

SCOTTER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on 16th November 2009

PRESENT: Councillor C. Day (Chairman), Councillors N. Altoft, M. Armstrong, B. Billam, M. Brown, D. Capes, J. Fillingham, S. Rayner and A. Sheardown, Ward Councillor W. Parry, M. Brown (Clerk).

With no members of the public present, the meeting commenced at 7.31pm.

128 2009/10 : To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Bullivent who is working abroad.

RESOLVED : To accept and approve the apology from Councillor Bullivent.

129 2009/10 : To receive declarations of interest

Councillor Day declared an interest in relation to agenda item 4 (minute reference 131 2009/10) due to his membership of the Playing Fields Committee. Councillor Fillingham declared an interest in relation to agenda item 15 (minute reference 142 2009/10) due to his membership of Scotter Village Hall Association. The Councillors stated their intention to refrain from voting on the respective matter.

130 2009/10 : To approve the notes of the Council Meeting held on 19th October 2009 as the Minutes of that meeting.

RESOLVED : To approve the notes of the Council Meeting held on 19th October 2009 (as circulated) as the Minutes. These were signed by the Chairman.

131 2009/10 : To consider a request from Scotter War Memorials Playing Fields Committee for financial support to cover the cost of the filling-in of rabbit and mole holes.

The Council considered the letter received from the Playing Fields Committee, requesting financial assistance to pay for the services of a local person to fill in rabbit and mole hills on those areas of the field that surround the sports pitches. Councillor Day explained the current stretched financial position of the Playing Fields Committee and gave some background on the need for this service from a safety perspective. The work has actually been taking place since August 2009. Following some deliberation and with the exception of Councillor Day who abstained, it was :

RESOLVED : To recompense the Playing Fields Committee for the monies expended on a rabbit and mole hill filling service up to the maximum amount of £5 per week.

The Clerk was asked to ensure that the costs of the service are also included in the papers for the 2010/11 Precept meeting.

132 2009/10 : To consider a request from a resident for the Council to support the installation of a public footpath between Lindholme and Scotter Post Office.

The Council considered the request received from a resident, who is one of a number of physically disabled people who live on/near Lindholme, for it to support a request to LCC for the installation of a footpath between Lindholme and the Post Office. Whilst sympathetic to the issues faced by the residents, the Council raised its concern that a direct approach to LCC would be unsuccessful because the land in question is not part of the highways verge and is privately owned. In an attempt to progress the matter, it was :

RESOLVED : To write to the land owner to seek their consent for the potential installation of a footpath on their land.

Should the response be in the affirmative, the Clerk is then to write to LCC to request that it install a footpath in this location at the earliest opportunity.

133 2009/10 : To approve a request from the Environment Agency for permission to install a river gauge on the Council's land at Riverside.

The Council considered the paper prior circulated on the matter, detailing the proposed positioning and size of the gauge monitoring equipment booth. The Clerk explained that, since the paper had been produced, the Environment Agency has informed her that the proposed location of the

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equipment booth is now close to the YEDL sub-station (subject to the latter's agreement), as LCC Highways had objected to the previously proposed location due to it being within three meters of the highway and bridge. A map showing the revised location was circulated. Considering the importance of obtaining an enhanced warning system in the event of the River Eau bursting its banks, the Council

RESOLVED : To approve the Environment Agency's proposal to install river gauge equipment on its land on Riverside.

134 2009/10 : To consider a request from a parishioner for the Council to lobby for bus services to cover the southern end of Scotter.

The Council considered the letter received from a parishioner, who lives on Gainsborough Road, requesting that at least some of the bus services cover the southern end of the village, as all routes currently terminate on High Street or travel via High Street to their next destination. The Clerk explained that, following receipt of this letter, an associated matter had been brought to the Chairman's attention, who had received a complaint that one of the bus routes servicing Scotter has been terminated. On investigation, the Clerk had found out that Service 353 (Scunthorpe to Lincoln via Gainsborough) was re-numbered to Service 103 on 2nd November 2009 and has been re-routed to exclude Scotter. The only bus route that now services Scotter is the Connect 100. One major impact of this service reduction is that there is now no direct bus route between Scotter and Kirton in Lindsey, which may be an issue for those who use the Kirton doctors' surgery. It also reduces the potential for diverting buses via Gainsborough Road. Following some discussion, it was

RESOLVED : To write to the Accessibility Policy Unit of LCC to ask it to investigate both issues and to propose appropriate solutions.

The Clerk is to respond to the resident to explain the action that the Council is taking and to provide details of the Lincolnshire Dial-a-Ride service, in case this may be of some assistance to the resident in the interim period.

135 2009/10 : To receive a report from the Cemetery & Allotments Working Group on its recent safety inspection of the cemetery

During the period Councillor Day, on behalf of the Cemetery & Allotments Working Group, had inspected the cemetery and confirmed that there were no matters of a safety concern to report on this occasion.

136 2009/10 : To receive a report on the safety inspection of Parson's Field

Councillor Day reported that he had inspected Parson's Field for safety on three occasions during the period and had found nothing of immediate concern.

137 2009/10 : To agree which Councillor will be responsible for playground safety inspections for the next month.

RESOLVED : That Councillor Capes will continue to undertake play ground safety inspections for the next month.

Councillor Sheardown kindly offered to take on this responsibility at the December Council meeting.

138 2009/10 : To receive a report from the Clerk

The Council noted the report, with comments made in relation to the following :

75 2009/10 : Pedestrian/driver safety at the junction of Sands Lane and Gainsborough Road

The Council welcomed the suggestion made by LCC Highways that there may be potential to fence off part of Gainsborough Road to dissuade pedestrians from crossing the A159 at this dangerous point to access the snicket to Astley Crescent. Having discussed various options for the location of such a fence, it was agreed that the Chairman should have a site meeting with Mr Darley of LCC to discuss the most appropriate location. The Clerk will arrange this meeting.

78a 2009/10 : Report on actions to reduce flood risk

The Clerk reported that, as no responses had been received to the Council's September letters to the Environment Agency and LCC regarding the bottle-neck being caused by the A159 bridge and requesting that action be taken to remove this obstruction, she has now chased both parties in writing.

After the agenda and papers had been issued for this meeting, she had received a further letter from a Lindholme resident in which the Council is asked to consider a further action in relation to this matter. The Clerk explained to the parishioner that the letter had been received too late for consideration at the November Council meeting but will be placed on the agenda for December.

109 2009/10 : Traffic calming scheme for Elizabeth Close

The Council noted, with some surprise and disappointment, that the road has not yet been formally adopted and that it is likely to be a further year until adoption takes place. It also noted that, in the current opinion of LCC, the road design does not require a calming scheme. It asked the Clerk to send a copy of LCC's letter to the original complainant.

125a 2009/10 : Various highways issues

The Clerk reported that she has now received a letter from Mr Darley in relation to several of the issues raised. Mr Darley responded as follows : "I have issued an order to refresh the line markings on the A631 /High Street junction and several other junctions I have noticed in Scotter.

The footpath on Rooklands has been resurfaced this year with slurry seal treatment and sections of Wakerley Road have been patched in preparation for next year's slurry seal programme. We cannot do every footpath in Scotter at the same time because we simply do not have the budget for this. The solution is to gradually replace worn out sections, which the Authority has been doing. Next year we intend to reconstruct a large section of Gainsborough Road, from Charles Avenue southbound. The comments about the footpath on Messingham Road have been passed on to our Engineering Team. Basically they hope to make good any defects during the next programme, which will be next spring time. If the footway becomes dangerous I will of course implement any works necessary beforehand." The issue raised about the potentially dangerous willow tree was sent directly to Mr Wiles of LCC and a response is awaited

125b 2009/10 : Footpath on Butterwick Road

Mr Darley of LCC Highways has responded on this matter to state that he has included the footpath on Butterwick Road in next year's slurry seal programme, but will also send out his Area Response Team to carry out any minor repairs that are required in the near future.

125c 2009/10 : Inadequate application of slurry seal to footpaths

Mr Darley's letter of response to the various issues raised with him did not mention the issue raised in relation to the inadequate application of slurry seal in Scotter during 2009. As many of his proposed actions under items 125a and 125b 2009/10 include the use of this type of application, the Council **RESOLVED : To write to LCC Highways to register the Council's disappointment with the lack of response to its complaint and to state that it expects that the agreed actions will be carried out to a good standard.**

139 2009/10 : To receive new correspondence not already included above

Items of correspondence (not already considered above and received prior to the November Meeting) were placed on circulation to Councillors at the meeting. If the need arises to take action in relation to any of this correspondence, it will become an agenda item for consideration at a future meeting.

140a 2009/10 : To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings published since the last Council meeting and adopt the recommendations contained therein

The Council considered the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 19th October 2009 and

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RESOLVED : To concur with the actions taken by the Planning Committee and to adopt the minutes of the Committee meeting held on 19th October 2009.

140b 2009/10 : To note the receipt of results from the planning authority

The Council noted the following results received from the Planning Authority during the period :

124455 1 Ash Grove, Scotter – a planning application for the demolition of an existing single-storey detached garage to the rear and the erection of a two-storey extension to the side to form a single garage, utility and porch area to the ground floor and 2 No. bedrooms to the first floor. Also, to erect a single-storey sun room to the rear.

Granted

141 2009/10 : To note income received during October 2009 and to approve the October 2009 cash book and its reconciliation to the bank statements

The Council noted the following income received during October 2009.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYER</u>	<u>DETAILS</u>	<u>RECEIPTS</u>
02.10.09	Mrs K. J. Day	6 months' rental for Constable land	150.00
02.10.09	Mrs M. Brown	Cheque to cover cash rentals for cemetery allotments 3,4,5,9&10	5.00
05.10.09	Co-operative Bank	Interest - current account	1.20
05.10.09	Co-operative Bank	Interest - deposit account	1.15
05.10.09	Mrs M. Brown	Cheque to cover cash rentals for cemetery allotments 6,7,8,12,13&14	6.00
05.10.09	H.M. Revenue & Customs	VAT repayment	131.18
08.10.09	R.J. & S.E. Marris	6 months' rental for Goosemoor land	275.00
08.10.09	Mrs M. Brown	Cheque to cover cash rentals for cemetery allotments 16,17&18	3.00
08.10.09	YEDL	Rental/wayleave	5.00
22.10.09	Co-operative Bank	Interest - guaranteed investment bond	117.51
27.10.09	M. A. Brown	Cheque to cover cash rentals for Scotterthorpe allotments	214.50
27.10.09	Cliff Bradley & Sons	Interment of cremated remains in BC55,Y1&Y2, including sale of exclusive rights to Y1 & Y2	195.00
		TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>1104.54</u>

It then examined the cashbook as at end of October 2009 and its reconciliation to the bank statements and

RESOLVED : That the cashbook at the end of October 2009 should be signed by the Chairman and Clerk as a true record.

142 2009/10 : To approve payments to be made

The Council examined the accounts to be paid for supplies and services received since the last meeting and, with the exception of Councillor Fillingham who abstained, :

RESOLVED : That, in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act, 1972, the Council will incur expenditure on donations to The Royal British Legion and to Scotter Good Companions which, in the opinion of the Council, are in the interests of the inhabitants of the Parish and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure. Also, that the following payments should be approved.

<u>CHEQUE</u>			<u>NET</u>		<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>NO.</u>	<u>TO WHOM PAID</u>	<u>PARTICULARS OF PAYMENT</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>PAYMENTS</u>
Direct Debit	Tiscali	Broadband, Oct/phone calls, Sept. '09.	29.20	4.38	33.58
402020	H.M. Customs & Revenue	PAYE & NI, Month 7	365.66	-	365.66
402021	Mrs M. Brown	Wages	531.22	-	
		Mileage	4.00	-	
		Postage	4.50	-	
		Batteries for garage alarm	2.43	0.36	542.51

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402022	Mr. J. Lyon	Wages	575.60	-	
		Mileage	9.60	-	585.20
402023	SVHA	Office rental & room hire, Q2 2009/10	189.75	-	189.75
402024	The Royal British Legion	Donation towards Poppy Appeal	75.00	-	75.00
402025	SJFC	Grass cutting, Aug, Sept & Oct 2009	302.07	-	302.07
402026	Scotter Good Companions	Donation to cover bus hire for trip	200.00	-	200.00
402027	CPRE	Annual subscription	29.00	-	29.00
402028	Spencer's Garage	Fuel	147.25	22.09	169.34
402029	Pestx Ltd	Pest control, 3 mnths from 01/11/09	85.00	12.75	97.75
402030	Shaw & Sons	Register of graves	120.00	18.00	138.00
402031	Record RSS Ltd	Compression unit for see-saw	215.00	32.25	247.25
			2,885.28	89.83	2,975.11

143 2009/10 : To take any points from members, identify items for the next agenda and to note urgent items of interest.

143a Councillor Rayner raised his concern that the collapsed manhole on the private car park adjacent to the fish and chip shop presented a serious health and safety issue, the manhole having been inadequately covered and the items so used creating a tripping hazard. Following discussion it was **RESOLVED : To write to the appropriate team within WLDC, copied to the property owner and Severn Trent, to ask that remedial action be taken as a matter of urgency.**

143b Councillor Sheardown reported that, in accordance with the Council's risk management strategy and in support of the annual internal audit, he had recently carried out a full audit of the Council's financial records for a three month period, examining receipts and payments, bank statements, wages paid and VAT reclaimed. All was in order.

144 2009/10 : To resolve whether, in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press should be temporarily excluded from the meeting.

On the basis that the next items of business contain information that is confidential to the Council's employees, it was :

RESOLVED : That, in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press should be temporarily excluded from the meeting for the next items of business.

145 2009/10 : To agree a rate of pay for the Village Person

The Council considered the paper in support of this item and

RESOLVED : To apply a rate of pay to the Village Person equivalent to that of a Grade 3 (Lead) Worker under The Agricultural Wages Order 2009 with effect from 1st November 2009.

146 2009/10 : To agree a rate of pay for the Clerk

The Council considered the paper in support of this item and

RESOLVED : To apply to the Clerk's pay rate the salary award for 2009/10 at Spinal Column Point 32, as determined by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services, with effect from 1st April 2009.

147 2009/10 : To appoint a litter picker

The Clerk explained to the Council the circumstances that had arisen during the interview process for the above position that had resulted in one of the candidates only being seen by the Clerk as the representative from WLDC had been called away. In consequence at this stage, the Council noted that it was being asked to consider and approve the Clerk's recommendation but that this would be subject

to WLDC's concurrence as the actual employer. The Clerk went through her interview findings and made a recommendation as to the most suitable candidate. The Council discussed her findings and **RESOLVED : To approve the recommendation made by the Clerk.**

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.12pm.

Clerk:

Chairman:

Date: