Cold calling
- e) Funday

The meeting was closed at 9.10 p.m.

Part II

a) On appointment to the position of Parish Clerk, Mrs Bradley was advised that this would be for a probation period of 6 months, and which time either party could terminate the contract. Members agreed unanimously that they would like Mrs Bradley to continue. Mrs Bradley confirmed that this would like to stay in the position.

Amendments were duly made to the contract of employment and this will be signed at the next meeting.

b) Members discussed a pay award for the Clerk, as this has not been increased for a number of years. It was agreed unanimously that the Clerk would be paid at Spinal Point LC2 35 from 1st May 2007.

The meeting was closed.