

## **ACOMB PARISH COUNCIL**

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 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, Mrs A Earnshaw, K Laidlow, W Rutherford, G Scorer

### **Also Present**

County Councillor T Robson  
Bill Grigg, Clerk to the Council  
2 Residents of the Parish

### **Apologies**

Councillor C Enderby

### **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **Discussions with Residents**

The Council discussed fully the problems with The Green and the urgent need for attention to be given to this matter. The problems with running sewerage have been reported to Northumbrian Water by County Councillor T Robson. The drains and sewers should be checked regularly by Northumbrian Water; a memo to that effect will be sent from the Parish Council to Northumbrian Water.

An inspection of the problem trees will be inspected by a Tree Officer as the trees/bushes are in a conservation area and will need permission to be removed. The Council will discuss in full Council the future management of The Green and the way forward to proceed quickly with the necessary upgrading.

### **44/2008 The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2008**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2008 were signed as a correct record.

### **45/2008 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2008**

- a) Ref. 39/2008 (2) A6079/U8171 Garden House Bank proposed change in priority

Councillor Mrs J Wrigley sought clarification on the proposed change in priority as stated in the minutes. The Chairman explained the Council understanding of the change and it was agreed the content of the minute was correct.

b) Ref. 42/2008 Milecastle Housing Ltd

- i) Milecastle Housing Ltd would like to come to a future meeting and explain new proposals for affordable homes in Acomb. Clerk awaiting further information from Milecastle Housing Ltd.
- ii) Milecastle Housing Ltd have been asked to cut back trees, hedges, shrubs and to complete a full clean up in the Z area and in and around the senior citizens bungalows.

**46/2008 Trees - Chapel Close, Acomb**

Following a site meeting by Councillors and a long discussion it was agreed to ask Milecastle to remove 2 trees at no. 20 Chapel Close and 1 tree at 48 Chapel Close. Also all the trees on the estate require trimming. The footpaths are in need of attention as are the drain covers and the problems being caused by tree roots.

**47/2008 The Green**

NCC have forwarded costings from 2006 but since then more damage has been done to The Green due to the amount of traffic and damage caused by weather conditions. Trees require removal urgently (site meeting to be organised asap with Tree Officer and application for removal as they are in a conservation area). There are problems with the drains and water running onto residents' land.

It was therefore decided that surveys, costs, etc should all be carried out as to what is required to bring The Green up to high standards, and a project team appointed to manage and cost the scheme.

Once we have costings an application will be made to the Public Loan Board for a long term loan to carry out the work. This would include the upgrading of The Pant and the surrounding area.

The Clerk was asked to contact project teams for costs etc. County Councillor T Robson agreed to contribute £5,000 from his NCC Small Grant Scheme to the project if NCC agrees which could help cover project costs.

**Footnote:** Since our meeting NCC have suggested they could manage and project lead the scheme with their wide experience of highways and roads, and rectify the drainage problem at an early date. County Councillor T Robson's grant would go towards the project work and any initial costs.

Once we have costings the Chairman and Clerk will proceed with the application to the Public Loan Board.

**48/2008 Planning Matters**

Applications

- i) Ref. 20080757  
27 Redburn Crescent, Acomb.  
Conversion and extension to garage to provide annexe to main dwelling at above address.

No objections but the Council is concerned in regards to the size and the setting of a precedent for future applications.

- ii) Ref. 20080778  
Tyne View, Main Street, Acomb.  
Construction of first floor rear extension.

No objections providing local residents are fully consulted.

- iii) Egger UK Ltd  
Construction of warehouse and fuel storage building, refurbishment of existing production line buildings including infilling between the two buildings, refurbishment of amenity building and relocation of silo.

No objections.

Decisions

- i) Ref. 20080472  
Construction of single storey extension to rear at 22 Bishops Hill, Acomb.

Granted permission dated 15 July 2008.

- ii) Ref. 20080373  
Extension to create second storey and kitchen to rear at Chapel Cottage, Main Street, Acomb.

Refused permission dated 17 July 2008.

- iii) Ref. 20080446  
Construction of two storey extension at Almouth Cottage, Acomb.

Granted permission dated 29 July 2008.

- iv) Ref. 20080351  
Construction of porch to front at Woodbine Cottage, Main Street, Acomb.

Refused permission dated 4 July 2008.

**49/2008 Financial Matters**

a)	<u>Income</u>		£
	11/07/08	Advance Precept	2000.00
	01/09/08	Precept	7000.00
	01/09/08	VAT Refund	314.11

b)	<u>Payments</u>		£
	13/07/08	W. C. Grigg (fee)	550.00
	13/07/08	P Stewart (handyman's fees)	265.00
	13/07/08	Village Hall	170.00
	13/07/08	J Robinson (printing)	40.00
	13/07/08	Ian Sharp (repairs)	160.00
	27/06/08	Allianz (insurance)	108.81
	27/06/08	Phone Bank (Hall)	34.67
	27/07/08	Village Hall	503.00
	01/08/08	W. C. Grigg (fee)	550.00
	01/08/08	P Stewart (handyman's fees)	460.00
	01/09/08	W. C. Grigg (fee)	550.00
	01/09/08	P Stewart (handyman's fees) (plus extra works carried out)	260.00 200.00
	01/09/08	Village Hall	1000.00
	28/07/08	Phone Bank (Hall)	34.67
	28/08/08	Phone Bank (Hall)	34.67
	01/08/08	Allianz (insurance)	108.81
	23/08/08	Bank charges	113.13
	01/09/08	W. C. Grigg (3 months telephone charges)	50.00
	01/09/08	J Robinson (copying)	11.90
	01/09/08	G Caldwell (internal auditor)	210.00
	01/09/08	BDO (audit fees)	334.88
	01/09/08	NCC (fishing rights)	587.50
	03/09/08	W. C. Grigg (postages)	15.00

c) Annual Audit 2007 - 2008

BDO have now completed the Audit for 2007-2008 with the comment that as at the 31/3/08 the Council's account was overdrawn and has contravened sch. 1 part 2 of the Local Government Act 2003. A loan or extra overdraft facility should have been applied for. Quarterly budget monitoring may be necessary to avoid this situation arising. The Council agreed the accounts for 2007-2008 and the comments from the Auditors.

**50/2008 Correspondence**

- 1) Notice from NCC re. Post Office Review debate notes.

- 2) Notice from NCC re. Bus shelter outside village hall that the contract with NCC ends on the 31/10/2009 and the Parish Council will be responsible for cleaning and maintenance.
- 3) Notice from Lichfield and Partners re. Egger (UK) Ltd consultation re. development on land adjacent to Egger (UK) Ltd.
- 4) Notice from Northumberland Strategic Partnership re. proposed NSP Area Partnerships.
- 5) Notice from NCC re. Local Transport Integrated Transport Programme 2009-10. The following was agreed:-
  - i) Remove the request for parking at Acomb First School.
  - ii) Leave the request for footway Garden House Lane (land standing priority).
  - iii) Leave the request for road re-alignment junction to village.
  - iv) Leave the request for road widening: widen U8171 in the vicinity of Garden House Drive.
  - v) Leave the request for one street light at The Green, Acomb.
  - vi) Leave the request for street light outside 10 Orchard Ave, Acomb.
  - vii) Remove the request for street lighting Main Street between Sun Inn and The Gaps.
  - viii) Leave concern over local road safety Millersfield/Chapel House Estates.
  - ix) Leave the request to ban HGV on Garden House Bank.

**51/2008 District Councillor's Report  
Councillor Mrs J Wrigley**

Councillor Mrs J Wrigley's report had previously been circulated with the Council papers. Thanks were expressed to Councillor Mrs J Wrigley for her informative report; the report was fully agreed.

**52/2008 Verbal Report by County Councillor T Robson**

Councillor T Robson reported on the following matters.

- a) The Green. He had met with residents to discuss problems and spoken to NCC. He would support the Council on the proposals earlier proposed in the meeting.
- b) Work is progressing on the U8175 near Chesterholme and to date a lot of the ditches have been cleaned out.
- c) The footpaths alongside A6079 have now been cleared and the hedges cut back.
- d) No progress to date on Garden House Bank but requested the green bin wagons be re-routed (Tynedale Council) and they no longer use Garden House Bank.
- e) Work on the verges at St. John Lee is still on the County's schedules and work should be carried out shortly.

- f) Work is in progress to prevent re-occurrence of the flooding at the entrance to Bishop's Hill.
- g) Councillor T Robson suggested Tamsin Beevor, Hexham Community Partnership Manager; attend a Council meeting to speak about HCP. This was agreed.
- h) As already mentioned in discussion in regards to The Green, Councillor T Robson will make a contribution of £5,000 towards The Green project towards the contract work, providing NCC agree.

**53/2008 Any urgent business allowed by the Council Chairman**

- a) Litter bin Methodist Church  
A new bin is to be replaced as soon as Tynedale Council can get a new supply of bins.

- b) Flooding - Morrison Terrace

Milecastle Housing Ltd are to be asked to inspect the Redburn and clean up if necessary to try and help the problems of flooding.

The Environment Agency to be requested to carry out regular checks and to be asked if there is anything they can do to help the residents of Morrison Terrace.

**54/2008 Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed the date of the next meeting would be Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2008 at 7.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.