

ACOMB PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 3rd November 2004 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall, Acomb.

Present

Councillor J Wilkinson (Chairman of the Council in the chair)
Councillors Mrs A Earnshaw, Mrs J Wrigley, W. Rutherford, C. Enderby,
G. Scorer

Also Present

Bill Grigg - Clerk to the Council

Apologies

Councillor K Laidlow
County Councillor B Pickering

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

82/2004 The minutes of the Council meeting held on 6th October 2004

The minutes of the Council meeting held on the 6th October 2004 were signed as a correct record.

83/2004 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council meeting held on 6th October 2004

Residents Concerns

New Bus Service

There are still some problems with the new service; the 10.30 am Tyne Blue Line service (74) was changed to 10.06 am without any advance notice to the public, and has been causing problems. NCC informed Councillor Mrs. J Wrigley that notices were in the post office, Hexham bus station and Hexham T.I.C. Councillor Mrs. J Wrigley also requested that timetables be placed in both bus shelters; to date nothing has happened. Also residents have not been issued with timetables. The problem appears to be a communication problem with NCC.

84/2004 Financial Matters

a) Income

23/10/04	Bank Interest (C/A)	£2.28
01/11/04	NCC Grant (hall)	£5000.00

b) Payments

01/10/04	Cornhill (DD)	£65.42
01/11/04	W.C. Grigg (fee)	£339.90
01/11/04	W.C. Grigg (postages)	£10.00
01/11/04	J. Robinson (stationery)	£15.00
01/11/04	Village Hall (grant)	£1000.00
01/11/04	Royal British Legion (grant)	£25.00

c) Precept

In principle after discussion, the Council fully agreed a precept of £20,000 for 2005/2006; this will be re-confirmed on 8th December 2004 at the Council meeting.

85/2004 Correspondence

- a) Notice from NCC re. Change of bus service/review of public transport services in the Haydon Bridge area. The Council noted the contents.
- b) Notice from Tynedale Council re. Tynedale Open Space and Recreation Strategy draft for consultation.

The Council noted the contents of the report and the comments in regards to provision in Acomb. It was felt the draft consultation did not include the re-vamped play area on the playing fields and this would be brought to the attention of Tynedale Council. Also the Council would ask Anne-May Pottage of Tynedale Council to inspect the area and make any recommendations for future improvements for more play provision if she felt it necessary for future reference for the Council. It was noted any future provision would be costly and would have to be carefully considered.

**86/2004 District Councillor's Report
Councillor Mrs J Wrigley**

Councillor Mrs. J Wrigley's report had been previously circulated with the minutes and thanks were expressed to Councillor Mrs. J Wrigley for a full and comprehensive report. Councillor Mrs. J Wrigley made comment to the following points in her report.

- a) The new twin bin system is now in operation in Acomb and appears to be working very well.
- b) There may be a need in Acomb to give some extra support to older residents in the form of help with shopping, visiting, transport etc and in principle the Council agreed it may be necessary to carry out a survey and if the need is required, try to organise some scheme within the Parish with the help of volunteers. One possible scheme is residents helping each other, which operates in other areas. A scheme like this runs in Lincolnshire. Mrs. J Wrigley agreed to seek further information on this scheme and other schemes and include the findings in her future reports. The Council will then discuss this matter fully.

87/2004 Citizenship Award

Councillor Mrs. A Earnshaw had done a great deal of research on this matter and presented various schemes to the Council that could be adapted for Acomb.

The Council agreed fully this was a very good proposal and would proceed with the scheme.

It was agreed the scheme would be called Acomb's Good Citizen of the Year Award. A certificate and small trophy/prize would be awarded yearly. It would be open to all age groups.

Nominations would come from the community and it was hoped this would involve the whole community. An outside panel would be asked to judge.

All nominations would be in writing of around 100 - 200 words, together with a simple application form.

Councillor Mrs. A Earnshaw agreed to seek further details and prepare some draft guidelines and application forms, and possible publicity posters etc.

The award would be presented each February at the Council meeting officially beginning February 2006.

The Council did agree fully to present such an award in 2005 to launch the scheme and on this first occasion will select the resident or residents to receive the award in 2005.

Full details will be confirmed at the December Council meeting if all details are confirmed and agreed.

Thanks were expressed to Councillor Mrs. A Earnshaw for all her help on this matter.

88/2004 Any Urgent Business allowed by the Chairman

No items were brought to the meeting for discussion.

89/2004 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed the date of the next meeting would be Wednesday 8th December 2004 at 7.00 pm. The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.