

Minutes of a meeting of Great Ayton Parish Council

held on 17th February 1998 at 7.00 pm

Present

Councillors P. Bell, Chairman, Mrs M. Stevens, Mrs J. Imeson, J. Fletcher, B. Winn, R. Kirk, L. Groves.

P.C.s N. Walther and D. Stanway also attended.

Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 27th January, 1998 were read and approved.

Police Business

P.C. Walther reported that there had been 59 incidents in Great Ayton during the month. Most were reports of suspicious cars or people. There had been several cars broken into at Gribdale and Landrover Discovery owners were warned to be vigilant as a gang, believed to be from East Cleveland, were stealing spare wheels from the rear doors. Youngsters causing nuisance in Linden Grove were moved on by the Police and the problem seemed to have subsided. About 20 youths were seen playing football in the play area which was to be encouraged as it was keeping them off the streets. Operation Neighbour had been successful at Christmas and was to be continued at least until the end of March. The item in the Darlington and Stockton Times reporting a poor turnout for the Neighbourhood Watch meeting was clarified. The disappointment had been at the very few potential new members who attended, not the good attendance of the existing coordinators.

Matters Arising

Ayton School Development - Public meeting It was agreed that Councillor Bell would make the introductions, Wimpey representatives would give their presentation and then questions would be taken from the floor. Councillor Mrs Imeson had had a site meeting with Wimpey and the Planning Office and pointed out the concerns of the village. They had listened. Access other than where planned would be difficult and the mill was not in a safe condition. Councillor Mrs Imeson reported that the applications for boarding up of windows and testing of paint were to be allowed. All other items were deferred.

Safety inspection Play Area A quotation of £60 had been received from the National Playing Fields Association for the inspection. The Clerk is to arrange a date with NPFA. It was reported that the insurance company of the fencing contractor, B. Noble, was dealing with the claim from the injured child. The Clerk is to check if Mr. Ward has been able to repair the slide.

Waste bins, Arcade The promised donation from Mr. Khan had not been received. The Clerk is to contact him.

Grass High Green A letter was received from Mr. Harrison asking if he could be considered for the grass cutting contract. Councillor Kirk is obtaining 2 or 3 quotes, including one from Mr. Harrison.

Memorial Seat, Mrs Ward Thompson The seat is now in place. Councillor Mrs. Imeson is to check with Mrs. Noble to see if the suggested date and time of 21st March at 10.15 am would be convenient. The dedication would be followed by coffee at the Royal Oak.

Rear wall, toilets The Clerk reported that an offer of £300 would be made towards new brickwork. It was decided to reapply in the next financial year in the hope of getting a larger grant.

Trees, Langbaugh Corner Councillor Fletcher and the Clerk had met with Mr Woods from

Highways. It was decided that one dead tree could be replaced and 3 to 4 new ones planted. Councillor Mrs Stevens was concerned about visibility and possible complaints from residents. Councillor Fletcher felt the trees would be far enough away from the houses. The positions of the trees are to be marked on a utilities map and returned to Highways for approval. Councillor Winn will help move trees from Easby Lane and Newton Road with his tractor.

Security fence, play area Minute continued.

Traffic problems Councillor Fletcher reported that Highways would not provide car parking on the verge at the end of Addison Road as visibility would be compromised. The area has been turfed. It was suggested that a tree be planted on the corner to prevent parking on the grass.

Lights Chapel steps Minute continued.

Allotment rents The Village Hall has been booked for 8th April from 6 - 7 pm for rent collection.

Footpath, Hall Fields and kissing gate The Clerk read a letter to the meeting from Mr Phalp expressing his dismay at the report in the Darlington and Stockton Times which seemed to imply criticism of his provision of a fence alongside the path and the removal of a kissing gate. A letter is to be sent to Mr. Phalp expressing the Council's regret at the misunderstanding which arose and again assuring him of their support.

Photo album Councillor Mrs Imeson has taken it to HDC to be tidied up.

Dog dirt, pavements Councillor Mrs Imeson had written to the lady who had complained. HDC had been unable to find reference to the report in the D & S about the successful prosecution. The D & S reporter, Mrs Freeman, is to see if she can find it so that copies can be made and posted in the village.

Damage to byelaws sign The Clerk reported that there had been no response to the request for recompense from the parents of the boys involved. She is to write again informing them that court action will be considered if no reply is forthcoming.

Accounts

The following were passed for payment:-

C P Atkinson Garden Machinery	491.39
Society of Local Council Clerks	60.00
G. Ward & Son	323.12
Inland Revenue	324.15
M L Holden	21.16
M L Holden	212.83
W B Helm	694.98

Correspondence

A letter was received from Crystal FM setting out its objectives. Councillor Mrs Imeson thought the Parish Council should give their support. The station is aimed at 25 to 55 age group. It will reach all areas and provide snippets of information and explain how to obtain more. The Clerk is to write expressing the Council's support.

In response to a letter from the Clerk, Northumbrian Water explained that the drain in the cemetery was not their responsibility and could not be described as a sewer.

A letter from N Y Police thanked the Council for hosting the Neighbourhood Watch meeting.

A letter from Hambleton District Council approved the precept at £24,000.

A letter was received from Mr. W. Lowther about abattoir lorries allegedly damaging the grass verge at Linden Road. Councillor Bell is to see Mr. Lowther to clarify the situation. It was felt that the Parish Council should support local businesses. Large wagons from the Working Men's Club also use the road.

The following items of information were received:-

Bank of England - changes to tax on gilts

HDC - register of electors

CPRE - AGM Sat. 28th March 1998, minutes of meeting on 5.3.1997

NY Pension Fund Advisory Forum Agenda 17.2.98

CPRE - request for donation, brochure - year of decision for the countryside.

HDC - info. on Street Cleaner of the Year award, National Spring Clean, Britain in Bloom, and Great Ayton dog club.

Planning

The following applications were received:-

Amendments - layout and construction of 15 dwellings, Tiledsheds Farm. The Council said that if access could not be satisfactorily altered they had no objections. The Clerk was instructed to enquire what traffic calming measures were to be used. "Sleeping policemen" were not felt to be acceptable.

Ayton Hall Farm - information only on security measures.

Extension - 40 Marwood Drive. No representations were considered necessary.

Plans approved

Extension - 132 Roseberry Crescent

Extension - 131 High Street

Listed building consent - surveillance cameras, security lights, alarm box - Ayton Hall Farm.

Extension - 67 Wheatlands.

Appeal

C J Scarff - Rosehill Theatre.

Any Other Business

Councillor Winn reported that a resident had asked about the possibility of refurbishing the swimming pool at Ayton School. The meeting agreed that if Wimpeys would not consider retaining the sports hall they would not look at the pool which was in a disgraceful state.

Councillor Winn expressed concern that security lights at private houses were being triggered by passing traffic. Councillor Groves said that this should not happen and the infra red sensors must be wrongly set.

Councillor Winn asked what would be the reaction if Comcast were to come to the Village. He felt that most residents would not welcome them. The general feeling of the meeting was that many people would want cable TV and telephones as they were cheaper.

Councillor Fletcher had attended a meeting of the North York Moors Forum, Western Area. The maintenance of paths which were open to all traffic had been discussed.

Councillor Mrs Stevens asked when letters asking for sponsorship for the flower tubs were to go out. Councillor Fletcher said he would have them for the next meeting.

Councillor Mrs Imeson said that the fisheries people had been worried about contamination of the

river whilst building work at Ayton School was going on, which could affect trout breeding.

The Clerk had received a request from a resident wanting to plant primulas under the hedge in the garden of remembrance. It was agreed that this was alright as long as they were under the hedge. Snowdrops, crocus and daffodils were also acceptable.