

Minutes of the meeting of Riccall Parish Council on 15th September 2008 from 7.30 p.m. at the Regen Centre

Attending: Cllr Keen (Chairman), Cllrs Adamson, Dawson, Duggan, Kilmartin and Lindsay.

Three members of Selby District Youth Council attended for item three only.

1 Apologies and declarations of interest

Apologies were accepted from;

Cllr Wilkinson – work commitments
Cllr A Tibbett – work commitments
Cllr Wilson - unwell

Cllr Adamson declared an interest in the cheque for the Regen Centre (item 6).

Cllrs Adamson and Lindsay declared an interest in item 13.

2 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18th August 2008

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 18th August 2008 were accepted as a correct record and adopted.

3 Report on progress and updates since the last meeting

At the earlier request of the Council, three representatives of Selby District Youth Council, Rosie, Leanne and Joe, came along to speak to members about how the youth council works. Views and opinions of local young people are fed through to the council, via suggestion boxes in high schools and through representatives. The youth council is responsible for £10,000 from Selby District Council, which it grants to young people's organisations at its discretion, upon application. A web-site is currently being set up and a residential trip is planned to visit the Houses of Parliament with local MP John Grogan. The youth council represents 11 – 19 year olds in Selby district and will be re-elected in October, with a maximum of 25 seats. The current council has been involved with local democracy by attending Selby DC meetings, Joint Action Group meetings and NYCC Area Committee meetings.

The members asked questions and thanked the youth councillors for their time.

The District and County Cllrs were not in attendance.

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

Mr Milestone of Station Close has complained about a piece of grass verge that is being missed from the grass cutting contract and also about excess vehicles blocking the traffic light area of Station Road, due to building work. *The Clerk has asked Gavin Wright to deal with the strimming work and the Highways Inspector to deal with the building vehicles.*

The graffiti workshop took place at Riccall skatepark for two days over the summer holidays. Young people from Riccall Youth Club had designed the graffiti and an artist came along to help them display it. Feedback from the two day project has been very good.

A complaint has been made to Selby DC about cars for sale on the grass verge between York Road and the A19. Planning enforcement officers have looked into the matter.

There has been a problem with some road works on Back Lane. Yorkshire Water had allegedly left a large dip in the road, where a drain / gulley had fallen away. This was reported and the Highways Inspector had attended and called them out straight away to solve the problem.

Mark Steward, the head of service for housing at Selby DC is assessing the Dunelm Farm site, after a request from both Riccall PC and Cllr Casling to tidy it up and then maintain it. Also, a working group is being set up by Selby DC to look at options for the future of the site.

The local police officers had suggested that Ellis Partington of the fire service be invited to a future meeting. *It was agreed that the Clerk should ask him.*

John Grogan will meet with Riccall Parish Councillors at 6.30pm on Friday 21st November at the Regen Centre, to discuss A19 issues.

Cllr Adamson is attending a 'Participation works' course on 25th September in York, on behalf of the 'Recreation Development Group'. The course is free of charge and the Clerk will try to attend too, if the course will allow the group two places.

A report has been received from York Archaeological Trust including theories about why it is now believed that the skeletons excavated from Riccall Landing are not those of Vikings. The Clerk gave information to the members and explained that further information will be available in the forthcoming 'Yorkshire Archaeological Journal.' A small piece will be put into the Beacon about the story.

The brick name planter and trailer have been added to the insurance policy at no charge.

Tarmac is quoting to erect a new column for streetlight no 67 on Station Road.

A company has been on site at Riccall Recreation Ground to quote for a path to link the skatepark to the existing path. This can be considered at the Recreation Development

Group meeting in October.

A resident has complained about hedges not being cut back and footpaths becoming inaccessible. A piece will be put into the next Beacon asking residents to make sure that overhanging vegetation is dealt with.

Cllr Adamson has offered to take part in the Harvest Festival service on behalf of the Council. Cllr Wilson may help him.

There have been episodes of fly-tipping in Checker Lane and on Westfield. The rubbish has been moved into one area by Gavin Wright and it has now been picked up by Selby DC. The Clerk has requested a sign for Checker Lane and will also ask for one for Westfield.

The Riccall Beacon has been put together by the Clerk and will be going to the printers, ready for delivery before Monday 22nd September. The Beacon has run to 12 pages rather than the usual 8 on this occasion, due to the amount of feedback and articles from community groups and organisations.

Branches Out tree surgery will recommend an appropriate tree to plant on the Village Green, in memory of David Southall. The Clerk will speak to the family about whether they would like to be present to see it planted.

All Councillors were given an up to date copy of the insurance policy and a copy of the latest crime figures from NY Police.

An application for £15,000 has been put into the 'Community Spaces' fund by Riccall Recreation Development Group.

The replacement skate sign has arrived and will be put up by Gavin Wright.

The Clerk will chase up with Mark Lumby why it is taking such a long time to replace the road markings near to the Post Office.

4 Matters from Public Participation

Cllr Keen had received a letter from Mr and Mrs Tomlinson of Beech Park Close about a large hedge behind their property that has been allowed to grow and is now blocking their light. The Clerk has contacted Paul Baarda who agreed to cut back the hedge and to go and see Mr and Mrs Tomlinson.

Cllr Keen had received a letter from Mrs. E. R Stott of Ash Grove, complaining about an area of land that is the responsibility of the Sportsfield Association. *The Clerk will pass the letter on to Noel Shouksmith and will reply to Mrs Stott.*

Cllr Kilmartin had received a complaint that signs for disabled parking at the Riccall Institute have disappeared. The matter has been referred to Institute Committee Chairman, Andrew Bailey.

5 Correspondence

5a) Correspondence - requiring decisions:

*Tim Coyne, Senior Transport & Development Engineer, NYCC – copy of letter to resident, apologising for an error in a previous letter which stated that the recent accident at the Riccall A19 junction was at the northern junction not the southern one. The accident was at the southern junction and NYCC will amend its records. *This letter came after the Clerk had written, asking NYCC to correct the mistake and was noted.*

*Residents letter- chestnut tree maintenance in Back Lane and maintenance of Carr Lane. *The Clerk has contacted Selby DC, who has agreed to come out and inspect the Chestnut tree. Gavin Wright has now cut back the overgrowth in Carr Lane. The ROW officer has been asked to assess the trip hazards caused by roots and to contact Selby DC about overhanging vegetation from the Dunelm Farm site.*

5b) Correspondence - for information:

*Riccall Parochial Charities – expenses in relation to the registration of land. *This was noted and it was resolved that no further expenses could be reimbursed without further agreement.*

*Val Fletcher – Riccall scouting movement have agreed to walk the paths as an annual event on the Thursday evening after the Carnival. *This was noted.*

*Space Base – thank you letter for recent grant and postcards from the children. *This was noted and the postcards will be put into circulation.*

*Mrs J Clarkson – thank you letter for the donation to the Chairman's Charity appeal – *noted.*

5c) Late correspondence – to note only.

Selby DC – Tenant satisfaction survey 2008. The Council are writing to a random sample of 1500 tenants around the district. *This was noted and posters have been displayed.*

Selby District Community Safety Partnership – the next Joint Action Group meeting will be held on 22nd October 2008, 7pm at Hemingbrough Methodist Chapel.

6 Accounts and Budget Update

A total expenditure of £5843.42 was agreed.

The Clerk updated Councillors on the bank reconciliation, details of the quarterly income tax and NI contributions and provided a budget update.

The approval of financial year 2007/8 accounts by Mazars was noted. *The Clerk has displayed the audited accounts on the notice board.*

7 Planning

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

Proposed erection of a single storey rear extension at 38 Coppergate, Riccall

Erection of a single storey extension to the side of 69 The Hawthorns, Riccall

Proposed first floor extension to the side over an existing garage, with the erection of a porch to the front entrance of 22 Coppergate, Riccall

7b) The following planning applications were considered:

Application for consent to fell tree T1 and works to crown of tree T2 of TPO 9/1977 at 11A Manor Garth, Riccall (Case Officer – Cllr Wilkinson)

Cllr Wilkinson was not at the meeting but had reported that he had no objections to this application. It was agreed that there were no objections.

Application for consent to fell Yew tree and Cypressus tree and lop Yew tree, Cherry tree and Copper Beech within group A2 of TPO No. 5/1980 at 1 Beckwith Gardens, Riccall (Case Officer – Cllr Lindsay)

Riccall Parish Council objected to the felling of the Yew tree and Cypressus tree, as it was felt that the path could be widened without affecting these trees. The Council had no objections to the lopping work.

The following applications were considered under delegated authority, due to the fact that they were too late for the agenda;

Erection of a detached dwelling, double garage and single garage following demolition of existing outbuildings at 43 Main Street, Riccall

Riccall Parish Council objects to the height of the proposed dwelling. The height is not in keeping with the adjacent property and is against the guidance of the Riccall Village Design Statement (SPG).

Conservation area consent for the demolition of existing outbuildings at 43 Main Street, Riccall

Riccall Parish Council had no objections.

Erection of a two storey extension to the side and a single storey extension to the front and rear (following demolition of existing garage) at 38 Kelfield Rd, Riccall

Riccall Parish Council had no objections to the application but did have concerns over the fact that the porch was in front of the building line.

7c) Other planning matters

Information from District Cllr Liz Casling about the Dunelm Farm site was noted. Cllr Casling reported that Hogg the builders' contract with Selby DC was subject to planning permission.

An email from Andy McMillan at Selby DC was noted. Mr McMillan advised the council that the Village Design Statement would be reviewed in 2009, starting in late summer with a view to adoption in 2010.

8 Reports and Consultation

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

Cllr Dawson reported back from the most recent Parish and Town Council forum. The topic of discussion had been street cleansing and recycling. Cllr Dawson had raised many points in relation to this topic, one of them being the issue of value for money. When asked what the budget was for street cleansing in Riccall, the representative of Selby DC had refused to provide the information. Cllr Dawson suggested that this budget should be paid to the Parish Council as it provides its' own litter collection service.

Cllr Dawson had completed some recent health and safety checks on the Recreation Ground play equipment. A discussion took place about the speed with which minor problems can be dealt with. It was agreed that the Clerk should approach Playdale for a quotation on a maintenance contract.

9 Resignations of Martin Baker and Sue Tibbett

Cllr Keen read out two letters from both Martin Baker and Sue Tibbett, resigning as Riccall Parish Councillors.

It was agreed that a letter would be written to each councillor thanking them for their service to the council.

The casual vacancies are currently being advertised. Once this period of advertising has passed, the council will hopefully be able to co-opt to fill the vacancies.

10 Riccall Business Park lease

This item was referred until a future meeting due to information being unavailable.

11 Traffic matters

The Clerk reported back from a meeting with James Malcolm of NYCC Highways department;

Firstly a meeting had taken place in Coppergate and included the head teacher of the village primary school. Issues including residential parking, blocked driveways during school drop off and pick up times and speeding were considered. Mr Malcolm suggested that speed cushions may improve the situation by providing physical speed restraints on this route to school. Improved lining in the school car park and on the roads will help and some hatching may be considered. A new member of staff is due to join the team at NYCC, as a replacement for Brian Watson. Mr Malcolm will set the new person a project to evaluate the traffic problems on Coppergate and to come up with a solution.

The Clerk then took Mr Malcolm to Main Street where the A19 access was considered, as was the request for a vehicle activated sign outside the Recreation Ground. Mr Malcolm would not agree to a larger permanent warning sign saying 'SLOW DOWN' but did feel that the council had a case for a vehicle activated sign (VAS). He agreed to speak to Paul Sheppard about a VAS, particularly in light of the fact that Riccall PC has agreed to fund it. Mr Malcolm suggested providing more red hatching between the Recreation Ground and the A19 junction. The crossing point between Mount Path and the stile entrance into the Recreation Ground were considered. The A19 access is currently the subject of correspondence between the corporate director of NYCC and Riccall Parish Council.

Mr Malcolm then assessed the entrance into the village from Kelfield Road. He did not feel that any kind of physical barrier traffic calming would be appropriate on this stretch of road, due to an increased risk of accidents. He did feel that an enhanced gateway could be added, including more obvious 30mph signs on the road and red hatching.

12 Parish Plan Action Groups

Cllr Keen spoke about the possible future remit of the 'Environmental' action group. Cllr Dawson will report on the direction that the action groups should be going in at the Administration and Finance committee.

The Clerk will ask NYCC whether any villages have produced an emergency plan that can be used as an example of good practice.

13 Riccall Parochial Charities

The model trust deed provided by the Riccall Parochial Charities was considered. The council were not named as being a custodial trustee within the document and it was agreed that the clerk should point this out to the charity. If the charity still wishes to pursue this, then a paragraph should be added which also states that the custodial trustee should nominate at least one trustee.

14 Minor items and items for the next Agenda

Cllr Keen and the clerk will test the Christmas lights over the next couple of weeks.

The Chairman thanked councillors and closed the meeting at 10.10pm

The following were circulated;

The Clerk magazine

A celebration of the 80th anniversary of CPRE – Campaign to Protect Rural England

Fieldwork - Campaign to Protect Rural England

Tidings – Selby District AVS

Country Air – YRCC

The Playing Field – York & North Yorkshire Playing Fields Association

YLCA – mini essentials

Bubwith traffic management / road works