

Minutes of a meeting of Great Ayton Parish Council
held on Tuesday 29th July, 1997 at 7.00 p.m.

Present

Councillors P. Bell, Chairman, Mrs. M. Stevens, Mrs. J. Imeson, J. Fletcher, R. Kirk. B. Winn, L. Groves. P.C. McNeil and Mr. P. Thress, Public Lighting Engineer, HDC, also attended.

Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 8th July, 1997 were approved and signed.

Street lighting

Mr. Thress gave a comprehensive report on street lighting in the village. There is an ongoing programme to improve and add to the lighting each year. Residential areas will be completed first and then the more open civic areas. It was reported that Northern Electric now operate a policy of reinforcing overhead cables rather than replacing with underground cables. This was felt not to be a responsible attitude in an environmentally sensitive area and HDC are to bring pressure to bear to see if Northern Electric will change their policy.

Bollards which have been removed in Central Way are to be replaced with more attractive metal ones. These should prevent motorcyclists racing through the estate.

Police Business

P.C. McNeil reported that there had been 11 crimes in July, compared with 38 for the same time last year. There had been a total of 102 reported incidents. Two young men purporting to sell goods and services had been going door to door at the pensioners' bungalows. These were thought to be very suspicious and anyone seeing them should call the warden or the police. Two youths had been prosecuted for using abusive language at the play area.

A letter from HARPAC, Hambleton and Richmondshire Partnership Against Crime, was discussed. HARPAC is a registered charity providing money for low cost schemes involving good neighbours. A request was made by the local Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator for a donation from the Parish Council to help with costs incurred in running the 'ring round' scheme. The police were requested to bring a list of co-ordinators and areas covered to the next meeting before a decision could be made.

Damage to the window of Thompsons Hardware was caused by a fight in the street. The police are aware of the identity of the perpetrators.

Councillor Imeson reported that complaints had been received about youths congregating on Stevens Haulage yard now that the buildings had been demolished. It was asked if the police could keep an eye on the area but P.C. McNeil stated that it was a matter for the owner. Councillor Winn proposed that a letter be sent to Mr. Foster asking if the yard could be fenced off.

Councillor Winn thanked the police for their continued foot patrols.

Matters Arising

Car Park Byelaw. Minute continued.

Play Area. A further inspection has been carried out and it was felt that there was still not enough bark. Grass was seen to be growing through it. The Playground Committee are to make further investigations. The play area byelaws have been approved by the Home Office and take effect from 22nd July, 1997. A sign is to be erected in the play area.

Safety Inspection Play Area. Minute continued.

Parish Paths Partnership. Minute continued.

Cemetery extension planting scheme. Minute continued.

Low Green parking lines. It was reported that the line outside Ayton Hall has been removed so that there is now no parking on that side of the road. Councillor Fletcher is to contact Mr. Woods at Highways. Councillor Winn has prepared a survey of all white lines in the area which need attention. This to be sent to Highways.

Dog waste bins. Councillor Fletcher reported that the bin in Waterfall Park needed to be repositioned. The Cemetery Superintendent will deal with it. Councillor Bell reported that the contents of the dog waste bin at the Chapel Steps had been emptied over the path.

Flower tubs sponsorship scheme. Councillors Fletcher and Mrs. Stevens proposed a scheme whereby there would be a first time payment, followed by two further payments to cover the cost of planting twice yearly. The first payment would go towards the provision of a tub. It was felt that there should be a limit on the number of tubs provided. Councillor Bell obtained a price list for tubs.

Old Parish Documents. Minute continued.

Village nameplate. Minute continued.

Turf, Waterfall Park. Minute continued.

Plaque, Library seat. A new plaque is to be made. The Cemetery Superintendent is to be asked to refurbish Gladys Bradley's memorial seat on Newton Road which is badly in need of attention.

Accounts

The following accounts were passed for payment:-

L.H.Groves	20.99
P.H.Greenwell Contractors	481.75
Geo.C. Croasdale	205.63
CPRE	17.50
Thomas Fattorine Ltd.	99.88
M.L.Holden	213.06
W.B.Helm	679.37
Inland Revenue	408.18
Garthway Galleries	49.00

Correspondence

A letter from a resident complaining about litter and rubbish being thrown into the river was read to the Council.. Whilst the Councillors sympathise, the matter is not the responsibility of the Council and the writer is to be advised to contact the Environment Agency.

A letter expressing concern about the hedge in Little Ayton Lane was received. Until

Ayton School is sold it is the school's responsibility. It was suggested the writer be advised to contact the trustees.

Councillor Bell received a letter from Jonathan Wright who lives on the Roseberry estate asking if the Council could do something about the lack of playing facilities for children in that area. He also received a petition of 158 names asking the Parish Council to provide a play area. The Council expressed its sympathy with Jonathan's request but wished to point out that there was a splendid play area

behind Yatton House. Councillor Mrs. Stevens had recently visited the play area and found 20 - 24 children playing there on the equipment and in the kickabout area.. There were a couple of parents present keeping an eye on the children. Whilst it is appreciated that the play area is some distance from Roseberry estate, the Council wondered if parents could not form some sort of rota to supervise children across Newton Road and at the playing field. The council would greatly appreciate more support from parents. Those already involved are doing a splendid job. Councillor Fletcher questioned whether parents were aware of just how good the facilities were.

The following items of information were received:-

NYCC North Yorkshire Pension Fund Advisory Forum - details of next meeting.

NYCC North Yorkshire Pension Fund - Admitted body status

Bow House Publishing - reminder to renew advertisement.

Northallerton District Community Health Council - Annual Report

NYCC North Yorkshire Pension Fund - Pension Planning - Issue No.3

HARPAC - Introductory package.

HDC - Planning Committee dates
 Tree Preservation Orders
 Hedgerow Regulations 1997
 Planning information handbook

Hambleton District Sports Council - request for affiliation fee

Planning

No representations were considered necessary for the following applications:-

Diversion of footpath, Manor House Farm

Listed Building Consent, construction of chimney stack, Ayton Hall Farm

Construction of agricultural building for storage, Ayton Hall Farm

Provision of dormer windows, 54 Marwood Drive

Alterations and extension, Grange Lodge

Extension, 27 Wheatlands

Planning applications approved

Extension, 56 Guisborough Road

Extension, 10 Dikes Lane

Variation of condition to permit all year round caravan storage, Winley Hill Farm

Site visit

As a result of the site visit to 25 Linden Avenue work has been halted pending revised planning application.

Any Other Business

Councillor Winn reported that the Captain Cook Museum direction sign on the lamp post opposite the Museum had a broken bracket.

Councillor Fletcher asked if the Parish Council should ask Highways to investigate moving the bus stops near Stevens yard to a better place. Councillor Imeson thought it would be better to wait until the layout of the proposed development is decided.

Councillor Fletcher questioned how the grass on High Green was to be cut once Ayton School had been sold. It was asked if the Parish Council's existing equipment would be suitable or if it needed to be replaced with something bigger, possibly the School equipment if it were for sale. The School Trust will maintain the grass on behalf of the Parish Council until the school is sold.

Councillor Fletcher commented on the lovely seat which has been placed at Gribdale Gate. He expressed the hope that it was the beginning of enhancement at Gribdale Gate which is looking very shabby as a result of heavy traffic, tree cutting and motorists using the green area as a skid pan.

Councillor Mrs. Stevens reported that the hedge opposite the Cemetery on Guisborough Road was overhanging the footpath and causing pedestrians to step into the road to pass each other. It is to be reported to Highways. She also reported that children aged about 7 had been caught playing in an empty grave. This was thought to be very dangerous. When challenged by a resident they used abusive language.

Councillor Mrs. Imeson had been informed by Paul Whittaker of Hambleton District Council that the Tourist Information sign outside the Library was to be resited in front of the greengrocers, by the telephone kiosk.

Councillor Mrs. Imeson reported that a site visit had been made to the Tree Bridge junction with two Highways officers. It was agreed that drivers were largely at fault but as they could not be changed, the road lines should be altered to reduce the risk of accidents. It was suggested that studs would encourage vehicles to move into the slip lane earlier. It was reported that there were weeds growing in the car park hedge and that the footpath in Station Road had not been cleaned out for a couple of years. Highways are to be informed of the latter.

Councillor Kirk is to arrange a further valuation of the Chairman's Pendant for insurance purposes as it was felt that the one already obtained was rather low.

Councillor Mrs. Imeson proposed that when a suitable site was found the Council should provide a seat dedicated to the memory of Mrs. Annie Ward Thompson who had done so much for the village. This was agreed and Halfpenny Hill was suggested as a possibility.

Councillor Bell commented on an accident which had occurred at the junction of Mill Terrace and Stokesley Road. Highways are to inspect the junction.

The date for the Carol Service has been provisionally decided as Saturday 20th December.

Remembrance Sunday Parade. It was suggested that all Great Ayton Service men and women who were interested should give their names to the Clerk, Mrs. L. Holden with a view to joining the Church service.