

Tankersley Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs K Blantern
Telephone: 01142 831628
Email: tpcclerk@gmail.com

7 Cliffe Avenue
Crane Moor
Sheffield
S35 7AS

Minutes of the Meeting of Tankersley Parish Council held on Monday 12th August 2013

In attendance were: Mrs H Reckless (chair), Mr P Simpkin (Vice Chair), Ms C Smart, Mrs D Simpkin, Mr T Woods, Mr R Garforth, Mr R Lodge, Mrs K Blantern (Clerk)

- 1) Apologies for Absence** - Mr P Reckless, Mr R Horsfall
- 2) Declarations of Pecuniary Interest** - None
- 3) Approval of the Minutes** - The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 20th May 2013, circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read and the chair was authorised to sign them, approved by Cllr P Simpkin and Cllr D Simpkin.
- 4) Matters Arising – not covered by Agenda items**
 - a)** Reinstatement of Dog Waste bin at Worsbrough View development site – The Clerk had received an email from Elaine Downs of BMBC, advising that the resident of 9 Stainborough View had made a complaint to leader of the council, Cllr Sir Steve Houghton, about the new location of the bin and the Parish Council was requested to discuss finding a new location for it. The Councillors were in agreement that all other possible locations had been explored, and the removal of the bin was not an option due to this location being a main walkway for dog owners in the area. As advised by BMBC this position was the only one in the immediate vicinity that wouldn't be too close to resident properties. The Council asked the Clerk to respond to BMBC and advise that the situation will be monitored over the next 6 months, however at this time, the reinstatement of the bin and its new location had been met with approval by many other residents.
 - b)** Vehicle storage at Glebe Farm – Clerk advised there had still been no response from BMBC with regards to this matter. The Clerk was asked to send an official letter due to this issue having first being raised in April.
 - c)** Potholes around the Parish – The Clerk advised there had still not been a response from BMBC and the specific pothole locations that had been detailed to them had not been repaired. The Councillors discussed further locations affected by potholes in the Parish and asked the Clerk to again contact BMBC with this information, these being: New Road, Chapel Road, Westwood New Road, The Avenue and Thorncliffe Way.
 - d)** Dog Fouling signs – The Clerk advised that Elaine Down at BMBC had still not replied to original communication in May. The Clerk was asked to contact BMBC again to attempt to resolve the issue.
 - e)** Good Neighbour Scheme – The Council were advised that there had been little interest in the scheme when presented at the Summer Gala. For those Councillors not present when the BMBC representative attended to discuss the scheme, the project was outlined. All

Councillors agreed the scheme would be beneficial to the area in the event of heavy snow, and all will discuss with neighbours and residents, to encourage support and involvement. The Clerk was asked to produce a flyer that could be displayed locally and possibly be distributed to residents to raise awareness.

- f) Princess Grove dog roaming – The Clerk advised the Council that the resident who made the Council aware of the issue initially, had again been in contact to report this had now escalated to the dogs in question, fouling on other residents properties. Cllr P Simpkin advised he would raise this matter at the Crime and Safety Group to be held 15/8/13. The Clerk was asked to respond to the resident advising the course of action to be taken.

5) Financial Matters

a) Expenditure

i) Clerks Salary August '13	£200.32
ii) Clerks Expenses July '13	£24.00

b) Income

Interest on Deposit Account (July '13)	£8.63
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c) Current and Deposit Account Statements

Current Account	£11,433.34
Deposit Account	£20,382.07
Total Balance	£31,815.41

Amended total after June expenditure	£31,591.09
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d) Other Financial Matters

- i) **Change of signatories for Deposit account** – The Clerk informed the Council that the Deposit account held with Barclays was still in the names of the previous Clerk and Chair. When changing these had been investigated, it was a complicated process, and the customer services of the bank hadn't been particularly helpful. The Chair suggested that the Clerk investigate opening a deposit account with Natwest, who the Councils current account is with. All agreed this may reduce problems transferring funds between accounts, as experienced by the previous Clerk. The Clerk was asked to gather the necessary paperwork and check that this would be free banking.

6) Planning Applications

- a) 2013/0808 – Demolition of existing units and construction of a new food store, Land off Sheffield Road, Birdwell, Barnsley. The Council welcomed the new development and the prospect of jobs for local residents. However they asked the Clerk to raise concerns with BMBC with regards to traffic management, in particular vehicles driving out of the site onto Sheffield Road and difficulties delivery vehicles may face.
- b) 2013/0807 – Change of use from office to health and fitness gym, Unit 3B Maple Court, Tankersley. No objections.
- c) 2013/0783 – Erection of front and rear dormers and single storey rear and front extension to dwelling, 36 Pilley Lane, Tankersley. No objections.

7) Parish Plan

a) Parish Newsletter/ Parish Website

- i) **Newsletter** - Cllr Garforth advised that due to other commitments he would no longer be able to produce the Newsletter. All Councillors agreed that the Newsletter and relevant articles should be moved to the Parish website, with provision made for those without internet access if necessary). The Council felt that in doing this, the information available to the Parish would remain current and relevant, and the Clerk could upload and remove these when necessary. The Councillors decided once this was in place, a flyer should be distributed to residents informing them of the change.
- ii) **Website** - The Council discussed the need for an overhaul of the current website, to allow for updates to be more frequent and to incorporate the proposed online newsletters. All agreed a new website should be developed, and the Clerk was asked to contact local web developers to ask them to present portfolios of their previous works to the Council, along with price information, at Septembers meeting. All agreed the ability to update and amend the website in future should be available to the Clerk and Councillors, rather than requesting this from the developer.

- b) **Parish Plan** – Cllr P Simpkin advised there are a few amendments to be made due to the delay in production and distribution and the dates that had been included in the plan now are inaccurate. The council discussed the issue of distribution and collection of the plan, due to the difficulties experienced distributing the newsletter. After debating several possibilities, the Council agreed that the cost of delivery by Royal ‘Walk-Sort’ service should be investigated, and to ensure as great a return of responses as possible, the Council would include a SAE within each plan. The Clerk was asked to contact Garnett Dickinson, who are to print the Plan, to request quotes for printing the address information on the SAE’s, as well as printing the initial delivery envelopes, to ensure residents are aware the information is not a circular or junk mail. All information to be shared at September meeting.

8) Group Reports

- a) **Tankersley Community Association** - Cllr D Simpkin advised that the Summer Gala hadn’t been financially successful. Only £255 had been raised, which was disappointing to all involved due to the amount of work they had put in. There have been discussions around changing this event in the future, with a possible family fun day suggested, to try and generate more interest and income.
- b) **TPEG** – The group reported damage to bulbs due to contractor parking on verges around the Westwood New Road development. The Clerk was asked to contact Sophie Hughes at BMBC to request necessary repairs to grassy areas and roads, as well as cleaning of location.
- c) **Ward Alliance** – Cllr Woods advised he had attended the first meeting of the new ward alliance. The meeting had been poorly attended and therefore meeting times were to be revised and held in evenings rather than morning. Cllr Woods advised he may not be able to attend all evening meetings, therefore Chair of the council Cllr H Reckless suggested she could attend in his place to ensure council involvement. However Cllr Woods advised that this meeting was not open to substitute representatives and therefore this was not possible.
- d) **Crime and Safety Group** – Cllr P Simpkin reported there had been a theft from a shed reported on Thorncliffe Way in June, and an increase in crime in Birdwell over the last few months. The Chair reported that there had been complaints regarding young children using strong language and throwing stones on The Avenue. Cllr P Simpkin agreed this would be raised at the next group.

9) Councillor vacancies

The Chair advised the council that she had spoken to Cllr Jones informally, and he had advised that he wouldn't be returning to the Parish Council. Due to no official letter of resignation being received, the absence of Councillor Jones from the last 5 Parish Council meetings, without the giving of apologies, will be accepted as his resignation. All Councillors agreed that Cllr Jones should be thanked for his hard work, service and commitment to the Parish Council and local residents. The Clerk was asked to arrange a gift and invite Cllr Jones to the October meeting for presentation.

10) Communication Policy

All agreed this was an accurate document in relation to the Councils communications with Parish residents. Due to decisions regarding the Newsletter, the Clerk was asked to make a few amendments and then email the document to all Councillors for final approval.

11) Change to quorate limitations

Due to there now being two councillor vacancies, the Chair had asked that the quorate limitations be discussed, due to the last Council meeting being unable to go ahead. Cllr Woods suggested that the quorate figure be reduced to four, this being the Chair/Vice Chair and three Councillors. He also suggested this be reviewed when vacancies are filled. This was seconded by Cllr P Simpkin and agreed by the Council.

12) Potholes around the Parish

Covered in matters arising.

13) Annual Bonfire

Due to the two Councillor vacancies and three Councillors being on holiday on the proposed date of the Bonfire, the likelihood of the Bonfire going ahead was discussed. The Chair advised that she had placed a notice in the Barnsley Chronicle W/E 9th August, to advise the community that without their support it was unlikely the Bonfire would be able to go ahead. The Chair informed there had been no response. The Council felt that due to these issues, the event could not be field marshalled or have fireworks set off, while maintaining safety, and therefore the Bonfire would not go ahead this year. The Chair advised she would place another notice in the Chronicle to inform residents.

14) Christmas Party entertainer and Christmas trees

- a) Christmas Party** - The Chair advised there were enough volunteers for the childrens Christmas Parties to go ahead. The budget was discussed and due to there being no stocks of Christmas presents remaining, an increase in the budget was suggested by Cllr Woods, to £700. Cllr P Simpkins seconded this motion and the Council approved these funds. The Clerk was asked to investigate possible age appropriate entertainment for both the younger children as well as the older ones, and inform the council of suggestions and costs at the next Council meeting.
- b) Christmas Trees** – The Council agreed that the Clerk order a tree for at Glebe Court. Due to the planting of a permanent tree at the Welfare Hall there would be no need to order one for this location.

15) Correspondence

- a) **Resident Princess Grove** – Covered in matters arising.
- b) **YLCA – Selby Town Council, Request for financial advisor recommendations** - Noted
- c) **YLCA – Request for details of local voluntary groups the Parish Council works alongside** – The Clerk was asked to reply with details of local voluntary groups.
- d) **Correspondance via website re website updates and accuracy** – Anonymous email, quite aggressive in nature, questioning accuracy of Parish Council website. Noted. Redevelopment of Council website will address all issues raised.
- e) **YLCA – Info note 28th June 2013** – The Council were informed in change of date for 2014 local elections, to Thursday 22nd May. The bulletin also mentioned that The Woodland Trust were offering free trees to local voluntary and community groups. The Clerk was asked to pass this information onto TPEG.
- f) **RMBC – Submission of Rotherhams Core Strategy** - Noted
- g) **BMBC – Planning report** - Noted
- h) **YLCA – Annual review** - Noted
- i) **YLCA – Parish Polls Reform** - Noted
- j) **YLCA – Dog fouling prosecutions** - Noted
- k) **YLCA – Passing of Councillor Fred Wright (Brinsworth Parish Council)** – Noted
- l) **South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue – Briefing August 2013** – Notification of pension ballot and possible strike action, noted.
- m) **Resident Mr D Shearn – Newsletter distribution and council website query** – Mr Shearn offered to assist the Council with newsletter delivery and the updating of the Council website. The Clerk advised she had thanked him for his kind offer and the Council would keep this in mind.

16) Lates

- a) **High Speed Two: Consultation on the route to Manchester, Leeds and beyond – Consultation document** – Noted.
- b) **Sheffield City Council – Sheffield Local Plan** - Noted.
- c) **Penistone Housing Management Team Steering Group** – Invitation to attend next meeting and minutes from last meeting. Clerk asked to email Chair to advise although no representatives of Tankersley Parish Council can attend, they would like to be kept on the mailing list and will communicate any issues back to the Steering Group

17) Any Other Business

- a) The Clerk advised the Council that John Openshaw or the Penistone Wards had contacted to request to attend a Parish Council meeting to discuss the new local governance arrangements. This has been added to Octobers agenda. The Chair requested the Clerk add an agenda item to September to allow Councillors to discuss key points they would like to discuss with John in October.

- b) Cllr P Simpkins advised that a footpath had been laid into the new development off Westwood New Road, along with a streetlight for this route. Neither of these were included on the plans that were approved. The Council asked the Clerk to query this with Sophie Hughes at BMBC.
- c) Cllr C Smart advised the Council that the work vehicle access route into the development at Westwood New Road had been closed off, prior to works being completed. This resulted in these vehicles using Fenn Road, which Cllr Smart advised isn't wide enough to accommodate them and this has resulted in damage to the road and kerbs. Cllr Smart also raised concerns over access for residents being blocked by these vehicles. The Clerk was asked to raise this issue with Sophie Hughes at BMBC.
- d) Cllr Garforth advised that he had seen professional dog walkers in the area and believed they had not been removing their dog waste from the area. The Council asked the councillor to monitor the situation.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.23pm. Date of next meeting Monday 16th September 2013.