

## West Haddlesey Parish Meeting

Minutes of West Haddlesey Parish Meeting held at The George & Dragon Public House, West Haddlesey

14<sup>th</sup> May 2012

1. Present

Glen Williams (Chair), Robert Wood (Vice-Chair), Giles Bennett (Clerk), Liz Wetherell, Tom Foster, Barry Neal, Yvonne Fenton, David and Alison Camfield, Richard Johnson, Robert & Caroline Bannister

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Peter & Janet Jackson

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and agreed by Tom Foster as being an accurate reflection of the business transacted at that meeting.

4. Finances

The Clerk presented a brief summary of the Parish's finances for the financial year 2011 – 2012. It was noted that :

(a) a number of precept payments had been paid (by Selby District Council) into a closed bank account, an issue which we thought had been rectified but which has continued,

(b) there were a number of higher than expected outgoings this year, including replacement Christmas lights, and

(c) cash at hand is higher than anticipated as the planned play park refurbishment has not yet been undertaken.

5. Proposed Knottingley Power Plant development

It was noted that there was a proposal to develop a gas power plant on the site of the former chemical works in Knottingley. The intention would be to tap into the gas pipeline which runs between the village and Gateforth, but other than that little impact on the village was envisaged by the development.

A general discussion followed at which it was agreed that developing the site, and bringing jobs to the area, would be beneficial.

6. Wind farm update

It was reported that there was little to report.

7. Rabbits on the flood bank

Rabbits remain an issue at a number of places along the floodbank, although it was reported that the Environment Agency sporadically gas the warrens, this was akin to papering over the cracks.

Rob reported on the Lower Aire Risk Management Strategy consultation currently on-going.

Discussion followed, but it was agreed that there was little which the Meeting could do at this stage.

8. Any other business

a. Trees

There has been little success in resolving the issues of ownership of the trees running alongside Main Street east of the pub and the playpark, and little success in resolving the question of ownership of the trees on the boundary of David & Alison (?)'s property and the verge (owned by the Highways Authority).

Glen and Giles will continue to contact the relevant bodies to try and resolve the question, and Giles will undertake some research in an effort to assist David and Alison resolve the position with Highways.

b. Playpark refurbishment

This has been scheduled for the first week in July, to try and be sure of suitable weather. It should be possible to accomplish in sections, closing off one or two rides at a time, without having to close the entire play park.

c. Holiday village

It was reported that the sale of the former garden centre had been agreed, although details were sketchy.

d. Poppy wreath

Liz Wetherell requested that funds be allocated to purchasing a new poppy wreath for the War Memorial each year, and this was agreed.

e. Grass cutting

It was noted that the grass hadn't been cut for some time, although it was agreed that this was possibly due to the unsettled weather.

The intention is to contract out of Selby's grass-cutting service in the next financial year (2013 – 2014) and to use one single provider of grass-cutting services in the hope that this will result in a more reliable service. The present situation with both private and public contractors cutting the grass is unsatisfactory, primarily because Selby rarely divulge when the grass will be cut, and there is therefore a degree of cross-over between the two.

Giles to make arrangements to contract out of Selby for the forthcoming financial year. Glen to make arrangements to source one single supplier of grass cutting services, and to agree (by reference to a map) what areas will be cut, and on what schedule.

f. Speeding

Speeding vehicles remain of great concern to residents in the village – both on the part of local businesses and those using the village as a rat run, and it was reported that a dog had recently been struck and killed on Tankards Bridge by a speeding vehicle which subsequently failed to stop.

Giles reminded the meeting that speeding complaint forms were available on the village website and that they should be filled in and returned for each incident of speeding. Whilst it was agreed that on an individual basis little would be done on each report, collectively they could be used to build up confirmation that there is an issue of speeding in the village that needs to be dealt with.

There was a discussion about potential solutions, but reference was made to the visit from Highways to the Meeting two years previously, when it was made somewhat clear that budgets were tight, and measures such as radar linked to warning signs were expensive. It was agreed that a more concerted effort to report speeding through the use of the complaint forms would be a good first step.

g. Village fete

It was reported that the a Medieval Fayre was in planning for September, and it was agreed that the Meeting would offer whatever support it was able to do so to the organisers of the Fayre.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.00 pm, with the date and time of the next meeting to be arranged.

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Chairman

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Date