

HAXEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes from the meeting held on Tuesday 29th January 2008 in the Meeting Room of Haxe Methodist Chapel.

Present: Cllrs. Allcock, Boor, Booth, Carlile, Cooke, Eckhardt, Foreman, Knowles, C. Lindey, W. Lindley, Maw, Smedley and Whitehead.
 Chairman: Cllr. Allcock presided.

1. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Hailstone.

2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 19th December 2007

The minutes had been circulated and were confirmed a correct record by Cllrs. Maw and Smedley.

3. To receive the decisions made by North Lincolnshire Council and to consider the following planning applications:

The following planning applications were received from NLC and discussed by Haxe Parish Council:

2008/0006 – Mr. R. Lee, Copthorne, Epworth Road, Haxe – permission to create a dormer extension to existing bungalow – **Cllr. Booth declared a Prejudicial Interest and left the room. Do Not Support. Two letters of objection were received and read out. There will be a loss of light and a loss of privacy for the residents to the North of the application site. The proposal is contrary to policies DS1 and DS5 of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan.**

2008/0014 – Mr. K. Rowell, Barn adjacent to Tudor Cottage, Ferry Road, Graizelound – permission to convert existing barn into a dwelling – **Support Approval. A proposal was made by Cllr. Boor to not support the application as the entrance is too narrow. This was seconded by Cllr. Booth and a vote was taken. With 2 in favour of the proposal and 12 against it was resolved to support the application.**

2008/0051 – Mrs. Mary Brown, Outbuildings to the rear of 19 Church Street, Haxe – permission for change of use and refurbishment of existing outbuildings to a dwelling – **Support Approval, however it is to be asked that it is stipulated within the planning permission, if granted, that there is no access onto Northside Track.**

2008/0056 – Mr. Jason Green, Land Adjoining 34 Brethergate, Westwoodside – permission to erect a detached dwelling (Re-submission 2007/1666) – **Do Not Support. The available vehicle parking and turning space is inadequate and reversing a vehicle out of the site would be detrimental to road safety. The proposal is contrary to policy T2 of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan.**

4. To receive Clerk's Report - an update on decisions taken at previous meetings and to consider further action.

An email has been received from Jenny Haynes at CPRE together with a copy of an email from Rob Beales at NLC regarding the provision of village planters at the entrance of villages. NLC state that at present there is no current policy.

From a Highway Maintenance and Traffic and Road Safety viewpoint their preference would be for planting to be done within beds dug within the grass verge rather than contained within a planter, which is deemed a structure and contributes a risk of injury if a road user collides with it. NLC state that if a planter is used these should be of a more passive type of material, for example lightweight plastic planters that are imitation concrete or brick structures rather than the real thing. Heavy and solid planters will not be allowed i.e, concrete, steel, wood or brick.

A risk assessment should be carried out by the Parish, with respect to the specific location where the planter would be positioned. NLC also feel the risks in maintaining the beds/planters should be addressed in respect of how they would be watered, would visibility be obstructed and what the dangers are from standing near or on a road with live traffic. Additionally, Parishes would need to consider implications to their public liability insurance should an incident arise.

Mr. Wallace has provided the Clerk with contact details for a Stone Mason to carry out work on the Cross of Piety. A letter has been sent asking for a quote for the work to be carried out. Mr. Wallace has also stated that work on the cleaning of the War Memorial will be carried out when there is an improvement in the weather, in early Spring.

A copy of an email, that had been sent to NLC from a resident of Uppertorpe Road regarding the change of road name, was received by the Clerk and its contents were read out at the meeting. A copy of the email is available for the Councillors to see. At the meeting of Haxe Parish Council on 27th November, it was agreed that no further action on this matter would be taken.

Concerns have been raised regarding lack of an answering service when the Clerk is not available. The fax/telephone that is currently being used, which is the Clerk's own, does not have an answering facility. Before the new telephone line was installed, messages could be left but this was on the Clerk's own answering machine. The Clerk is to look into the cost of an answering machine and will report back at the meeting at the end of February.

The date for the inquiry into the diversion of Public Footpath 74 has been put back and it will now be held on Monday 4th February in the Pavilion at Belton Playing Field and will start at 12.30pm. Cllr. Foreman is to attend in place of Cllr. Moyle, who is unable to attend.

5. **To receive an update on the Parish Council's Website and Directory.**

Cllr. Allcock stated that updates are being received from Forward Step as to how many people are accessing the website. More information is to still be put on the site including information concerning flooding, details regarding the Parish Plan as well as other aspects of what is happening in the Parish. The minutes from previous meetings can be viewed on the website as well as the agendas for forthcoming meetings.

The Parish Directory has been delivered to 90% of the Parish. There are still Hallcroft Road and Close to get delivered. There has been lots of positive feedback stating that the Directory and the newsletter are both very helpful. Some errors in the Directory have been found but it was checked as best as could have been. All Councillors were provided with a draft copy to check before it went to print.

Cllr. Allcock gave his thanks and was very grateful to all who have helped to deliver the Directory and newsletter.

6. **To be notified of an email received from Carolyn Grant regarding input from Haxey Parish Council towards the Easter edition of the Haxey & Westwoodside Arrow, to be notified of the cost for this and to determine if this is to be accepted.**

An email has been received asking if the Parish Council would be interested in providing information for the March (Easter edition) of the Haxey and Westwoodside Arrow. The cost for a 4 page article, which would be in the centre of the magazine for people to pull out and keep, would be £350. The cost for a single full page would be £95.

It was felt that the Parish Council's 12 page newsletter, which is printed for around £350, is more pertinent and if the Council was to write an article for the Arrow, there would be two amounts of public money being spent.

It was **resolved** not to write in the Arrow.

7. **To be notified of quotes received for work to be carried out on the Butter Cross on Haxey Lane and to determine which will be accepted.**

The Clerk has been contacted by two builders.

Mr. Roy Richardson has looked at the Butter Cross and has stated that he would be willing to carry out the work free of charge.

Mr. Dave Snowden feels that having inspected the Butter Cross, any pointing work would be cosmetic and serve little purpose in its improvement or appearance. He feels that there is no point in spending public money on any pointing as the deterioration to the pointing over several years is very minimal. Generally the stonework pointing is very good. Mr. Snowden says that it should be noted that the brick base has somewhat deteriorated and improvement to this would require the Butter Cross to be dismantled, the brick base demolished, a new brick base building and the stonework reassembling. Mr. Snowden has therefore declined to offer a quotation.

It was **resolved** to accept Mr. Richardson's offer to carry out the work free of charge.

8. **To receive an update regarding the addition of the Ropewalk onto the Definitive Map.**

Cllr. Allcock stated that all the information that has been gathered by the Parish Council has been passed to Dave Sanderson at NLC. Mr. Sanderson has stated that the Parish Council will be able to do this but that it will be time consuming and has suggested that he would be willing to come to the Parish Council meeting at the end of February to explain the process.

It was **resolved** a letter would be sent to NLC inviting Mr. Sanderson to attend the meeting.

9. **To receive a report from North Lincolnshire Council's Liaison with Town & Parish Council Meeting held on 24th January.**

Cllrs. Allcock, Carlile, Cooke and Maw attended the meeting.

Cllr. Maw reported that the meeting was opened and chaired by North Lincolnshire Councillor Len Foster. Items discussed at the meeting included Climate Change Action Plan, the Floods Update and the Local Government Financial Settlement. An update on the Local Development Framework was also on the agenda however, Marcus Walker, who was to talk on this failed to attend the meeting.

On Climate Change, Cllr. Regan pointed out that very few in the business sector seemed to have a conscience about the usage of none renewable energy. He suggested higher costs on their bill may change this and change of lifestyle was necessary.

Mr. Allen then spoke and said NLC was to lead by example by reducing energy use in offices by making sure all lights and computers were switched off when not occupied.

Mr. Wedgewood, Service Director for Finance said that Government funding had been awarded for a 3 year period to be spent over the 3 years. In this first year, NLC had received a little over 7% increase whereas surrounding Councils had received 4% or 5% and some only 1%. Mr. Wedgewood remarked NLC had done well because of an increase in population, need for funding for Children with Special Needs and the increased costs of flooding problems.

General questions were also asked and the main topic of concern was regarding the actions of the Environment Agency and their intention to apply Policy 2 to the Axholme and North West Lincolnshire area.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

10. **To be notified of the Trent Catchment Flood Management Plan proposed by the Environment Agency for Axholme and North West Lincolnshire and to submit comments.**
 Copies of the report for the appropriate area were handed to Councillors to view.
 The Environment Agency propose to allocate Policy 2 to the area of Axholme and North West Lincolnshire in the Trent Catchment Flood Management Plan, the consequences of which the report concludes would be 'fresh water levels will increase considerably and large areas of currently drained farm land will become permanently or at least seasonally wet. Much of the area will revert back to marsh and fen landscape. Flooding will no longer be considered "flooding" and will become part of the natural seasonal inundation.'
 The general feeling of the meeting was disgust at what is being proposed. It was stated that the area is a rural area not urban and within the report the Peaks and Moorland has been allocated Policy 6, yet it is as a rural area like Axholme and North West Lincolnshire. It was also stated that the Drainage Board receive finance through local taxes whereas the Environment Agency receive their finance from general taxes. If the Drainage Board was to have to deal with all the water entering the area, additional finance would have to be found and this could not be expected to be raised by only local taxation.
 The deadline for comments to be submitted to the Environment Agency on this document was 29th January. A letter had been drafted and was read out.
 It was **resolved** the letter would be sent to the Environment Agency stating that Haxey Parish Council strongly objects to the proposal and should be allocated at least Policy 4.
11. **To receive a report from the Police Authority Meeting held on Monday 21st January.**
 Cllrs. Booth and Carlile attended the meeting.
 Cllr. Booth stated that the Police Surgery was only attended by 5 Police Officers. The meeting itself was well attended by the Police force with 7 members of the force, the Clerk and one other representative and 3 representatives from NLC, 3 Parish Councillors and 5 members of the public.
 In discussion it was felt that there was a communication problem when crimes were being reported and this was stated to be due to a lack of manpower.
 An update was given on crime that had occurred in the Isle of Axholme over the last few months.
 It was stated that criminal and anti-social behaviour had increased and it was felt that during October and November this was mainly down to Halloween and Mischief Night.
 Police have seized 4 vehicles and there is continuous speeding on the A161 which the Police are still monitoring.
 There was concern regarding youth nuisance at the Village Hall and damage on the playing field in Haxey.
 It is intended to hold a Police Surgery in the local Libraries once a month and these will be from 3pm.
 The matter concerning the parking on Commonsides was also discussed. The Police have the order to enforce a time restriction but are putting this on hold at the moment as the garage, Westwood Wheels, has been put up for sale.
 The number of casualties from road traffic accidents is down with there being only 139 with 1 fatality.
 The next Neighbourhood Action Team (NAT) meeting is to be held in Haxey Church Hall on February 11th.
 The next Police Authority meeting will be held at Belton Pavilion and details will be sent out in due course.
12. **To be notified of the necessity to go out to tender for the cutting of the grass at the Closed Churchyard at St. Nicholas Church and the Greenhill, Haxey.**
 The advert will be placed in the Epworth Bells on Thursday 7th February and will run for 2 weeks. All tenders received will be discussed at the meeting at the end of February and a decision made as to who will carry out the work.
13. **To be notified of the details for this year's Over 70's Party.**
 Cllr. Eckhardt stated that the party would this year be held on Wednesday 28th May. The Memorial Hall and the entertainment has already been booked. The British Red Cross is to still be contacted as well as NLC with regard to the transport. An advert will also be placed in the paper in due course.
14. **To be notified of quotes received regarding the purchase of the PDF software required for the Parish Council's website and to determine which quote will be accepted.**
 Two quotes have been received regarding the software that is required for the website. Each company was asked to provide the cost for a single user licence and three user licences.
 Software Partners Ltd quoted £30.10p for a single licence and £83.36 for three, including VAT. Avanquest Solutions quoted £27.20p for a single user but do not provide for 3 users and quoted £107.08p for 5 users. These prices do not include VAT.
 It was felt that 3 licences should be purchased for the Clerk, Cllr. Maw and Cllr. Allcock.
 It was **resolved** these would be purchased from Software Partners Ltd at a cost of £83.36p for 3.
15. **To be notified of the date for the Mayor of North Lincolnshire Councils Charity Dinner and to determine who shall attend.**
 This has been cancelled.

16. **To be notified of a letter received regarding the Public Footpath 116 and the proposed addition of a Bridleway to the Definitive Map and to submit comments.**

A letter has been received from Colin Wilkinson, Senior Public Rights of Way Officer at NLC, asking for the Parish Council to consider an application that has been served under section 53(5) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to add a bridleway to the Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way along the northern bank of the River Idle leading east from Idle Stop to the Nottinghamshire county boundary. The majority of the bank, between Idle Stop and Cornley Lane, is currently shown on the Definitive Map as Public Footpath, number 116, whereas the remainder is unrecorded. A map of the location had been copied for each Councillor to view.

Cllr. Booth was concerned about what would happen to the embankment with horses being in the area but it was felt this would have little effect.

A proposal was made by Cllr. Moyle to support the addition, which was seconded by Cllr. Maw. It was **resolved** the Parish Council would reply to Mr. Wilkinson's letter stating their support for this.

17. **To be notified of a letter received regarding the proposed Bridleway additions to the Definitive Map, Haxey and Epworth and barrier on Public Footpath 87 and to submit comments.**

A letter had been received from Dave Sanderson, Public Rights of Way Officer (West Area) at NLC, regarding the proposed bridleway additions and upgrading of two footpaths to bridleway status which were discussed at the meeting of Haxey Parish Council on 28th August 2007, at which Mr. Sanderson attended.

Copies of the map for this location were given to the Councillors to view.

A proposal was made by Cllr. Booth which was seconded by Cllr. Maw and it was **resolved** Haxey Parish Council would support the upgrading proposal for the sections F to E to C shown on the map provided, but there were concerns about the section from C to B and the Parish Council decided not to support this upgrading.

Mr. Sanderson would also like the Parish Council's views with regard to the erection of a gated barrier on Public Footpath 87, to stop illegal use of motorcycles on the footpath.

A proposal was made by Cllr. Maw to support the erection of the barrier and this was seconded by Cllr. Smedley. It was **resolved** a letter would be sent to Mr. Sanderson stating this.

18. **To be notified of a request for funding from Epworth Swimming Pool and to determine the amount that is to be awarded.**

A request has been received from the manager of Epworth Swimming Pool for funding towards the on-going maintenance costs to the pool.

Details of their accounts had been copied for each Councillor.

A proposal was made by Cllr. Booth to award £1000 to the Swimming Pool and this was seconded by Cllr.

Whitehead. A vote was taken and with 9 in favour and 5 against the proposal, it was **resolved** to give £1000 to the Swimming Pool.

19. **To be notified of a letter received from the Isle of Axholme Internal Drainage Board regarding their Water Level Management Plan of Haxey Turbary SSSI and to submit comments.**

A request has been made by the Isle of Axholme Internal Drainage Board for permission to access land owned by Haxey Parish Council.

The Drainage Board and its partners are currently preparing a Water level Management Plan for the Haxey Turbary SSSI as required by the Government's Public Service Agreement to have 95% of SSSIs in Target Condition by the year 2010. Land level surveys will be required of the Turbary and surrounding areas and Natural England will require access to the land to carry out the surveys.

It was **resolved** to grant permission to the Drainage Board and its partners to access the land in order to carry out the necessary surveys.

20. **To be notified of a letter received from the Secretary for the Humber Action Against Bridge Tolls group and to submit comments.**

A letter has been received from the Secretary for Humber Action Against Tolls, M.H. Writhrington, asking for the Parish Council to discuss the matter of the Humber Bridge Tolls and to ask for the members support in what the Action Group is doing.

The letter was read out at the meeting.

It was **resolved** a reply would be sent stating that Haxey Parish Council support the Action Group.

21. **To be informed of the Department for Communities and Local Government Consultation on Orders and Regulations Relating to the Conduct of Local Authority Members in England and to submit comments.**

Six copies of the document have been obtained. Cllr. Allcock, Booth and Knowles took one each to view.

Comments are to be submitted by Friday 15th February.

It was **resolved** Cllr. Allcock would look at this and submit comments if necessary.

22. To be notified of North Lincolnshire Council's intention to adopt a local list of information requirements for the Validation of Planning Applications.

The Clerk had copied 10 additional booklets which were handed out at the meeting.

Comments on this document need to be submitted to NLC no later than 29th February 2008.

NLC is intending to adopt a local list of information requirements linked to the new Standard Planning Application Form which will become mandatory from 6th April 2008.

The document was approved by NLC's Planning Committee on 4th January 2008 and the Committee will in due course consider the matter with a view to adopting a version of the document as Council policy. Following adoption, the whole document will be available on NLC's website www.northlincs.gov.uk.

It was **resolved** to defer the item to the agenda for the meeting at the end of February.

23. To discuss the state of the roads in Haxey Parish and in particular Haxey Lane, north of Graizelound Crossroads and Burrells Corner and to determine what action is to be taken.

Cllr. Smedley had asked for this matter to be discussed.

It was felt that the A161, Haxey Lane, north of Graizelound crossroads was in poor condition and needed attention. Other areas of concern included Akeferry Road, Gollands Lane and Burrells Corner which had again flooded in the recent bad weather.

NLC had stated that Burrells Corner and Haxey Lane would be looked at because of the flooding in June last year but as far as the Parish Council was aware no work had been carried out.

It was **resolved** a letter would be sent to Rob MacKenzie, NLC Traffic Officer for the area, to arrange a site visit with Cllrs. Moyle and Boor in order to highlight the affected areas.

24. To discuss the recent flooding of properties in Haxey Lane and to determine what action is to be taken.

Copies of emails that have been sent to NLC and a reply email from Mr. Ian Cawsey MP have been received from Mr. Keith Miller of Haxey Lane. These emails were read out at the meeting.

Heavy rain has again affected residents on Haxey Lane and unfortunately, one resident who had hoped to move back into his property following the flooding in June was unable to because of the heavy rain that had occurred in January and he has again been flooded.

It was **resolved** that Haxey Parish Council would write to Mr. Geoff Popple at NLC showing their support for the residents of Haxey Lane and asking for some urgent remedial action.

25. To agree a programme of meetings for the Village of the Year Working Party and the Parish Plan Working Party.

It was **resolved** a meeting of both Working Parties would be jointly held on Tuesday 12th February in the Hood Room starting at 7pm. The Councillors on the Village of the Year Working Party include Cllrs. Allcock, Boor and Smedley.

The Councillors for the Parish Plan Working Party are Cllrs. Allcock, Booth, Cooke, Knowles and Smedley. A reminder will be sent out prior to the meeting.

26. To receive a report from the recent meeting of the Westwoodside Village Hall Committee.

Cllr. Carlile attended the recent meeting of the Village Hall Committee as the Parish Council's representative.

He stated that this was a well attended and positive meeting.

The Committee is to also write to ask for funding for the 2007/08 financial year.

The Clerk stated that a letter had been received but was not in time to be included on the agenda for this meeting and would be discussed at the meeting at the end of February.

27. To notify the Clerk of items to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Items to be included on the agenda for the meeting on Tuesday 26th February include:

To discuss the addition of the 'Ropewalk' to the Definitive Map – NLC representative Dave Sanderson has been invited to attend the meeting to discuss this matter,

To be notified of the cost of answering machines and to determine which will be purchased,

To discuss and submit comments on NLC intention to adopt a local list of information requirements for the Validation of Planning Applications,

To be notified of the quotes received for the grasscutting and to determine which quote will be accepted.

To determine the date of this year's Annual Parish Meeting and to suggest items for the meetings agenda.

28. To consider the following accounts and any received after the agenda has been sent out and before the next meeting:

North Lincolnshire Council	£1160.00p
North Lincolnshire Council	£322.50p
Mrs. N. J. Atkinson	£633.10p
Epworth Swimming Pool	£1000.00p

.....Chairman