

ACOMB PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd April 2008 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall, Acomb.

Present

Councillor J Wilkinson (Chairman of the Council in the chair)
Councillors Mrs J Wrigley, W Rutherford, C Enderby, K Laidlow

Also Present

Bill Grigg, Clerk to the Council
Councillor T Robson, Tynedale Council and Hexham Town Council
2 Northumbria Police Officers
1 Resident of the Parish

Apologies

Councillors Mrs A Earnshaw, G Scorer
County Councillor T Flaws

Declarations of Interest

Councillor C Enderby (Planning Application Ref. 20080196)

Councillor K Laidlow (The Pavilion, as a parent whose children may use the building)

Policing Update

Before the Council went into full Council a discussion between the Council and two local Northumbria Police Officers took place in regards to local problems, and how the Police are dealing with these or intend to. They explained their proposals for the future and hopefully on the first Monday of each month a local Police Officer will hold a local Police Surgery in the Village Hall (contact details etc are to be supplied for local noticeboards etc) so residents can make contact with local officers more easily.

19/2008 The Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 5th March 2008

The minutes of the Council meeting held on the 5th March 2008 were signed as a correct record.

20/2008 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 5th March 2008

a) Ref 10/2008 Pavilion

A meeting of Pavilion users was held on the 26th March 2008 explaining the Council's concerns and the decision of the Council to withdraw support.

A long discussion between all concerned had taken place with no real settlement except no-one was prepared to take on the management of the Pavilion, and Youth Services did not feel they should pay the fees expected due to less usage etc.

It was agreed each user would monitor the cleaning and tidying after each group and in some instances photographs will be taken.

Reports of missing or broken/damaged furniture were noted. Youth Services needed to consult with the young people.

Youth Services reported back verbally to the Clerk that the young people wish to continue to use the Pavilion and they would pay £200 to cover 2007/2008 financial year. They would not accept responsibility for the damaged or removed benches.

After careful consideration and discussion the Council agreed to suspend the decision it made in December 07 and re-confirmed in February 08, and for a trial period of six months continue to manage the Pavilion.

It will meet in the near future with users again to discuss the future. In the meantime the Council will continue to meet the insurance costs.

The Council also agreed to pay the NPower and Northumbrian Water accounts (as payment items) and should the Council agree to give a grant to Youth Services in 2008/2009 it will deduct an amount from any grant towards these two payments, allowing the £200 forthcoming from Youth Services to re-open the Pavilion payments with the bank.

b) Ref 17/2008 Highways Matters Overgrown Hedges

NCC have written to the owners of the property on Main Street, Acomb, requesting the overgrown hedges be cut back.

21/2008 Planning Matters

a) Planning Applications

Ref. 20080196, Unit 5, Riding Home Farm, St. John Lee, Acomb.
Change of use and conversion of existing barn to create a single residential dwelling and garage and conversion of outbuilding to ancillary playroom.

Fully support the application.

b) Planning Decisions

Ref. 20071240, 29 Orchard Ave, Acomb.
Construction of one dwelling.

Granted permission conditionally by Tynedale Council (dated 14/3/08).

Ref. 20071401, Fallowfield Dene Caravan Park, Acomb.
Variation of Condition 2. (The provision relates to the provision of holiday accommodation).

Granted permission by Tynedale Council dated 10/3/08.

c) Other Planning Matters

Ref. 20070770
Construction of sunroom at The Lantern, Acomb.

This application has been refused by Tynedale Council. The applicant has decided to appeal against this decision. The appeal will take the form of a written appeal.

22/2008 Financial Matters

a) Income

01/04/08	Precept	£8932.50
	Following repayment of advance and election costs. (Total requested for ½ year £12,000)	

b) Payments

		£
05/03/08	W C Grigg (fee £550 admin £15)	565.00
05/03/08	P Stewart (Handyman fee)	260.00
02/04/08	Tynedale Council (grass cutting)	1204.38
02/04/08	NCC (grass cutting playing fields)	845.50
01/04/08	Repayment of advance precept (direct payment)	3000.00
01/04/08	Election costs (direct payment)	67.50
02/04/08	Village Hall	1000.00
28/02/08	Phone Co-op (DD)	34.67
03/03/08	Alliance Insurance (DD)	104.15
15/03/08	Bank Charges	1.13
15/03/08	Bank Charges	48.00
02/04/08	NPower (grant Pavilion)	147.55
02/04/08	Northumbrian Water (grant Pavilion)	51.47

23/2008 Correspondence

- Notice from the Audit Commission on the appointment of external Auditor B.DO Stoy Hayward as Auditor (external) for 2007/2008 to 20/11/12.
- Notice from the Northumberland Association of Local Councils re. Royal Garden Party, 22nd July 2008. The Council noted the contents with no action.

**24/2008 District Councillor's Report
Councillor Mrs J Wrigley**

Councillor Mrs J Wrigley's report had been previously circulated with the Council papers. The report was fully agreed and accepted with thanks expressed to Councillor Mrs J Wrigley for an excellent and informative report.

25/2008 Any urgent business allowed by the Council Chairman

- a) The Council agreed the appointment of G Caldwell as Internal Auditor for the year 2007/2008 as in previous years.
- b) Councillor W Rutherford brought to the attention of the Council the condition of the tarmaced area of the Green, which is in need of repairs due to damages caused by constant use of vehicles. The Council were going to ask NCC to repair, but Councillor C Enderby very kindly agreed to send the contractor he was using elsewhere to repair the works for the Council.

26/2008 Date of Next Meeting

Due to the confirmation of the Audit which is 2nd June 2008 (the date has only just arrived), and the fact the Council needs to meet to agree this on time, it was decided to cancel the meeting on 7th May 2008 and the June Council meetings and hold the AGM & APM mid May possible date been 29th May 2008 The Chairman and Clerk to confirm date when dates are checked. It was also agreed all fees be paid double and accounts be paid up to date in agreement with the chairman and the clerk as the council would not be meeting at its normal time in May The Council fully agreed this action.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.