

Minutes of the Meeting of Escrick Parish Council on Monday 7th April 2014 at 7.30pm held at Escrick and Deighton Social Club

Present:

Councillor E Casling (Chair)
Councillor L Coulson
Councillor S Cunningham
Councillor A Lamont
Councillor M Luscombe
Councillor B Forster
Councillor J Goode
Councillor J Reader
Councillor A Bowman

Mrs L Reader (Clerk)

6 members of the public

1. To Receive Apologies for Absence

Councillor I Reynolds
Councillor S Snowton

The Chairman asked for any declarations of interest in any of the items to be discussed at this point but there were none.

2. Public Session

Mrs Cartmell raised the subject of the Escrick signs at the north and south ends of the village and asked whether some bulbs could be planted to make them more attractive

RESOLVED: The decision that the Parish Council would buy and plant some bulbs was proposed, seconded and approved.

Mr E Hardy asked about the speed limits between Crockey Hill, Deighton and Escrick but it was felt that this could be covered more adequately under item 6.

3. To receive and approve the Minutes of the previous meetings

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd February 2014 and the Finance and Admin sub-committee meeting held on 3rd March 2014 were moved, seconded and approved as a correct record.

4. To receive Correspondence

Two letters that had been received and circulated from Mr Hardy were read out. The Chairman thanked Mr Hardy for his letter relating to the Street Lighting Design Costs. Mr Hardy's second letter asked whether the Parish Council could revisit the subject of Queen Margaret's school allowing parishioners to use the gates again. Cllr Forster proposed and seconded by Cllr Luscombe that the Clerk should write to the school and ask for a meeting to discuss whether those residents who had previously been issued with passes could be allowed to use them again.

Cllr Coulson asked for an amendment to this proposal which was seconded which proposed that the QMS meeting cover wide ranging access issues. The amendment was lost.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to write to the school to ask for a meeting to discuss whether the residents who had previously been issued with passes could use them again.

The Village Green minutes had been circulated but Cllr Luscombe pointed out that in future it should only be the annual accounts that were circulated. The Clerk noted this.

An email regarding the Motorcycle Rally to be held at Escrick Park Estate on the 1-3 August had been received. The resident writing the email requested that the Parish Council asked whether a time could be agreed when the music would stop, suggesting midnight.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to write to Escrick Park Estate and request that a time of midnight be agreed each night for the music to stop.

The Clerk had received an email about the unmetered supply of electricity (Christmas Tree lights). The email stated that the amount of electricity used had significantly decreased (by 96%) from last

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year and asked whether we knew about this. The Clerk reported that she had replied to say that the lights on the tree had been replaced with LED lights.

5. Jennifer Hubbard - Potential residential and open space development at Escrick

Item 5 was covered AFTER item 6.

Jennifer Hubbard introduced a proposed development plan to build a mixed type housing to northern Escrick around York Road Garage, between the mine road and Escrick. Numerous issues were discussed such as education, road infrastructure and cross- council working.

Ms Hubbard stressed that this was not yet at the planning stage and York City Council is drafting their draft strategy.

6. Gary Lumb and Sharon Fox (NYCC) - To address concerns in the village on Highways

Mr Lumb began by stating that under the Local Transport Framework, the Highways department had the funds to maintain and manage the highways, not to improve them. The credit crunch has severely cut funds available and so now road improvements are reactive not proactive.

Cllr Bowman asked if at the very least the speed limit through the village could be lowered to 30mph but Mr Lumb said that this would not be done because there are not enough houses along that stretch of road.

Cllr Cunningham asked why it was not possible to put a signalled junction on the Skipwith Road junction with pedestrian access and Cllr Luscombe added that if traffic were to be held up occasionally because an HGV had to stop then wouldn't this be an acceptable situation in order to get a controlled crossing? Could it physically be done? Mr Lumb agreed to ask again whether it could physically be done.

Cllr Coulson asked why NYCC had not commented on the proposed North Selby Mine site development in terms of traffic issues and Mr Lumb agreed to speak to County Hall about this.

Councillors also asked about flooding outside 33 Skipwith Road and parking during school drop off on the bridge on Main Street.

Mr Lumb summed up by saying whatever solution was found for the traffic issues in Escrick must work and that he would look again into the possibility of signalised crossings.

7. To receive an update from the Clerk on issues not otherwise on the Agenda

1.1. Duck Sign on the crossroads of Carr Lane/Main Street

NYCC Highways reported that the sign was not corroded as had been reported, but just dirty. They said it would be a low priority to get it cleaned as it is not an "actionable defect".

1.2. Kerb Stone on Main Street near the school entrance

This has been repaired

1.3. Right of Way - Escrick 10K

The 10K is to go ahead on the 24th August.

1.4. Website documents update

All the documents requested at the Finance and Admin meeting had now been uploaded.

1.5. The Parsonage Trees

Despite several emails, the Clerk reported that no response had yet been received from the Parsonage.

1.6. York Road Garage Building Date

Cllr Reynolds had reported back that no date had been decided relating to the closure/demolition of the filling station. Mr Richardson had hoped that it would be at the end of the current year or beginning of the next but this was almost certain to be subject to slippage. He also added that he would not be taking on the Post Office in any event because the salary offered simply made it not worthwhile. He has passed on his decision to Trevor at the Post Office.

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RESOLVED: To put the Post Office on the next Agenda, proposed, seconded and agreed.

1.7. Letter to Mr Hardy

The clerk reported that a letter had been sent to Mr Hardy in response to his letter.

8. To Receive an Update on EPFA

The Chairman read out an update on the Playing Fields provided by Jim Dwyer. Cllr Reader and Cllr Lamont added that they had pushed for the maintenance issues to be addressed. It was noted that a higher gate needed to be put up at the Escrick Park Gardens end of the Playing Fields. The Clerk was asked to write to Escrick Primary School as it had been discovered that the path and fencing close to the entrance nearest the school were in need of repair and tidying up.

9. To Receive an update on the Neighbourhood Watch scheme

Cllr Reader reported that there had been a garage break in at a property along the A19 and tools had been taken and that the police were operating a zero tolerance approach to cold callers of any kind around the area. Cllr Forster reported that he had seen a low-backed truck driving around Dower Chase which contained scrap metal and asked whether a notice could be put in the Parish Magazine advising residents to be careful what they leave outside their properties. Cllr Reader reported that he was going to attend the next Neighbourhood watch area meeting.

10. To receive an update on the External Audit

The Clerk reported that the result of the investigation into the complaint received by the External Auditors into Escrick Parish Council's accounts for 2012/13 had been given. The result was that the External Auditors would not make a report in the public interest. This investigation, however, had cost the Parish Council £1974 instead of the more usual £175 fee. Cllr Luscombe felt that some investigation should be done as to whether the Parish Council should have to pay this fee but the Clerk advised that there was no choice in which Auditor was chosen, the audit commission appointed auditors and that whilst she had been advised that the investigation would be chargeable, she had done her utmost to provide as much information as possible to the auditor in order to lessen the time they needed to spend. The details of the invoice, responses to the complaint and the breakdown of time spent by the auditors had been sent to Sheena Spence of YLCA who is taking this up with the auditor on behalf of the Parish Council.

11. To agree actions to be taken following the presentations by Jennifer Hubbard and NYCC Highways

The parish council decided to inform the village of the proposed development at the Annual Village meeting on 27th May. The Clerk suggested that Jennifer Hubbard might come and do the same presentation. The Clerk agreed to email Ms Hubbard with the details.

Gary Lumb was going to go back to Highways about the possibility of a signalised solution to the junction of Skipwith Road and the A19.

12. Reports

8.1 Police

There was nothing in addition to the Neighbourhood Watch report by Cllr Reader.

8.2 County Councillor

None

8.3 District Councillor

In the absence of Cllr Reynolds, Cllr Casling updated the Parish Council on the successful Eastern Community Engagement Forum which had been held recently in Riccall. Around 375 people came and on 9th April, a decision into which projects would receive funding and how much would be made.

13. Accounts

9.1 Receipts

None

9.2 Accounts for Payment

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£32.60	HMRC	March
£130.47	L Reader	Salary March
£32.60	HMRC	April
£130.47	L Reader	Salary April
£98.21	Ringway	Streetlight repairs
£10.00	Escrick and Deighton Club	April Room Hire
£1,974.00	Littlejohn	External Audit
£1,348.20	Northern Power Grid	Alleyway House Streetlight

RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded and agreed that these should be paid with the exception of the Littlejohn invoice, pending Sheena Spence's intervention and the Northern Power Grid invoice until a decision had been made about this issue.

9.3 Statement of Current Balances

Bank Reconciliation at 7th April 2014

Balance brought forward at 3rd February 2014		£8,651.04
Add Receipts for Month		£0.00
		<hr/>
		£8,651.04
		<hr/>
Less Payments for Month	Selby District Council - Election	100655 £2151.18
	S Smowton PC setup	100656 £60.00
	Escrick & Deighton Club	100650 £10.00
	Salary Feb	100656 £130.47
	S Smowton - PC Laptop	100659 £299.99
		<hr/>
Balance at bank and in hand at 3rd January 2014		£2,651.64
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	Community Account	£560.54

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	Business Manager	Money	£5,438.86	
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			£5,999.40	£0.00
			<hr/>	<hr/>
Less unrepresented cheques	HMRC (Dec)	£32.60		
	HMRC (Dec O/T 2)	£35.31		
	HMRC (Jan)	£32.60		
	HMRC (Jan O/T 3)	£35.31		
	Escrick & Deighton Club (Feb)	£10.00		
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		£145.82	£5,853.58	£145.82
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Difference		£145.82	£5,853.58 -£145.82
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The Clerk advised that the Annual Return for 2013/2014 was to be submitted by 9th June 2014 and therefore an internal auditor would need to be appointed before the next meeting in order to meet this deadline.

RESOLVED: That the members of the Finance and Admin Sub-Committee, under delegated authority from the Parish Council would appoint an internal auditor and report back to the full meeting in May. Proposed, seconded and agreed.

14. Planning

1.1. Applications Received including Standing Order no. 34 Applications

The following applications were reviewed by the Planning Working Group and the observation forms submitted to Selby District Council. The assessment forms will be put on the website as soon as possible.

2014/0116/FUL Application for proposed car park on land which contains a duck decoy, Street Record, Skipwith Road, Escrick

2014/0153/HPA Proposed first floor extension over existing garage, 2 Dower Chase, Escrick

2014/0092/HPA - Single storey rear extension and first floor extension over existing garage @ 2 Woodlands, Escrick

2014/0097/HPA - single storey rear extension and balcony @ 19 Dower Chase, Escrick

2014/0016/FULL - Erection of extension to existing timber stables @ Glade Farm, Riccall, Escrick

15. Notices of Decision

2014/0153/HPA Proposed first floor extension over existing garage, 2 Dower Chase, Escrick - GRANTED

2014/0092/HPA - Single storey rear extension and first floor extension over existing garage @ 2 Woodlands, Escrick - GRANTED

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2014/0097/HPA - single storey rear extension and balcony @ 19 Dower Chase, Escrick - GRANTED

2014/0016/FULL - Erection of extension to existing timber stables @ Glade Farm, Riccall, Escrick - GRANTED

16. Matters for the clerk's attention raised by Councillors and items for the next Agenda

The following items were requested to be put on the Agenda for the next meeting:

Feedback from Highways

The Post Office

Finance and Admin Sub-Committee's appointment of the Internal auditor.

External Audit - response from Sheena Spence.

17. Date and Time of the next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 12th May and it was noted that this would be the date for the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council commencing at 7pm and following directly on from that would be the Ordinary meeting.

The Annual Parish meeting would be held on 27th May. The Clerk would attend and the Chairman would be the only required attendee from the Parish Council. This meeting would be publicised around the village prior to the date of the meeting.