

Barton Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 31st July 2003.

1. Constitution.

- 1.1 Present were Cllrs Alasdair Thorogood (chairing the meeting), Michael Charlton, Campbell Dawson, Michael Holmes and David Lambert, the Clerk and 2 members of the public. Apologies were received and sustained from Cllrs Alen McFadzean and Chairman Peter Wood.
- 1.2 Clerk suggested that as no meeting is scheduled for August, and councillors are liable to be absent on holidays, a means be established to conduct any urgent business. Proposed by Cllr Charlton *"At the Chairman's discretion a meeting may be called of available councillors to conduct emergency business relating to planning applications (or similar matters) and financial transactions not exceeding £250.00, such matters then to be reported at the publicly advertised September meeting."* Cllr Thorogood suggested a higher figure than £250, but the only likely invoice greater is that for grass cutting, already covered by a rolling resolution. The resolution above was agreed.

2. Minutes and Clerk's report.

- 2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 26th June were corrected at 7.2 "Schedule of condition" being substituted for 'Survey of need' and at 7.4 "for council reasons" being substituted for 'for personal reasons.' The deputy Chairman then signed the minutes as being a correct record.
- 2.2 Clerk reported the sending of a letter to the Head of Legal Services, NYCC, requesting comment upon the fact that the solicitor acting for Barton PC had dosed his file on the issue of the easement relating to the haulage depot in March 2003 when it was clear that matters were proceeding with a sale of the site pending.
- 2.3 Clerk reported that Blackett, Hart & Pratt, (BHP), solicitors acting for Mr Burns, had signalled an imminent sale in a letter dated 13th May. (Clerk had asked the NYCC solicitor to contact BHP in March and had also advised Mouchel consultancy of their interest in proceeding.) However, nothing further was heard. Clerk contacted BHP by telephone following Council meeting 26th June to be informed that the sale of the haulage depot had been completed without reference to the requirement that an easement was necessary. Cllr Dawson reported that it appeared that the new owners were using the premises for storage and that he had spoken with the RDC Environment unit regarding health and safety issues. Cllr Dawson and Clerk suggested that each would learn what is to be known and keep in touch with Chairman with any new information as it unfolds. Clerk reported that he has asked Mouchel to pursue the easement issue with Cohen & Hewitt, solicitors acting for the buyer of the haulage depot. (Cohen & Hewitt have refused to indicate who is their client.)
- 2.4 Cllr Dawson reported the commencement of site development at Garner's property on The Porch and the rumour that there may be an intention to combine that development with the purchase and further development of part or the entire haulage depot site. These matters (2.3 and 2.4) await confirmation.

3. Clerk's report of ongoing issues.

- 3.1 Car Parking on Village Green. There has been no action to date by PC Grainger in respect of cars parked outside Wheelhouse, in spite of 2 requests by Clerk for progressing of the matter. A question raised about parking close to the old forge is being dealt with by the Chairman who is satisfied that an amicable agreement has been reached.
- 3.2 Environmental issues regarding mound of waste on the Porch vacant land is now overtaken by commencement of development work.
- 3.3 Allotment site. Cllr Thorogood reported that Cllr McFadzean had confirmed that 27 plots have been requested. PC members accepted his recommendation that prior to his

further discussion with the landowner these figures would need the signed return of a positive declaration of intent from potential allotment site gardeners. He would obtain names and addresses from Cllr McFadzean and letters with tear off slip sent.

4. Correspondence.

- 4.1 Letters received and placed in the "Circulation File" were from - Young persons delivering CIP documents: Doorstep Crime Initiative (RDC): Best Value Review of Countryside Services: The Richmondshire Plan: Richmondshire Area Committee papers for 17/7/03 - not received by Clerk until 15/7/03: ODPM Indemnities Paper: Yorkshire & Humberside Assembly study documents for comment by Cllrs. Clerk asked that should any require attention prior to September meeting Cllrs inform him or Chairman for necessary action.
- 4.2 Letter of thanks from Mrs Trewitt, head teacher Barton (C/E) Primary School, for Jubilee Trophy.
- 4.3 Methodist Church request to use village green on August 24* for celebration of John Wesley tercentenary. This was agreed.
- 4.4 Chairman had requested a letter be sent to Environment Agency re application for discharge of treated sewage into Waterfall Beck. This was read. Reply awaited.
- 4.5 NYCC request for e-mail contact details. It was suggested Clerk and Chairman's addresses be submitted. To be confirmed with Chairman.
- 4.6 Letter from NYCC Highways (Richmondshire Area) stating that no action was intended until development of haulage depot is resolved. Letter noted and filed. (This is a response to Chairman's letter to Mr Woodford.)
- 4.7 RDC notice of "Recycling & Dog Warden Services Workshop 25 Sept 2003." Cllr Holmes volunteered to attend and report to next meeting.
- 4.8 Regional Government seminar 11 Aug 2003. Cllr Lambert volunteered to attend and to report at Sept. meeting.

5. Planning applications.

- 5.1 1/93/146E/AORM (Barton Services) to extend for 1 year Condition 1.
- 5.2 1/93/146H/VAR (Barton Services) to extend by 1 year Condition 4.
- 5.3 1/93/91B/TPO notice that Ripon Diocesan Office intend to carry out remedial work to 3 birch and 3 sycamore trees in the Vicarage grounds. There were neither objections nor observations upon the above. No further action.

6. Finances

- 6.1 Insurance: Mr David Chefneaux (RDC Chief Accountant) has advised that PC delays discussion of its insurances until papers on "teaming" are circulated in forthcoming weeks. This matter postponed.
- 6.2 Easement payment from NEDL received (£43.64) and paid to account.
- 6.3 Grass cutting invoice - cheque for £267.90 signed.
- 6.4 Copy of accounts to date had been previously circulated. Taking 6.2 and 6.3 into account the balance of account is £8,078.09.

7. Quality Parish Status.

- 7.1 Papers from ODPM (Countryside Agency and DEFRA) with supporting material from YLCA had circulated prior to discussion. PC noted that present legislation regarding local government demands Barton PC involvement but it is felt that in most issues it already meets requirements and aims of the proposals.
- 7.2 The requirements relating to Parish Clerk demand his/her attainment of AQA Certificate by attendance on courses. It is appreciated that the investment of resources and time will very soon require the appointment of new Parish Clerk. IT skills will feature largely in future work of local government.
- 7.3 Further discussion was postponed awaiting a resolution from a sub-committee of Cllrs Peter Wood, Alasdair Thorogood and Michael Holmes to the September meeting.

8. Notified Business.

- 8.1 None had been received. Cllr Dawson requested a resolution to deal with an issue previously noted of lighting on property 7, Cedar Grove. Proposed by Cllr Dawson *"Barton Parish Council would look favourably upon the re-positioning of the street light (now requiring urgent repair) onto the village green."* This matter to be progressed by Cllr Dawson. Notification of faulty streetlight in St Cuthbert's Green, to be passed to NYCC for action. (Clerk)
- 8.2 Chairman invited public to raise matters. Mr Keith Emmerson requested that Yorkshire Water be required to revisit recent works sites to restore green surfaces as they were. (Holes left, require re-seeding.)

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.55 and Council adjourned to meet next on Thursday 25th September 2003.

Chairman _____ Clerk