

Minutes of the meeting of Riccall Parish Council on 20th July 2009 from 7.30 p.m. at the Regen Centre

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

There was one member of the public in attendance – Mr Gary Walker.

1 Apologies and declarations of interest

Apologies for absence were accepted from:

Cllr Wilson – holiday.

Cllrs Adamson and Wilkinson declared an interest in the cheque for the Regen Centre – item 6.

2 Minutes of the Riccall Parish Council meeting held on 15th June 2009 (circulated) Minutes of the Administration & Finance Committee meeting held on 22nd June 2009 (circulated)

Both sets of minutes were accepted as a correct record and adopted.

3 Report on progress and updates since the last meeting

The District and County Cllr was not in attendance.

PCSO's Alison Marshall and Rachel Thompson represented North Yorkshire Police and updated members on action taken and developments since the last meeting. There had been nine incidents, including burglary other, thefts of bikes, cold callers and criminal damage/graffiti on the Recreation Ground. The next JAG meeting will be on the 4th August. It is hoped to bring the mobile police unit onto the Recreation Ground over the summer holiday period. PCSO Marshall stated that a leaflet drop to those residents living opposite the Recreation Ground is being considered. The leaflet will ask residents to keep the Police informed of any nuisance behaviour on the Recreation Ground. Names and details left within the current graffiti are being followed up.

The Clerk updated members on action taken and developments since the last meeting – for information only:

The skate park ramps have been painted but have since suffered offensive graffiti. The police have been informed.

Bids were received for all four pieces of Council owned equipment; the mower, strimmer, hedge cutter and trailer. They were sold to the same person who was the highest bidder for all four and paid a total of £155 for all four items.

Anne Sked had taken some photographs of Riccall in the snow and these have been added to the website. She offered to allow these to be made into Christmas cards. Members thought that it might be better to let Richard Moody know about them for the calendar that he is producing.

Mr Bill Eastwood had noticed some Giant Hogweed growing on the Dunelm Farm site. This was reported to Selby DC and it has now been sprayed.

Mr Chris Morgan has complained about cows being allowed to wander along the river bank, where he walks with his family along the public ROW. The cows are apparently quite aggressive. The Clerk had taken advice from the footpaths officer, who says that unless the cows actually cause some harm, the farmer is well within his rights to allow them onto the ROW.

Mr Ian Wilson has complained about the amount of cats that come into his garden on The Meadows. The Clerk has advised Mr Wilson to contact Bill Parker for advice and members agreed that this was the only course of action.

There have been lots of bookings for the skate day on 19th August. The Clerk will go up to the Recreation Ground on the day to meet Popcorn Skate and organise lists and numbers etc.

Due to the absence of the August meeting, the Clerk will raise cheques on w/c 17th August. A list will be sent round via email and three Cllrs will be asked to sign. As per the standing orders, any planning applications that arrive will be dealt with under delegated authority by the Clerk, Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

There have been three incidents of fly tipping, which have been reported to Environmental Health and have now been dealt with.

Two age restriction signs are now in place on the new play area. The bird nest swing also now has two signs warning that a maximum of four children should use it at one time.

NYCC has agreed to send an 'emergency planning' representative to the September Administration & Finance meeting.

4 Matters from Public Participation

There were no matters from the public participation session.

Mr Brown, a resident of Kelfield Road had contacted Cllr Keen about a problem with drains backing up near to his property. In heavy rain, raw sewerage can be washed up

onto the path outside Mr Brown's property and onto the public walk way. Yorkshire Water has been involved on numerous occasions but the problem still exists. *The Clerk will contact Environmental Health and ask them to pursue the matter with Yorkshire Water.*

A resident had asked whether a liner could be put into the Millennium Green bin. *The Clerk will assess.*

There is overgrowth on the junction of Holmes Drive and York Road, which reduces traffic visibility to the left when exiting Holmes Drive. Also, a house opposite Holmes Drive has an overgrown hedge, which is affecting the public footpath. *The Clerk will contact the owner if applicable or the Highway's inspector for both issues.*

5 Correspondence

5a) General correspondence - requiring decisions:

NALC – Local Council Awards 2009. *It was agreed that the Clerk should enter the Council into the awards. Members expressed an interest in entering the Clerk into the awards competition.*

5b) General correspondence - for information:

Community Safety Joint Action Group – next meeting 4th August 2009 – *noted.*

Various emails about noise nuisance on Coppergate. *The Clerk gave a progress report on the situation and this was noted.*

Information from the Police about action taken on Riccall Recreation Ground – *noted.*

Inspector Chris Witty – speeding on the A19 – *noted.*

Liam Bradley – update on junior football developments – *noted.*

5c) Late correspondence – to note only.

None

6 Accounts and Budget Update

An expenditure of £10,946.39 was agreed.

Expenditure against budget was evaluated and the Clerk provided a bank reconciliation.

It was agreed that the proceeds of the concert (£329) should be paid into the Recreation Development Group account, to go towards the Westfield project.

7 Planning

7a) Selby DC has granted planning permission for the following applications:

Application for consent to fell Scots Pine Tree within TPO No 2/19888 on land at Hall Lodge, 5 Main St, Riccall

Application for the erection of a conservatory to the rear and a porch to the side of Pinfold Cottage, 2 Northfield Lane, Riccall

7b) The following planning application had been considered under delegated authority:

Conversion of existing garages and store to dwelling with integral garages following demolition of existing shed at Drover House, 88 Main Street, Riccall

Riccall Parish Council considered the above application and objected to it on access grounds. The junction of Chapel Lane and York Road suffers existing problems with visibility, due to cars parking opposite Riccall Post Office and is currently on the NYCC list for double yellow lines. The Council felt that this application did not offer adequate access arrangements and would exacerbate the existing problems.

7c) Other planning matters

None

8 Reports and Consultation

Any members or the Clerk may report back from relevant meetings at this point:

Cllr Keen reported back from the 2009 Riccall Carnival, which had gone well and been particularly busy due to the football tournament.

The Clerk reported back from the Council information stand at Riccall Carnival. The plans for Westfield were on display and residents made comments about various aspects of the plans. A number of residents asked that girl's football be considered.

Cllr Keen reported back from the Riccall Neighbourhood Watch meeting. RNHW are pleased with the section of the Village Green notice board that they now have access to. The group has decided not to take forward the offer of Riccall PC to fund RNHW, in order for every member of the village to automatically become a member, but would always help by leafleting every house in the village, if necessary.

Cllr Keen reported back from the 'Walking the Paths' event, which had gone well. An email from Val Fletcher was read out advising members about information plaques that were displayed on ROW No 19, advising walkers where the crops were being used. It was established that Rows 17 and 18 do not meet on the map.

It was agreed that a letter of thanks should go to the Scouts for organising and carrying out the walk.

Cllrs reported back from the research project, commissioned by DEFRA, on affordable housing in rural areas. Cllrs Adamson, Keen, Sharp, Wilkinson and Winterburn had attended, along with the Clerk. Feedback was given on the workshop and the results will be chased up in the autumn.

Cllr Keen and the Clerk reported back from the YLCA meeting held at Selby DC. A planning officer had attended in a training capacity and had talked about material considerations on planning applications. Cllr Keen and the Clerk had completed a short workshop on theoretical planning situations.

Cllrs Wilkinson and Winterburn had attended an information event at Loftsome Bridge Water works. Yorkshire Water had given a guided tour of the works.

9 Recreational update

The Clerk gave an update on health and safety checks completed on Recreation Ground play equipment as Cllr Wilson was on holiday. One of the wooden walking poles is splitting within the junior area. This had not been picked up on the inspector's report – Cllr Dawson will investigate. Gavin Wright has been asked to remedy some of the current minor issues like splintering and weed removal.

It was agreed that we may need an extra back up person who can complete maintenance work in Gavin's absence as he now spends a significant amount of time in Scotland. *This will be discussed at the September Administration Committee meeting, with an advert possibly going into the Beacon.*

An article will be put into the September Beacon about the maximum number of children that should use the basket swing at one time.

The Clerk & Cllr Dawson reported on the most recent inspection report from Playdale.

Cllr Adamson reported back from the 'Recreation Development Group' meeting held in July. Phase 4 of the development of Riccall Recreation Ground is now complete with the

Clerk finalising the funding paperwork and grant claim forms. Plans for Westfield will make some progress from autumn.

The launch of Riccall Recreation Ground was discussed and it was considered whether the area should be re-named 'Riccall Park.' The Recreation Development Group has a budget of £1000 for the launch and the Council also has £500 in its budget.

The Clerk and Cllr Adamson outlined plans that had already been put in place by the Recreation Development Group; a skate demonstration by Popcorn and coaching, an ice cream van, face painting, a BBQ which will be run by the Scouts and possibly a band. Roger White is looking into the possibility of running a beat the goalie competition. Flyers will go out to the primary school and to all properties in Riccall.

It was agreed that those attending on the day will be asked to vote for whether the area should remain as 'Riccall Recreation Ground' or be re-named 'Riccall Park.'

Vote: 9 for 1 against

Ideas and quotes were considered for providing more bins at the Recreation Ground. *It was agreed that two large bins should be purchased through Selby DC. One will be placed near to the front entrance and the existing bin moved nearer to the new equipment. The other large bin will be placed in the area of the basket swing. Recycling on the site will be re-visited later in the year when the new Selby DC contractor is in place.*

The bins ordered will be Wybone 'Double Never Rust Litter bins' (NR/2T) and are £315 each (textured finish) with a max capacity of 224 litres.

10 Declarations of Acceptance of Office

Each Cllr signed a new 'declaration of acceptance of office' due to new wording released which conforms to Standards Board requirements.

11 Street light inspections

A quote from Tarmac was considered to complete an annual inspection on the Parish Council street lights. The quote was £8.09 per column for an electrical and structural inspection and clean. *It was agreed to go ahead on this basis and to use part of the 'New Street lighting' budget in this financial year.*

12 Administration & Finance Committee

The Clerk read out the recommendations of the Administration & Finance Committee:

Grant applications were agreed as per the minutes of the Committee meeting. It was agreed that a grant should not be made to Riccall Pre-School, due to reserves available to the group balanced against the demand for grants this financial year.

Salt bin proposals were agreed as per the minutes of the Committee meeting. This expenditure will be budgeted from November 2009 and implemented in 2010.

13 Bridleway 14

The potential diversion of bridleway 14 in Riccall - information / progress and updates were discussed. Cllr Adamson talked about why the diversion was originally requested. The Clerk gave an update about the current position that NYCC are in with regard to the diversion.

Recently a resident, Mr Hall had complained to both Cllr Adamson and Cllr Dawson and then sent a letter to the Clerk, outlining his reasons why this bridleway should not be diverted. His main reason was that allegedly this bridleway was historically known as 'Olaf's Way', Olaf being left in charge of the 300 boats left at Riccall by the Vikings before the battle of Stamford Bridge in 1066. In his letter, Mr Hall stated that this lane is the oldest sunken lane in the village and went on to describe details about the history of the lane and issues with it during his time as a former Parish Councillor.

Members considered Mr Hall's information. It was agreed that Riccall Parish Council would no longer support the diversion of bridleway No 14. The Clerk would let NYCC know immediately.

It was further agreed that an agenda item for September should discuss the future management of footpaths. Cllr Dawson agreed to be a footpaths officer for Riccall Parish Council.

14 Minor items and items for the next Agenda

None.

The Chairman thanked members and closed the meeting at 10.15pm

Circulated;

Thank you card from a Riccall family
York & North Yorkshire Playing Fields Association – AGM Agenda & Annual Report
Yorkshire Local Councils Associations – Annual Report & Accounts
Crime Reduction & Community Watch Office – details
York Nightstop Charity – booklet & details
YLCA – training and development brochure
CPRE – North Yorkshire magazine