

Minutes of the Meeting of Walton Parish Council held on 12th September 2005

Present

Councillors Fothergill, McKay, Atkinson, Lister, Waring and the Clerk

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillors Harrison & Milner

2. Declaration of Interests

There were no interests to be declared.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous Meeting, held on 13th June 2005, having been previously circulated, were approved and signed.

4. Matters Arising

a). Police Matters

Nothing to report.

b). Springs Lane - Traffic Counts & Highways Meeting 11th October 2005.

On Tuesday 19th July members of the Council met with representatives of the Highways Agency, the Highways Department of Leeds City Council and Councillor Procter and discussed the increase in the speed and volume of traffic along Springs Lane and through the village. Previous traffic counts were reviewed and the council requested more counts in the Autumn once the traffic levels had returned to a more normal level after the holidays. Traffic counts had been implemented in August but the Council had requested it be put on record that this was unsatisfactory and that further counts should be carried out at a later date, especially as a result of the proposed traffic figures published by the Highways Agency. The possibility of improved signage from the new section of the A1 to the Trading Estate was also discussed and Mr. Howard Claxton agreed to try and arrange to discuss this with North Yorks County Council. A further meeting has been arranged for 11th October 2005 when a representative of NYCC will be present.

c). Parking at Moorside Cottages

The Council has received a response from Leeds City Council regarding this matter. LCC pointed out that although the residents have no right to park on those areas and although they may provide a safety hazard as they affect the visibility splay, LCC will take no action at present, as the residents have no realistic alternative. It was agreed to send a copy of the LCC letter to each of the residents but also to ass that the PC is still unhappy with the arrangement and will continue to monitor the situation on an ongoing basis.

d). Bus Shelter

Plans for the bus shelter are now complete and final quotes have been received. The Clerk has ascertained that planning permission is not required but that the council is required to inform the highways department of its intentions. An application for funding will now be made to the Well-being Fund. It was agreed to formally write to Mrs Nan Simpson requesting permission for this shelter to intrude on to her land.

e). NEAC – Parish Council Forum - 7th July 2005

The Council was unable to send a representative to the July meeting but the minutes had now been circulated round the members.

f). NEAC – Parish Council Forum - 15th September 2005

Unfortunately due to holidays no one from the Council is able to attend. The Clerk will formally tender the apologies of the Council.

g). A1 Action Group Meeting - 6th September 2005

The group response to the draft orders had been discussed and it had been agreed that all councils within A1 Action must respond in the same way using the list of objections arrived at by the group.

h). A1 Upgrade Bramham to Wetherby - Draft Orders & Parish Council Response

A Flyer had been circulated by the Council informing parishioners of the projected traffic flows and the threat to the village. It had also urged all residents to respond to the draft orders on a personal level, as individual responses were essential to support the parish council response. It was agreed that the council would write to object to the orders along those guidelines given by A1 Action but putting special emphasis on Springs Lane and the effect on Walton, its rural nature and its historical heritage.

5. Correspondence

a). Letter from West Yorkshire Police re Laser Speed Detection Device

It was agreed that until a speed limit is achieved on Wighill Lane/Wetherby Road that this device would be of little use. Traffic cannot currently speed down high street, as there are too many parked cars.

b). Letter from West Yorkshire Police re Consultation - 28/09/05

It was agreed that Councillor McKay would attend this meeting on behalf of the Council.

c). Letter from Councillor Naylor re Proposed Telephone Installation at British Library

The letter spelt out in great detail the technical reasons why the British Library should be able to use the existing phone mast instead of erecting a further mast. The Council is grateful to Councillor Naylor for his time and effort.

d). Letter from Richard Newman re Field House Farm

Mr. Newman had written to express concerns about the development at Field House Farm and the removal of dressed stone and other materials. However before the Council was able to act Mr. Newman called to inform the Council that he had spoken with the M.D. of Strata, who assured him that the foreman who had been selling off the stone had been sacked and that all materials would be returned to the site, a new foreman employed and a closer eye kept on the operation. It was noted that the development appeared to be progressing much more rapidly at this time.

e). Letter from Richard Newman re assisting older residents with responses to A1 Upgrade

Mr. Newman had written to Councillor Fothergill informing her that he was helping some of the older residents with their responses to the A1 Upgrade. Mr Newman had been thanked for his help and informed by the Clerk of areas within his responses where care needed to be taken so as not to undo hard work done by the Council over the past weeks.

6. Planning

a). Permission Granted – Ntl Broadcast - Addition to Existing Mast & Equipment Cabin

b). Planning Application - Sustrans Ltd - Laying of Cyclepath, Footpath & Bridleway to Disused Railway Line

b). Planning Application - R.Mylvaganum & Ken Pearson - Change of Use from Industrial Unit to Health Suite

c). Planning Application - Terence O'Rourke - Change of Use from Vacant Store to Children's Play Centre

7. Finance

a). Charities Commission Annual Return

As this body had not responded to a letter from September 2004 asking about ceasing this charity, it was agreed to send the return, not completed, along with a copy of last years letter.

b). Payments were due to the Clerk & the Clockwinder

8. Any Other Business

- a). A number of residents had passed comment about the large gates erected at the entrance to a field on Springs Lane. It was agreed to contact planning enforcement to enquire as to whether there are any planning regulations regarding gates, fields and conservation areas.
- b). A resident had complained about the dangerous nature of the broken litterbin outside the pub. The Clerk agreed to contact LCC to ascertain the correct way to deal with this.
- c). There is to be a Parish Council Forum at the Civic Hall on 13th October 2005. Councillor McKay will attend for the Council.
- d). The Clerk had been approached by the Clerk from Tadcaster regarding information about the Sustrans Cycle Track. It was agreed to supply any information required and in exchange ask for information about the proposed development at the Paper Factory, Newton Kyme.
- e). It was agreed to write to Bob Ellis at Wharfedale Property Management to thank him for having the hedge cut back at the side of the new roundabout as this had much improved vision along the road.
- f). It was agreed to write to Richard Newman to thank him for producing the plans for the bus shelter.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Monday 10th October 2005 at 7.30pm.
There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.55 hours.