

MALTBY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 2013 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 p m

Apologies for Absence. These were received from District Cllrs. Gillian Corr and Jean Kirby; Parish Cllrs. M.J. Lowcock and Peter Dale.

Declarations of Interest. Cllrs. Mrs. A.P. Smith and J.I. Duffus declared an interest in Item (6c); Mr. R.M. Daniels (Clerk) declared an interest in Items (3) and (6a). These members left the room during the discussion of the relevant items.

PRESENT Cllr. C.V. Algie (Chairman); Cllr. J.L. Duffus (Vice C/M); Cllrs. E. Dougherty and Mrs. A.P. Smith; Mr. R.M. Daniels (Clerk); District Cllr. K. Faulks; Mrs. J. Wilson, Mrs. P. Moore, Mrs. G. Daniels – 9 people.

1) Minutes of the Last Meeting, held on 16/07/13.

The Chairman, after welcoming those present, began by scanning through the draft of the July minutes and asking if any errors were evident. District Cllr. Faulks pointed out that, although his name was not listed amongst the attendees, he was, in fact, present. Cllr. Mrs. Smith proposed that the minutes be approved as a correct record, and this was seconded by Cllr. Dougherty.

2) Matters Arising from 16/07/13.

Item (7a) Traffic Calming Scheme. After receiving complaints from several residents regarding the lack of warning signs and the poor visibility of the obstacles themselves on the western approach to the build-out and speed bump, the Clerk had e-mailed Mark Gillson, SBC's Traffic Engineer. In a response dated 6/09/13, the latter explained that the installation of signs was not yet complete. However, this would be addressed shortly, as would the removal of tree foliage partially masking the new streetlight above the signs.

3) Resignation of Parish Clerk.

The Clerk had written a letter to the Chairman in which he expressed his intention to stand down and retire from his position as Clerk/Treasurer as of the end of September. He noted that he had occupied the post for a little over 20 years and served under three different Chairmen, since Mr. Harper resigned from the job in the Spring of 1993, following a brief recall. Mr. Daniels pointed out that he would reach 70 years of age early in October and felt that it was appropriate for him to go at the present time. Obviously, he was prepared to assist with any outstanding and relevant matters, including the writing of the September meeting minutes. There was also a considerable volume of documentation to be sorted out in preparation for a hand over of duties. Finally, he expressed his good wishes to all members of the Council and hoped that the coming months would progress smoothly.

Upon his return to the room, the Chairman advised the Clerk that the Council had reluctantly decided to accept his resignation, as well as thanking him for his many years of service. The resulting vacancy would be advertised through the village.

4) Reports from Representatives to:

a) VHC. Village Hall Committee.

Cllr. Mrs. Smith in her new capacity as Chairperson of the Committee gave the following report: At an ordinary meeting of the VHC, held on Monday 12/08/13, there was much discussion about future improvements to the Hall, though much would hinge on securing Grants for the viability of this process. Hall hire had increased in the current year, so the Committee decided to try and initiate such capital projects. The kitchen was put in when the hall was built, some 16 years ago, and thus warrants replacement. With energy costs rising rapidly, the installation of solar panels would seem a sound investment because, by exporting the excess energy generated, some income could be obtained.

Also, with the increasing prominence of I T and members using their own printers as well as local printing firms to produce notices, minutes of meetings, bulletins, etc, it was decided that the purchase of suitable computer hardware would make economic sense, as well as being an asset to the group.

The Annual Maltby Golf Day was held on Friday 13/09/13 with 28 golfers participating. Aided by sponsorship from a local firm, the event enabled a cheque for £500 to be donated to The Great North Air Ambulance. On Saturday 14/09/13, a thoroughly enjoyable 60s/70s music evening was held in the Hall. The next event to take place there will be the Wine Tasting Session on Saturday 02/11/13.

5) Planning Applications.

a) Weekly Lists from ADV – Applicn.No. 13/0800ADV (i) Erection of One Noticeboard : No.1 Pennyman Green, Maltby – Applicant: Maltby Parish Council; Planning Officer: Miss Ruth Hindmarch. The Chairman was able to report that after some 5 months or so of negotiations, he and Cllr.Duffus had finally secured planning permission for the new noticeboard, which would be located near the 507 ‘bus stop on the south side of High Lane, next to Pennyman Green hedge.

(ii) Applicn.No.13/1643/AAC: Adjoining Authority Consultation for the Siting of a Wind Farm – Seamer Grange, Seamer, North Yorkshire, TS9 5LY – Applicant: Hambleton D C; Plng Officer: Mr.A.Glossop. Little was known about this application, but it was presumed that it linked in with the two existing wind turbines on the Hambleton side of the District Boundary, compared with the three on the Stockton side.

(iii)App.No.13/1746/FUL: Proposed Single Storey Extension to Rear & Additional Car Parking Provision (Demolition of Existing Steel Shed) – Oaklands Veterinary Centre, Low Lane, High Leven. There was no known objection. It was believed that, when completed, the new arrangement would encompass more parking space for users of the site.

b) App.No.12/2517/OUT: Outline Application for Erection of Ingleby Manor Free School & Sixth Form and Residential Development (350 houses) including means of access – Land at Low Lane, High Leven, Yarm TS15 0JJ.

District Cllr.Faulks was asked to comment on the progress of this application. He reported that, although the matter had taken a long time to be resolved following the appeal by the applicants against Stockton’s initial refusal, a decision in favour of the Free School was expected in 4 to 6 weeks’ time.

c) App.No.13/1128/FUL (Amended): Erection of New Dormer Dwelling & Garage; – Reivax, High Lane. SBC’s Planning Section refused this application on the grounds that there had never been a house in the proposed position before and, in any event, Maltby was now a Category 3 Village, which would indicate that further development, even inside the “village envelope”, should be regarded as unsustainable.

6) Financial Affairs:

a) The Clerk/Treasurer’s Honorarium & Expenses for Six Months, April to September 2013, £515-61 After due consideration, this sum was approved for payment to the Clerk by the Council and Barclays cheque no.100199 dated 17/09/13 was issued to him.

b) Flower Tub Renewal & Compost.

Cllr.Duffus had carried out an analysis of the present situation with regard to flower tubs. There are some 32 deployed in toto (plus one new tub, which is with Cllr.Dougherty). A few need replacement though it is uncertain in some cases whether a tub, trough, or hanging basket belongs to the occupier living adjacent to it, or to the Village itself, eg.those opposite the Pennyman Lane entrance. The two tubs at the top of the Bank require replacement. There are 4 near Chadwicks, two of which are looked after, while the other pair is not. One, in the area of Willows Ave known as the “Keyhole” is unkempt and overgrown now. The P C’s proposal is that those householders who put the plants in and care for the tubs will be asked if they would accept a donation from the Council towards the costs incurred.

c) Request from Maltby VHC for Assistance in Providing Finance for Improvements to the Hall. Maltby VHC, encouraged by the recent increased usage of the Hall and having overcome the earlier problems such as condensation and a leak of water, had decided to embark on a programme of further improvements, including an upgrading of the kitchen and the installation of solar panels. To this end, the raising of a substantial sum of money would be required – £18K might be a worthy target. In response to a request from the VHC for financial assistance in the form of a contribution, Cllr.Duffus suggested that 3 members of the P C (CVA, ED, and MJL) should meet 3 from the VHC to discuss the matter. A reply to the

Secretary of the VHC, Mr.E.Crossman, could then be drafted and the outcome reported at the next P C meeting (19th Nov).

7) Parish Matters:

a) Maltby's Traffic Calming Scheme (Phase 3).

There was general satisfaction with the improved lighting and warning signs at the build-out and speed bump. The question of a suitable location for, or the ultimate fate of, the SID, currently at the western end of the village still remained however. The results of the latest traffic survey would soon be available.

b) Dog Problems.

Despite the unfortunate incident reported at the last meeting, a resident said that there were still aggressive dogs in the village and some dog owners were continuing to allow their canines to foul public places. Some 5 years ago, SBC produced a leaflet promoting responsible dog ownership and the C/M said he might be able to find a copy for re-issue. The village still has notices warning against owners who leave their pets' droppings on road, pavement, or footpath. P C Gilpin is a contact for complaints, but unless photographic evidence of the animal committing the offence is available, little can be done to pursue these matters.

c) Maltby P C's Code of Conduct.

The Chairman had a draft copy of this modelled on the one published by SBC. It had been drawn up by the Clerk and, if thought to be satisfactory, a copy would be lodged with David Bond in Law & Democracy.

d) Audit Report from BDO.

This was received by the Clerk/Treasurer in early September. The Auditors only comment was that the 2012 - 13 Audit Return submitted by the Council did not include a list of fixed assets. The explanation for this is that the P C considers itself to have no fixed assets.

8) Correspondence Received:-

a) Various FINE on-line DataSheets and TVRCC Newsletter.

9) AOB.

a) With regard to Item (3), the C/M and Vice C/M wished to meet with the Clerk at a later date (tba) in order to discuss the details of the hand-over of his duties and documentation to the P C.

10) Date of Next Meeting - 19th November 2013.

There being no other business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.25 p m.