

NETHER POPPLETON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, UPPER POPPLETON, AT 7.00PM ON MONDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 2007

PRESENT:

Cllr. P H F Powell (Chairman)

City Cllr. Ian Gillies

Cllr. G A Bradley

Cllr. F A Brown

Mr B J W Mackman (Clerk)

Cllr. P Knowles (from 8.15pm)

Cllr. C Robinson.

DAVID HOLDSWORTH, THE CITY OF YORK COUNCIL'S ASSISTANT PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY OFFICER, ATTENDED TO PRESENT A BRIEFING PAPER ON THE PROPOSED RIVERSIDE FOOTPATH

David Holdsworth addressed the Councillors and answered questions raised:-

- The City Council has rejected the proposal of a return route through the fields in favour of a route adjacent and parallel to the railway line.
- The current ownership of three areas of land on the proposed route is not known.
- The Councillors expressed their concern with the City Council's route alongside the railway line and stressed that they would prefer the route through the fields.
- Councillor Bradley said that he would contact Philip Callow, the Head of the City Council's Property and Asset Management, to convey the Parish Council's reservations about the City Council's preferred route.
- The Councillors thanked David for the hard work that he has put into the project to date.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Lennox of Main Street made the point that the handrail which has been installed at the Main Street end of the footpath from Riverside Walk is heavy, ugly and inappropriate for a Conservation Area. Such railings would not have been allowed in front of a public building and suggested that it should be replaced by something better.

07/173 - DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON ANY MATTERS OF BUSINESS

None.

07/174 - TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. J L Craven and D M Tomlinson

07/175 - TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 20 AUGUST 2007

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20 August 2007, having been circulated, were approved and signed.

07/176 TO RECEIVE THE CITY OF YORK COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor Gillies reported that:-

- The City Council is producing a report on financial support for the Community Centre. It is possible that the Trust be offered a 99-year lease for the property and that no rent would be payable. It was noted that a similar agreement exists for the Oaken Grove Community Centre at Haxby. A decision on the way forward may be taken by the City Council within the next month.
- There is evidence of increased police patrols in the villages.
- The City Council is looking at creating up a policy for lighting standards in rural areas.
- The remedial work on the footpath in Millfield Lane has been completed satisfactorily.

Councillor Knowles arrived at this point in the meeting.

07/177- CLERK'S REPORT:

(a) *CYC response to NPPC letter re PCT (Min. 07/158a)*

See Councillor Gillies' remarks above.

(b) *Progress on the installation of hand rails at the Main Street end of Footpath No.4 (Min. 07/158b)*

Following on from Lionel Lennox's comments about the newly installed hand rail it was observed that the handrail had made the path very narrow. This would also make weed clearance difficult. The end of the hand rail could be the cause of an accident especially on dark evenings as the footpath is not lit. The Councillors agreed that the design of the handrail is industrial and that the Parish Council should have been consulted before the handrail was installed. Councillor Gillies said that he would speak to the City Council's Conservation Assistant.

(c) *Progress on replacing the broken concrete rails above the beck in Main Street (Min. 07/158c)*

No progress.

(d) *Progress on new internal audit procedure (Min. 07/158d)*

No progress. The Clerk reported that Mazars have qualified the Annual Return and said that a procedure must be adopted. The Chairman/Vice Chairman and Clerk will arrange a meeting.

(e) *Progress on improving access through the kissing gate adjacent to the Wildlife pond (Min. 07/158e)*

The Clerk is to contact David Holdsworth to ascertain progress on this subject.

(f) *Progress on clearing the foliage at Riverside Walk (Min. 07/162d)*

A working party consisting of Councillors and the Clerk cleared the foliage on 29 August.

(g) *Progress on the replacement of the litter bin by the Main Street bus shelter (Min. 07/169)*

City Council Officer Stewart Grieve has said that he will deal with this matter.

07/178 - TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED BY THE CLERK

07/178/1 - The Clerk read or referred to the following items of correspondence

(a) An invitation from York and District CAB for Councillors to attend its AGM – no volunteers

(b) A letter from the City Council informing that Suzan Hemingway, the Head of Legal Services, is leaving the Council to take up a new appointment. It was agreed that a letter of appreciation be sent to Ms Hemingway.

(c) An invoice from the City Council for £200 for the provision of the mobile skateboard park at the Community Centre on 1 May. The Clerk had queried this as it had been expected that the charge would be £155. The City Council has agreed to provide another two sessions and ensure that the charge for all three sessions be the £465 in the Parish Council's budget.

(d) Notice from the City Council of two training sessions entitled "Understanding the Revised Code of Conduct" on 31 October. Councillors Bradley and Robinson said that they would attend the session at 5.00pm.

(e) A letter from Ian Woods outlining progress being made or planned for the Millennium Green and asking for the Parish Council to consider financial support for future maintenance of the Green.

(f) Details of the NALC Conference in Bournemouth. No Councillors were available to attend.

07/178/2 - It was agreed that the correspondence received since the August meeting, as listed below, be circulated to the Councillors

(a) Clerk & Councils Direct - September 2007, Issue 53

(b) CPRE - Fieldwork, Sep 2007

(c) CPRE - Michaelmas Newsletter 2007

(d) CYC - Future York Group - Consultation report

(e) CYC - Local Development Framework info

(f) NALC - LCR - Volume 59, No 3, September 2007

(g) North Yorkshire CPS - Working with our community leaflets

(h) Upper Poppleton Parish Council - Minutes of 9 July

(i) YLCA - White Rose Update - August 2007

07/179 - FINANCE

(a) Financial Report

The Clerk presented a detailed report showing the actual income and expenditure for the year for the period to 17 September 2007. The report reflected the receipts and payments below. The bank balances at 17 September were:

Current Account	£400.00
Business Money Manager Account	£17,770.82
National Savings Investment Account	£13,494.03

(b) Accounts for payment (net of VAT);

1060	Poppleton Community Trust	Balance of capital grant to date	£2,950.00
1061	James Mackman	Salary – September	£395.48
1062	Post Office Ltd	Tax & NI	£135.39
1063	James Mackman	Clerk's expenses	£9.74

It was agreed that the following invoices be paid:-

Councillor Powell - travelling expenses claim of £25.02

Miniature Bulbs £52.00 - bluebells

Linda Cariss £80.00 – Internal Audit Fee

(c) Income Received

HSBC	Interest	£130.33
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07/180 - PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) To consider the following planning applications

The Clerk had circulated a detailed list of current outstanding planning applications prior to the meeting.

Consideration was given to the following new applications:

Ref: 07/01900/FUL – First floor and single-storey side extension at 9 Hawthorne Close by Mr and Mrs Christie.	No objections
Ref: 07/02000/TPO – Crown lift to 6m and crown thin by 20% Sycamore (T1), Reduce end weight off left and rear sides by 30% (T2), Trees protected by Tree Preservation Order 1/1970 at Kirkham House, 4 Fox Garth by Mr J Ogden.	We do not object but suggest that the City Council arboriculturalist is asked to confirm the need for the works.
Ref: 07/02095/FUL – Replacement conservatory to rear at 23 Midway Avenue by Mr & Mrs Ross.	No objections
Ref: 07/02136/TPO – Crown clean and deadwood: Crown thin by 15% and crown lift by 3m, Crown reduce upper crown, Oak protected by Tree Preservation Order 1/1970 at Ryder Cottage, 20 Main Street by Mrs Craven.	No objections

(b) To note Local Authority Planning Decisions

It was noted that the Local Planning Authority had approved the following three applications:

Ref: 07/01545/FUL – Two-storey pitched roof side extension at 28 Allerton Drive by Mr Phil Bunting.

Ref: 07/01664/FUL - Two-storey pitched roof side extension and single storey extension and new first floor

dormer to rear at 9 Midway Avenue by Mr P Earnshaw.

Ref: 07/01752/FUL – Single storey pitched roof extension to side at 31 Severn Green by Mr& Mrs Taylor.

07/181 - PARISH COUNCIL LAND - TO RECEIVE PROGRESS REPORTS AND MAKE APPROPRIATE DECISIONS ON

(a) Grass cutting

The grass on the Common Land is looking good but the area along the river bank needs to be cut and the Himalayan Balsam needs to be removed. The Clerk is to ask PACY if they will be able to clear this vegetation. **(Action Clerk)**

(b) Purchasing and planting spring bulbs

i. Councillor Brown reported having received the bluebells and it was agreed that a working party meet on Friday 21 September to plant the bulbs underneath the trees alongside the path between Main Street and the bridge over the beck. Councillor Brown was authorised to purchase some sharp sand which will be put under the bulbs. **(Action Councillor Brown)**

ii. It was agreed that a mixture of daffodils and narcissi be bought from J Parker Dutch Bulbs (Wholesale) Ltd for the sum of £79.95. These will be planted along Main Street between Riversvale Drive and Ousemoor Lane. **(Action Clerk)**

(c) The Moat Fields

A report from Gerry Jackson, the treasurer of the Moat Fields Management Group, was given to each Councillor. Discussion on the subject was deferred until the next meeting.

(d) Authorising a survey of trees on the remaining area of Common Land

It was agreed that Dave Gregory be asked to survey the trees between Main Street and the back of the odd-numbered bungalows in Riverside Walk. This is the last remaining parcel of Common Land that needs to be surveyed. **(Action Clerk)**

07/182 - TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON VILLAGE POLICING

There was no report from the police but Councillor Powell referred to a short article from the Evening Press regarding three burglaries in the village on 14 September.

07/183 – TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON PROGRESS ON THE PROVISION OF A YOUTH SHELTER

The Clerk reported that Upper Poppleton Parish Council had appointed Councillor John Pannell to liaise with Nether Poppleton Parish Council on the subject of the youth shelter. Councillor Bradley reported having spoken to Councillor Pannell. Contact is to be made with both the Youth Action Group and the Community Trust. It is essential that youths play a major part in choosing the design and location of a youth shelter guided by advice from manufacturers and other experts.

07/184 – TO CONSIDER THE CITY OF YORK COUNCIL’S REVIEW OF POLLING ARRANGEMENTS

The City Council is conducting a review of the above and the Councillors discussed the suitability of using the Tithe Barn as a polling station. It was agreed that, although the Tithe Barn is quite a distance from the potential voters in Poppleton Park, there is nowhere else that is suitable and to move the Polling Station from the Tithe Barn would displease as many people as it pleased. The City Council is to be advised of this. **(Action Clerk)**

07/185 – TO RECEIVE A REPORT OF THE RURAL HOUSING OFFICER’S PRESENTATION TO THE UPPER POPPLETON PARISH COUNCIL’S SEPTEMBER MEETING

Councillor Powell reported on the address given to the previous week’s Upper Poppleton Parish Council meeting by Carolyn Vaughn-Downes, the York Rural Housing Enabler from the YRCC who was accompanied by Jane Davies, the Housing Policy Officer at the YRCC. Points made included:-

- The provision of affordable housing is not aimed at providing new houses for new people to the village but to allow young village people to stay in the village or allow people to move back to the village
- Affordable housing covers rented accommodation as well as house ownership.

- A housing needs survey could be carried out to ascertain the housing needs of the village.
- If a need were established Carolyn would endeavour to find land.
- Green Belt rules can be over-ruled for the building of affordable housing.
- Housing Associations would be invited to take part.
- Housing Associations retain the freehold and a share of the property.

07/186 – TO DISCUSS THE PARKING PROBLEMS ARISING FROM HONEYPOTS NURSERY IN MILLFIELD LANE

The Councillors discussed the contents of a letter from Christopher Hearn, the architect employed by Honey Pots Nursery to refurbish Dodsworth Hall. One of the conditions of approval of the planning application for the redevelopment of Dodsworth Hall was that no car parking be allowed behind the Hall. Now that the Nursery has been operating for a while the problem of staff parking their vehicles on the streets in Poppleton has caused some distress to local residents. Honey Pots is seeking to obtain planning permission to have a car park behind the Hall and is seeking Parish Council support prior to making the application. The Councillors agreed that they would support an application for vehicle parking behind the Hall. **(Action Clerk)**

07/187 - TO RECEIVE REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

(a) *Councillor Powell* reported on:-

- i. The *Police Liaison* meeting held at the White Horse Inn on 20 August. All crime is below the average although there has been an increase in assaults and damage to property. Poppleton is still a low crime area. Regular foot patrols are having an effect.
- ii. The *Rural West York Ward Team* meeting on 21 August when most of the meeting was spent discussing resident suggestions and grant applications with a view of producing a ballot paper. There were 26 schemes listed for Poppleton. Those given approval to enter the ballot include funding for the PCT, the provision of a youth shelter, the management of the Common Land and a grant towards a new footpath and seating on the Moat Fields.
- iii. The *Leader* event held on 22 August. A report is being circulated.
- iv. The *Poppleton Community Trust* meeting on 23 August. A fireworks party is to be held on 4 November. New hire charges become operable from 1 September. A September Newsletter and a marketing leaflet are being prepared.
- v. The *AGM of NALC* in Coventry on 12 September. An “off the agenda” report was given on Rural Post Offices and the possibility of the number of post offices being reduced by 2,000. A consultation for our area will begin in November 2007.

(b) *Councillor Robinson* reported that “On Sunday 17 September the Wildlife Trust members under the leadership of Pauline Craven carried out a number of tasks in the Wildlife area. The hedge which runs along the boundary of the area was cut. Paths were cleared and strimmed and the area generally tidied. A new member arrived a little later in the morning and was introduced to the working party. The Wildlife area is looking quite lovely with the pond continuing to maintain a very healthy population of Moorhens who are onto their fourth brood of the year. Some 20 Mallards, mature adults and young, have been observed on the pond throughout the last two months or so, encouraged no doubt by the food put out for them by Mrs Stutton. The pond could not support that many water birds otherwise. It was noted that the fence in front of the pond which acts as a safety barrier was in need of attention. Some of the supports are loose and need replacing/repairing.”

It was agreed that Ken Falkingham be asked to give a quotation for mending the fence. **(Action Clerk)**

07/188 - TO NOTE THE DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Date of Meeting	Meeting	Venue/ Time	Councillors Attending
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26 September	Poppleton Community Trust Executive	Community Centre/ 7.00pm	Powell, Bradley
27 September	Ainsty Group	Askham Richard Parish Council Hall/ 7.30pm	Powell, Clerk
28-30 September	YLCA Conference	Scarborough	Powell
4 October	YLCA	William House/ 7.30pm	Powell
17 October	Ward Committee	Askham Bryan Village Hall/ 7.00pm	All
30 October	Poppleton Community Trust AGM	Community Centre/	All
19 November	Police Liaison	2.00pm at a venue to be arranged	Powell, Robinson

07/189 - TO AGREE THE DATE OF NEXT MEETING AS MONDAY 15 OCTOBER

It was agreed the next meeting would be held at 7.30pm at the Community Centre on Monday 15 October 2007.

The meeting closed at 9.52pm.

Chairman.....

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James Mackman, Clerk 22a Long Ridge Lane, Nether Poppleton, York YO26 6LX
 Telephone 01904 781752 - Fax 0871 4331325 - email jmackman@tesco.net