

Minutes of the meeting of Riccall Parish Council on 19th January 2009 from 7.30 p.m. at the Regen Centre

Public Participation

There were three members of the public in attendance:

Mr Rodney Swann.

Mrs Peggy Swann.

Mrs Tracey Hudson.

All three members of the public had attended to comment on a planning application to convert a garage/workshop into a dwelling to include a new porch to the side of the Bungalow, Newlands Farm, Selby Road (Ref: 2008/1123/FUL).

Mr and Mrs Swann were concerned about the positioning of the septic tank on the plans and felt that it should be further away from the proposed dwelling. They felt that in its current position, it may affect an area of their land, which is already quite waterlogged. The constantly humming motor would be heard from the holiday properties, managed by Mr and Mrs Swann.

Mrs Hudson alleged that the existing extension is encroaching on her property boundary and that some of the existing buildings did not hold relevant planning permission. The applicants are currently using Mr & Mrs Hudson's land to access their own, due to their own inadequate access. Mrs Hudson felt that the proposed access was not suitable and shared concerns over the septic tank / soak away.

Cllr Keen thanked the members of the public for their comments and opened the Council meeting at 7.30pm

Attending: Cllr Keen (Chairman), Cllrs Adamson, Dawson, Duggan, Kilmartin, Somers-Joce and Wilkinson.

Mrs Lindsey Ryan – Clerk / Responsible Finance Officer.

County & District Cllr Liz Casling (from 7.55pm to 8.20pm)

1 Apologies and declarations of interest

Apologies were accepted from;

Cllr Tibbett – work commitments.

Cllr Wilson – unwell.

PCSO Alison Marshall – not on duty.

2 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 8th December 2008 (circulated)

The minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting and adopted.

3 Co-Option of Rupert Somers-Joce

Rupert Somers-Joce had met with the Clerk before the meeting and had signed a 'declaration of acceptance of office.' He had completed a register of member's interests and this will be filed by the Clerk with a copy sent to Selby DC.

Cllr Keen welcomed Cllr Somers-Joce to Riccall Parish Council.

4 Report on progress and updates since the last meeting

The District and County Cllr would give an update later in the meeting – for information only.

Representatives of North Yorkshire Police were unable to attend this meeting.

The Clerk gave an update on action taken and developments since the last meeting – for information only:

A negotiation had taken place for the main grass cutting contract and this had resulted in a reduction in cost of 7.5%, with a fixed price for three years.

Branches Out will complete work on the Village Green Lime Tree on 13th February. The work will involve tidying up the tree, removing dead wood and taking down and re-positioning all of the tree lights.

The planting of the memorial tree for David Southall will take place on Saturday 31st January at 10.30am. The tree has been ordered from Thorpe trees and will be collected by Rodney Swann, who has agreed to provide a stake and guard for the tree. Cllr Keen has organised a memorial plaque.

There has been some fly-tipping of car parts on the Recreation Ground – these have now been cleared by Selby DC.

The Skate Park sign has been vandalised using a marker pen. The Police have been informed and the marker pen has now been removed using the graffiti removal kit. The Police have asked on a couple of occasions about whether there is CCTV at the skate park. This is something that can be discussed as a future agenda item.

The Clerk had been contacted by a representative of Mr Firth, who has previously requested a diversion of Moor Lane Bridle Path. This was chased up with Mr Hunter at NYCC, who is currently preparing a report to go to the Selby Area Committee recommending that an order is made to agree the diversion. If the Rambler's Association

maintains its current objection to the diversion, the application will be decided by a planning inspector.

The Clerk has completed her CiLCA portfolio and has submitted it for marking / verification.

The next Joint Action Group meeting is on 24th February at 7pm – Jubilee Hall, Wistow.

5 Matters from Public Participation

Cllr Keen summarised some of the comments made under ‘Public Participation.’

It was agreed that item 8 should be brought forward at this point, as it included the application that had been commented on;

8 Planning

8a) Selby DC had granted planning permission for the following applications:

Outline application to include access and layout for the erection of a detached dwelling with attached garage following demolition of outbuilding to the rear of 8 Church Street, Riccall

Two-storey extension to south elevation following demolition of existing conservatory at The Byre, 1A Selby Road, Riccall

Selby DC had refused planning permission for the following application:

Erection of a single storey extension to the front and side with balcony above at South Newlands Cottage, Selby Road, Riccall

8b) The following planning applications were considered:

Conversion of garage/workshop to dwelling to include new porch to the side at The Bungalow, Newlands Farm, Selby Road (Case Officer – Cllr Keen)

Having considered both the case officer report and public comments, Riccall Parish Council objected to the application on the following grounds;

The proposed septic tank should be further away from the proposed dwelling and may affect the land of Mr and Mrs Swann if left in the current position.

There appear to be queries over the access for this property. It is alleged that this access has never been assessed or recognised by NYCC Highways and that it is too narrow.

The Council would appreciate a site meeting to discuss issues surrounding this application.

The comments of the public including those about existing permission have already been passed on to the relevant planning officer and will be dealt with separately.

The three members of the public left the meeting at this point.

Erection of a two storey extension to the rear and a single storey extension to the side of 2 York Road, Riccall (Case Officer – Cllr Wilkinson)

Although in principal Riccall Parish Council accepted that this cottage would benefit from some renovation, it objected to the application as it felt that this site was being overdeveloped.

Planning consent has been granted for the construction of a dwelling in the north and for the conversion of the barn in the south of the site.

The Council felt that considering the amount of potential construction that will now take place in this sensitive and central part of the Riccall Conservation Area, the above application should be considered with great care. The site is near to Bangram Hill Farmhouse, a 17th century property, mentioned specifically within the detailed policies for Riccall that make up part of the SDC Local Plan.

Overdevelopment of this area would fail to preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the Conservation Area.

Cllr Casling entered the meeting at 7.55pm

The following applications had been dealt with under delegated authority:

Two storey extension to south elevation following demolition of existing conservatory at 'The Byre' 1A Selby Rd, Riccall

The Parish Council had no objections to the amended plans, subject to the use of sympathetic building materials and the consultation of neighbours.

Erection of a single storey extension to the side and rear of 'Malvern', 14 Church Street, Riccall

The Parish Council had no objections, subject to the use of sympathetic building materials and the consultation of neighbours.

8c) Other planning matters

None.

Due to the arrival of Cllr Casling, the Chairman asked her to provide an update (which would have been completed under item 4).

Cllr Casling was updated on and took note of the public concerns on one of the current planning applications. She agreed to speak to those concerned.

She has arranged a site meeting with Mark Steward of Selby DC to assess the future maintenance of the Dunelm site. The Clerk will attend.

There is a 'Community Engagement Forum' being run at Tadcaster this evening. Cllr Casling will keep the Council up to date with developments from these pilot meetings.

Cllr Casling will attend the meeting with John Grogan on Feb 20th, where A19 / traffic issues are being addressed. She had personally witnessed the aftermath of a serious accident on the A19 at the King Rudding Lane entrance and would email the date to the Clerk so that further information could be obtained.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Casling.

6 Correspondence

6a) General correspondence - requiring decisions:

Riccall Carnival Committee – would Riccall PC like to have a stall during the 2009 Carnival? *This will be agreed at the March meeting, depending on what consultation might be necessary around June this year.*

Independent Review Service – invitation to a 'Social Fund' workshop on Thursday 5th March 2009 in Kingston upon Hull. *Anyone interested would contact the Clerk.*

6b) General correspondence - for information:

M Connor – information about compulsory purchase powers available to the District Council / allotment provision – *noted.*

Hemingbrough Parish Council – provision of allotments / request for information. *This has been passed on to Riccall Lands Charity.*

Hemingbrough Parish Council – support for the Riccall PC letter regarding JAG and CIP meetings – *noted.*

Mark Crane – email response to the letter about the JAG / CIP meetings – *noted.*

Selby District Council Town and Parish Forum – Neighbourhood Policing – Thursday 22nd January 2009.

6c) Late correspondence – to note only.

NYCC – the York and North Yorkshire Waste partnership is delivering a series of training sessions on promoting the national ‘Love Food Hate Waste’ campaign. The idea is to develop ‘waste warriors’ in communities – residents that can train others in how to stop wasting food. *This was noted.*

Mr Steve Relf of Main Street – email asking that a shroud be fitted to streetlight No 15, as it shines directly into a bedroom window. *The Clerk will get a quote and bring it to a future meeting for consideration.*

7 Accounts and Budget Update

A total expenditure of £3809.24 was agreed.

Cllr Casling left the meeting at this point 8.20pm

Performance against budget was considered and the Clerk presented an up to date bank reconciliation.

9 Reports and Consultation

Cllr Keen reported back from the most recent Neighbourhood Watch meeting.

Cllr Keen gave thanks to the Council on behalf of the Carnival Committee for allowing the Dickensian event to take place on the Village Green.

10 Recreational update

Cllr Kilmartin gave an update on health and safety checks completed on Recreation Ground play equipment in December. A crack in the welding of the teen shelter had been noted – this will be looked at by Cllr Dawson, before further action is taken. Various covers and caps were missing off some bolts – Playdale will be asked to replace all of these whilst completing some other minor repairs, as Riccall PC spares are now exhausted.

Cllr Wilkinson, who is in the process of completing the health and safety checks for January has suggested that the Beacon needs to be checked, cleaned, painted and a new sign created. As this is also a recommendation of the Recreation Development Group, it was agreed that the Clerk would look into the costs involved and report back.

The first play area inspection report had been received from Playdale. The Clerk would chase up various aspects of the report and get a quote for and arrange all minor works that are necessary.

The Clerk gave an update on progress with the new 'pre-school area / disabled play equipment.' A stage 2 application has now been submitted to the Big Lottery Fund 'Changing Spaces – Community Spaces' scheme by the Riccall Recreation Development Group. Various meetings have taken place with the scheme facilitator. The amount requested has increased between stage 1 and stage 2 to take account of VAT, a launch event and contingency. The assessment process will now take around 10 – 12 weeks.

Boothferry Pest Control - a report showing mole activity on the Recreation Ground was noted.

The Clerk reported on advice given about accident reporting by the management team for the 'Selby Skatepark.' As this is a supervised facility, any accidents are reported immediately to the Abbey Leisure Centre staff, first aid is administered and the accident report book is updated. The Riccall skatepark is an unsupervised facility and as such it is much more difficult to keep an accurate record of any accidents. *The Clerk will contact a couple of other unsupervised skate parks and find out what systems are in place for accident reports. Cllr Somers-Joce will have a look at the Council insurance cover and policy and report back with any suggestions. An item will be placed on the February agenda to further discuss this subject.*

The Clerk will contact Ellis Partington at NY Fire & Rescue to discuss emergency access arrangements as previous attempts to put a plan together with the ambulance service have proved unsuccessful.

A response from Riccall Lands Charity about arrangements for tree maintenance on Riccall Recreation Ground was considered. The Lands Charity arranges to have all trees on the Recreation Ground inspected each winter and any remedial work is completed by a qualified tree surgeon. If during the intervening 12 months any incidents occur, immediate action is taken. Normally all hedges and grass verges are cut between January and March each year. This information is intended for inclusion within the Riccall PC risk assessment programme and as such was noted. *It was agreed that Riccall Lands Charity will be asked to consider taking off some of the lower branches on the trees that overhang the enclosed fenced play area.*

11 Traffic matters

Cllr Keen reported on the meeting organised by John Grogan MP in relation to A19 issues. An on site meeting has been scheduled for 4pm on Friday 20th February at Checker Lane, next to the southern junction of the A19. David Bowe will represent NYCC. *It was agreed that Gordon Neal will be invited to represent Neighbourhood Watch.*

Correspondence from NYCC about winter gritting policies was considered. John Hodgson at NYCC stated that a salt bin will not be provided at the school crossing point on Kelfield Road and that it is unlikely that this road would be included on a priority 1 salting route. NYCC are considering a scheme where Parish Councils can buy a salt bin

and pay an annual service charge for it to be filled with the intention of the Parish giving an enhanced service. *It was agreed that a price should be sought for this and that a salt bin for this location should be seriously considered.*

The Clerk updated members on other traffic matters;

James Malcolm at NYCC has promised to get a price together for a formalised crossing point before the February meeting.

Gary Lumb of NYCC has visited Coppergate and met with the head teacher of the primary school at 3.15pm (school leaving time) to assess the traffic and access problems. He has suggested some traffic calming and will provide details.

12 Riccall Beacon

It was agreed that the Clerk would continue to edit and produce 'The Riccall Beacon' for 2009. It was agreed that whilst the newsletter is primarily a way to communicate Council news, it should continue to include 'community news' and run various features on Riccall. An 'eating out in Riccall' feature will be included in the March edition.

13 Appointment of Internal Auditor

After consideration and the circulation of their audit plan, it was agreed that 'Yorkshire Internal Audit Services' should be appointed as Internal Auditors for Riccall Parish Council for the financial year 2008/9.

The Clerk will speak to local Councils that currently use the service and take up references.

14 Casual Vacancy

The vacancy caused by the resignation of David Lindsay has now been legally advertised. A poster has gone up around the village advertising the vacancy. It was agreed that any applications should be dealt with by interview and that this will be arranged through the Administration & Finance Committee. If there have been no applications by the deadline in February, it will be extended and an advert can go into the March Beacon.

15 Standing Orders

An amendment to the Standing Orders was considered. The amendment allowed the August meeting to be excluded from the meeting schedule and for the September meeting to be brought forward to the 2nd Monday if necessary. This was agreed and will be put onto the February agenda for adoption.

16 Youth work

A request from Andrew Fletcher on behalf of Riccall Youth Club was considered, asking for financial support for the summer youth workshop 2009 on Riccall Recreation Ground. It was agreed that the group should be asked to apply through the 'Community Grants Scheme.'

17 Consultation responses

A response was considered to the following consultation documents (circulated before the meeting):

Publication of candidates' addresses at UK Parliamentary elections (Deadline Jan 28th)
It was agreed that candidates' addresses should be kept on ballot papers.

North Yorkshire Police Authority – Policing Priorities and Budget Consultation 2009/10
It was agreed that the priorities identified within the consultation document were the appropriate policing priorities for North Yorkshire and the City of York. It was further agreed that the element of council tax rises should be kept to a minimum this year – around 3%.

Yorkshire and Humber Assembly – Regional Spatial Strategy 2009 (Deadline Jan 30th)
This was noted with no response.

Communities in Control: Code of recommended practice on local authority publicity (Deadline March 12th). *This was noted, will be circulated and put onto the February agenda.*

Selby DC – Selby District Local Strategic Partnership Social Inclusion and Cohesion Strategy (Deadline March 23rd). *This was noted, will be circulated and put onto the February agenda.*

18 Minor items and items for the next Agenda

Cllr Wilkinson had been approached by a member of the public for advice about what rights the public have to find out whether paedophiles are living close by to them. He had passed on the query to the Clerk, who had asked this question of both Selby DC and the Police. Selby DC had not yet replied. Advice from the public protection unit at NY Police had been that the public has no right to know if there is a paedophile living close to them. The Police would not generally give this information out unless there is a risk to the wider community. People who have committed these offences are closely monitored and visited on regular occasions. *The Council noted this and asked the Clerk to write to the member of the public that had been making enquiries, directing them to either Selby DC or Selby Police for further information.*

The Chairman thanked members and closed the meeting at 9.58pm

The following documents were circulated;

RoSPA – Play Safety leaflet

NYCC – Funding Sources

NYPA – Policing priorities and budget consultation 2009/10

Martin Connor – CPA inspection

Aquilo – anti damage coatings

NYCC – ‘Putting People First’ newsletter

Yorkshire & Humber Assembly – Mini essentials

Yorkshire & Humber Assembly – consultation on spatial options for the Regional Spatial Strategy 2009

Yorkshire & The Humber Rural Affairs Forum – ‘Rural Matters’ newsletter

Selby DC - List of Joint Action Group meetings

Selby DC – Selby District Local Strategic Partnership Social Inclusion and Cohesion Strategy – a consultation document.