

**SCOTTER PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2007**

**PRESENT:** Councillor C. Day (Chairman), Councillors J. Allen, B. Billam, J. Bullivent, M. Brown, D. Capes, J. Fillingham, S. Rayner and A. Sheardown, District Councillor W. Parry, M. Brown (Clerk).

**121 2007/08 : To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor Armstrong. Proposed by Councillor Capes, seconded by Councillor Sheardown and agreed by all, it was :

**RESOLVED : To accept and approve the apologies from Councillor Armstrong.**

**122 2007/08 : To receive declarations of interest**

Councillor Day declared a prejudicial interest in relation to items 7 and 23 on the agenda (minute references 127 2007/08 and 143 2007/08) and declared his intention to leave the meeting room for these discussions. Councillor Sheardown declared an interest in relation to item 20 on the agenda (minute reference 140 2007/08).

**123 2007/08 : To approve the notes of the Council Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2007 as the Minutes of that meeting.**

Proposed by Councillor Fillingham, seconded by Councillor Allen and agreed, it was

**RESOLVED : To approve the notes of the Council Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2007 (as circulated) as the Minutes of that meeting.** These were signed by the Chairman.

**124 2007/08 : To consider the evidence gathered in relation to a letter from six local farmers regarding parking near the Eau Community Centre.**

Councillors Allen and Fillingham had been unable to capture any evidence of the issues arising. However, Councillor Capes had taken some evidentiary photographs which he will deliver to the Clerk during week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2007. On receipt of the photographs, proposed by Councillor Billam, seconded by Councillor Rayner and agreed, it was :

**RESOLVED : That a letter be sent to LCC Highways, with a copy of the letter from the farmers and the photographic evidence, asking for action to be taken to control parking in this area.**

**125 2007/08 : To consider the future course of action following the Clerk's meeting with Mr G. Pilkington, West Lindsey District Council, in regard to litter.**

The Council considered the paper prepared by the Clerk following her meeting with Mr Pilkington. The rationale of obtaining improved litter-picking performance by employing a local person with pride in their community was supported, with WLDC to consider paying that individual for a limited number of hours of litter picking each week on the public footpaths. To make a more attractive employment package for the selected person and recognising the arising litter in public spaces and community facilities not controlled by WLDC, proposed by Councillor Fillingham, seconded by Councillor Sheardown and agreed, it was :

**RESOLVED : That the Clerk investigate the matter further and allow for the potential employment by the Parish Council of a litter picker to cover the non-WLDC public areas/community assets for c. 4 hours per week when preparing the papers for the 2008/09 Precept meeting.**

**126 2007/08 : To approve the expenditure of £70.00 plus VAT to correct engraving errors on Scotter War Memorial**

The Clerk reported that she had approached Huteson & Sons and R. Wallace & Son for quotations to carry out the on-site correction of three wrongly engraved initials on the War Memorial. R Wallace & Son declined to quote due to pressure of work. Huteson & Sons submitted a price of £70.00 plus

**Initialled ..... Chairman**

VAT and would try to complete the work before Remembrance Sunday. Proposed by Councillor Sheardown, seconded by Councillor Allen and agreed, it was :

**RESOLVED : To place an order with Huteson and Sons for the correction of the engraving of three initial letters on the northern face of Scotter War Memorial at a price of £70 plus VAT.**

**127 2007/08 : To approve the letting of Cemetery Allotment Nos. 8, 15 & 16**

The Clerk asked the Council to approve (by way of the signatures of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman) the letting of the above cemetery allotments. Allotments 8 and 15 are being given up by their current tenants due to ill-health (No. 15) and an impending move from the district (No. 8). The current tenant of Allotment 16 (Mr Wright) also rents Allotment 7 and has asked if he could take over Allotment 8 and release allotment 16. The Council is invited to approve the letting of Allotment 8 to Mr Wright and the letting of Allotments 15 and 16 to the next parishioners on the waiting list. Proposed by Councillor Bullivent, seconded by Councillor Billam and agreed, it was :

**RESOLVED : To approve the letting of cemetery allotment nos. 8, 15 & 16 as outlined by the Clerk.** The Chairman and Vice-Chairman signed the letting agreements.

At this point, Councillor Day (having earlier declared a prejudicial interest in relation to the next item) left the meeting room with the Vice-Chairman temporarily taking the chair. The Clerk then asked the Council to approve work that she had asked the clearance contractor to carry out in relation to the removal of some pallets on Allotment 15 and to empty the cemetery bunkers.

Proposed by Councillor Sheardown, seconded by Councillor Brown and agreed, it was :

**RESOLVED : To approve the work carried out by the clearance contractor on the instructions of the Clerk.**

Councillor Day then returned to the meeting room and resumed the chair.

**128 2007/08 : To consider the issue of a formal referendum to parishioners to assess their interest in part-funding (via the Precept) a pedestrian crossing on the A159**

The Council considered the paper presented by the Clerk on this topic, following her most recent discussion with Mr Brookes, LCC Highways. In summary, LCC cannot fully-fund a pedestrian crossing on the A159 due to its existing policy's criteria (which the site in Scotter does not meet). However, a crossing could be considered as a suitable traffic calming project under the Rural Priorities Initiative in 2009/10, which would fund half of its cost. The other half (currently estimated to be c. £8k-£10k, to be confirmed after a proper engineering assessment) would have to be met by the community. Whilst the Council has, to date, received many requests from parishioners for a crossing to be installed, the inclusion of £10k in the 2009/10 Precept would increase the latter by a substantial percentage, albeit amounting to only an additional c.£8 per household. Bearing this in mind, proposed by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Brown and agreed, it was :

**RESOLVED : To issue a formal referendum (at a maximum cost of £400) to assess the interest of parishioners in paying an additional £10k in the Precept for 2009/10 if that enabled the installation of a crossing.**

The majority result of this, if positive, would allow Mr Brookes to carry out the engineering assessment during 2008/09 and to register the project under the Rural Priorities Initiative for 2009/10. The Council noted that the apparent delay may work in the Council's favour as LCC is undertaking a review of its current policy for the installation of fully funded crossings and this may place a stronger emphasis on the degree of community severance caused by the road to be crossed (a key feature of the Scotter situation). Councillor Parry informed the Council that the Councillor's Initiative would also be available this year and this could fund the cost of issue of the referendum.

**129 2007/08 : To consider the formal appointment of a Parish Tree Warden**

Councillor Capes reminded the Council of the history and background to the current Tree Warden scheme and summarised the paper outlining the range of duties that Tree Wardens can undertake. Councillor Capes has carried out this role, with the support of the Council, for many years on an

**Initialed ..... Chairman**

informal basis. As he now wishes to reduce his time commitment in relation to this role and strong interest in the Tree Warden scheme has been voiced by a very capable parishioner, he suggested that the time may be right to consider the formal appointment of a Parish Tree Warden. Following some discussion, it was agreed that the position (albeit unpaid) should be formally appointed by the Council at the next meeting. In the interim period, Councillor Capes and the Clerk were asked to produce a remit for the Parish Tree Warden, clearly outlining his responsibilities. The Clerk is also to consult the Council's insurer to assess any possible implications of a formal appointment.

**130 2007/08 : To approve the Council's application for membership of the ICCM**

Further to the earlier circulation of information in relation to the above and considering that the Council's membership of the Association of Burial Authorities lapses at the end of November 2007, the Clerk asked the Council to approve an application for membership of the ICCM (Institute of Cemetery & Crematorium Management) at a cost of £65 per annum. Proposed by Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Rayner and agreed, it was :

**RESOLVED : To apply for membership of the ICCM, at a cost of £65pa.**

The Clerk will raise the cheque for signature at the November meeting and send off the application for membership to commence on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2007.

**131 2007/08 : To consider a request to install a bench on Gainsborough Road**

The Clerk reported that she had received an e-mail request from a parishioner, who is recovering from a serious operation and needs to take daily exercise, for a bench to be installed on Gainsborough Road, about two thirds of the way up the hill towards Charles Avenue. The parishioner finds the hill too taxing without a breather and states that elderly residents have similar problems. The Council considered this request in light of the ground conditions, the presence of extensive underground services and the anchorage requirements of public seating. At the conclusion of its deliberations, proposed Councillor Rayner, seconded Councillor Day and agreed, it was :

**RESOLVED : To refuse the parishioner's request for the installation of a bench on Gainsborough Road due to the practical considerations.** The Clerk will inform the parishioner accordingly.

**132 2007/08 : To consider a request from Scotter United Football Club**

The Clerk reported that a letter had been received advising the Council that, in line with the Parish Plan, SUFC is currently preparing a bid for funding to the Football Foundation to cover the costs of building a 4-changing room facility at Northmoor Park, to enable two matches to be run at the same time. The bid will also cover the drainage and levelling of the bottom end of the Northmoor Park field to enable a small junior pitch to be laid and some levelling and ground works at the Playing Fields football pitch. As part of the funding bid, the Club needs to provide proof of need and asks the Council for its written support for the plan. Proposed by Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Day and agreed, it was :

**RESOLVED : To send a letter to SUFC in support of its funding bid.** The Clerk will attend to this.

As the rest of the letter had suggested future requests for financial support for the scheme from the Council, the Clerk took the opportunity to meet with a representative of SUFC and with Mrs Mumby of the Parish Plan Committee to obtain clarification of the request. With the Sita bid (associated with the new tennis courts) having been unsuccessful, none of the £3k set aside by the Council for Parish Plan project support during 2007/08 has, as yet, been requested. The Eau Community Centre landscaping project will shortly commence and this will result in a substantiated request for release of c. £1k in the near future. Mrs Mumby explained that the balance of c. £2k is to be applied to the football project to cover those costs that will not be met by the Football Foundation. SUFC will submit a further letter to the Council, accompanied by substantiating invoices, to request release of these monies. Prior to the Precept meeting, Mrs Mumby will liaise with the various groups that

have outstanding Parish Plan project work and submit one consolidated request to the Council for funds to be included in the 2008/08 Precept.

**133 2007/08 : To agree the course of action to be taken in light of the maturity of the Council's Guaranteed Investment Bond**

The current £25k 3-month bond matures on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2007. Proposed by Councillor Sheardown, seconded by Councillor Rayner and agreed, it was :

**RESOLVED : To approve the transfer of the sum invested in the bond, together with the interest payable on its maturity, into the Council's 14 Day Notice Account.** The Chairman and Vice-Chairman signed the appropriate instruction form, for the Clerk to send to the Co-operative Bank.

**134 2007/08 : To agree the Council's representative at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday**

In readiness for Remembrance Sunday (11<sup>th</sup> November 2007) the Clerk rang to order the wreath, which had already been delivered to Mr Altoft. She further reported that Mr Barwell of Hemswell Contracting had, yet again, sent a team of his workmen to carry out maintenance work on the plinth at no cost to the Council. It was agreed that the Clerk should send Mr Barwell a letter of thanks on behalf of the Council. As the Chairman is unavailable on the day, it was also agreed that the Vice-Chairman will lay the wreath at the War Memorial on behalf of the Council.

**135 2007/08 : To receive a report from the Cemetery & Allotments Working Group on its recent safety inspection of the cemetery.**

Councillors Day and Brown inspected the cemetery for safety on behalf of the Working Group and confirmed that there was nothing to report on this occasion.

**136 2007/08 : To receive the Clerk's Report**

The Council noted the following report presented by the Clerk :

**75a 2004/05 & 47 2007/08: Public open space adoption and maintenance**

The Council's legal advisor has informed the Clerk that some progress is now being made towards the conclusion of the legal agreement with Stamford Homes in relation to the future transfer of the land. The legal advisor has asked the Clerk for more information about the negotiated settlement, which the Clerk has provided. The dilapidated fence is still in place and, whilst some attempt has been made to tackle the weeds running alongside it, the pathway verge is in a relatively poor state. The Clerk had received a telephone call from a resident of the new development to complain about the state of the verge and open space areas. The Clerk explained the situation to the resident and suggested that he complain directly to Stamford Homes.

Having received no further correspondence from Mr Dickinson, WLDC Planning, regarding the outstanding conditions relating to the public open spaces at Waggoners Close and Site B, The Rookery, the Clerk chased him for an update on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2007. As no response had been received by the day of the meeting, the Chairman asked Councillor Parry to take this matter up with Mr Dickinson informally, but asked him to inform Mr Dickinson that (should this not result in action on his part) the next step would be the submission of a formal complaint by the Council regarding his conduct. Councillor Parry confirmed that he had attempted to contact Mr Dickinson prior to the meeting to check that he had been in contact with the Council but found that he was on holiday. Councillor Parry will discuss the matter with him on his return.

A firm offer of a viable financial settlement for the Council to take on the ownership of and responsibility for the public open space at Site A, The Rookery, is still awaited.

**173 2006/07 : Title deeds for Council-owned land**

There is nothing further to report at this time.

**Initialed ..... Chairman**

**189c 2006/07 : Signposting to new roads off Elizabeth Close**

The Clerk had chased Mr Radley, WLDC, on two previous occasions for a formal response in relation to this matter and in relation to various street signage problems (originally raised with Mr Radley in March 2007). As nothing had been received by 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2007, the Clerk sent a further formal chase by e-mail. This has finally elicited a response. The Wakerley road sign will get a new backing board and posts and the same have been ordered for the Hawthorn Road sign. However, "leading to" signage will not be placed at the entrance to Elizabeth Close for Cordeaux Close, Edgar Close and Johnson Drive as there are no facilities within the development that qualify for such signage.

**12b 2007/08 : Affordable housing status**

The Clerk rang Diane Krochmal, WLDC Housing Officer, in early October to check on progress in relation to the matter of the apparent loss to the affordable housing system of the homes built under that title on Waggoners Close. Ms Krochmal confirmed that she had spoken to the estate agent handling the sale of the properties. Whilst it would now appear that two of the houses have been taken off the market (the intention being to let them), it became apparent that their mode of offer for sale appeared contrary to the planning obligation placed upon the development. In consequence, she has forwarded her findings to Mr Broome, Planning Officer, for action to be taken. The latter has since contacted the Clerk to request further information, which has been provided.

**80 2007/08 : Acquisition of land from Beal Developments Limited**

The contracts have not, as yet, been exchanged as the Council's legal advisor still awaits some paperwork from Beal. There is no urgency related to this as Beal has still to complete the work referred to in the contract and the Council will not take over the land until this has been done to its satisfaction.

**84 2007/08 : Issues raised during the Annual Parish Meeting – Village signage**

The Clerk has obtained brochures and price estimates from various companies in relation to village signs. As the style and composition of the signs vary widely (as do their respective prices), the Chairman will provide the Clerk with some guidance as to suitable options prior to the Precept meeting.

**91a 2007/08 : Potholes – Butterwick Road, Susworth**

The Clerk reported this problem to Mr Darley, LCC Highways, on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2007. As a response had not been received by early October and Councillor Armstrong confirmed that outstanding work remained, the Clerk sent a formal chase. Mr Darley has since responded stating that the work should now be completed.

**100 2007/08 : Request from Children's Links for a copy of the Scotter Parish Plan.**

With thanks to Councillor Bullivent for the additional hard copy of the Parish Plan, the Clerk was able to send that to Children's Links in support of the Play Ranger scheme. Councillor Sheardown took the disk to see if he could access the corrupted elements of the Parish Plan document to facilitate the future printing of more copies. Unfortunately, he was unable to access this. However, he kindly offered to re-create the corrupted elements, so that a complete electronic version of the document will exist.

**107 2007/08 : WLDC's consultation paper "West Lindsey Core Strategy – Issues and Options**

The Clerk responded to this paper with the document approved at the September Council meeting. An acknowledgement was received, giving representation numbers to the Council's answers to each sub-question and providing a summary of the Council's response against each number. Having examined the latter, the Clerk was concerned to note that the summaries of four responses were totally erroneous, two representations had not been included at all and many of the other summaries lost the impact of the full text. In consequence and considering that an urgent response was required,

**Initialled ..... Chairman**

she took advice from the current and previous Chairmen of the Council, the Chairman of the Planning Committee and from LALC and wrote formally to the leader of the Development Plans team to ask that the Council's representations be considered in full and pointing out the errors and omissions. This letter was copied to WLDC's Chief Executive and also to Mr Northcote, WLDC Development Policy Manager. A response was received from the latter, explaining the purpose of the summary process, providing representation numbers for the omitted items and assuring the Council that its representations would be fully considered. However, the letter did make it clear that the summary would be used to "signpost" readers towards the full submission, such that it is important that the summary is an accurate reflection of this. In consequence, the Clerk has written to Mr Northcote, asking him to replace the wording on the four submissions that were misrepresented in summary form with appropriate summaries as provided by the Clerk. He has acknowledged receipt of this letter.

**114 2007/08 : Flooding of Scotter village, 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> June 2007**

The Clerk prepared a pack of the correspondence between the Council and the responsible agencies for the information of affected parishioners and these were collected by Councillor Bullivent for hand delivery. During the period, a further resident was identified that had been affected by flood waters and she was provided with copies of all the documentation that had been delivered to the other affected residents. The Chairman spoke with Mr Marris, who will consult with the other farmers involved and then put in writing their recollections of the issues and timings associated with the sluice gate. On receipt of this, the Clerk will formally respond to the Environment Agency's letter. The District Council provided an update on flooding issues at the Gainsborough Area Forum on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2007 and the Chairman and Flood Warden attended.

**118b 2007/08 : Mobile library service, Susworth**

Immediately after the September meeting, the Clerk wrote to Toni Francks at LCC Library Services to complain that the mobile library had failed to arrive in Susworth for the previous two planned visits (3<sup>rd</sup> September and 17<sup>th</sup> September), asking for an explanation for the failure and an assurance that it would not recur. Prior to receipt of any response, Councillor Armstrong informed the Clerk that the service had yet again failed to arrive on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007, such that Susworth residents would have no access to new books for a period of some two months (assuming that the service arrives when next planned on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2007). The Clerk raised a formal complaint with the County Council in relation to this and copied the complaint to Councillor Underwood-Frost. Responses are awaited.

**136a 2007/08 Welcoming the new Vicar**

Councillor Fillingham brought it to the Clerk's attention that the Parish Council was not represented at the church service to formally welcome the new vicar. An invitation had been sent to the Chairman at that time, who was unable to attend on the date in question and forgot to ask the Clerk to find a replacement representative. The Clerk has written to Mrs Hallam, passing on the Council's apologies to her and the Vicar for any unintentional slight caused by the Council's failure to be represented and asking that any future such invitations be sent directly to the Clerk for action.

**136b 2007/08 Illuminated signage**

The Clerk has received a number of complaints from parishioners in respect of the new illuminated signs at Scotter Fisheries. As she was unable to trace any planning application in respect of these, she reported the parishioners' concerns to WLDC Planning Department and awaits a response.

**137 2007/08 : To receive new correspondence not already included above**

The Chairman explained that the following are for the attention of Councillors and (where appropriate) will be circulated after the meeting. If the need arises to take action on any piece of circulated correspondence, it will become an agenda item at a future Council meeting.

**137a** The Environment Agency, informing Councillors that, on the abolition of Scotter Drainage Authority and the Internal Drainage District that it covers, the management of the watercourses in the area that it had previously managed will be in accordance with existing statute and common law. As these watercourses are not classified as Main River, the Environment Agency will not be involved in their management. This will fall to the riparian owners and the local authorities (in accordance with their powers under the Land Drainage Act 1991). However the Environment Agency will be the consenting authority for any works covered by section 23 of the Act. For circulation.

**137b** LCC, informing the Council that its Local Development Scheme and Statement of Community Involvement have been updated as part of the Local Development Framework for Lincolnshire. For circulation.

**137c** LCC, providing statistical information on the use of the Council's website during September 2007. For circulation.

**137d** Community Lincs, enclosing a copy of its Rural Links newsletter, Autumn/Winter 2007. For circulation.

**137e** North Lincs Council providing a CD copy of its Issues and Options consultation on its housing and employment land allocations development plan document as part of its LDF. The Council's comments on the latter are invited by 16<sup>th</sup> November 2007. For circulation.

**137ee** LCC, inviting the Council to submit its claim, in the amount of £1916, for verge cutting during the 2007/08 season. It was agreed that the Clerk should submit the claim promptly.

The following items of correspondence were noted by the Council and will be filed by the Clerk :

**137f** WLDC enclosing notice and an agenda for its Council meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007, together with minutes of Committee meetings held since 16<sup>th</sup> July 2007.

**137g** Matta Products UK, informing the Council of a change to its address.

**137h** Promotional literature from BT.

**138a 2007/08 : To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting published since the last Council meeting and adopt the recommendations contained therein**

The Council considered the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2007. Proposed by Councillor Day, seconded by Councillor Sheardown and agreed, it was :

**RESOLVED : That the Council concurs with the actions taken by the Planning Committee and adopts the minutes of the Committee meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2007.**

**138b 2007/08 : To note the receipt of results from the planning authority**

The Council noted the following results received from the planning authority :

**120725 Plot 9 Waggoners Close, Scotter** – a planning application to erect a new dwelling with detached garage.

**Granted.**

**120797 13 Pine Tree Avenue, Scotter** – a planning application to erect a new detached garage.

**Granted.**

**120812 18 Lindholme, Scotter** – a planning application to erect a conservatory.

**Granted.**

**Initialled ..... Chairman**

**120821 May Cottage, Scotterthorpe** – a planning application for alterations and a rear extension.  
**Granted.**

**139 2007/08 : To note income received during September 2007 and to approve the cash book as at the end of September and its reconciliation to the bank statements**

The Council noted the following income received during September 2007.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYER</u>	<u>DETAILS</u>	<u>RECEIPTS</u>
05.09.07	Co-op Bank	Interest - Current account	3.45
26.07.07	HM Revenue & Customs	VAT repayment	186.05
		<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>189.50</b>

It then examined the cashbook as at the end of September 2007 and its reconciliation to the bank statements. Proposed by Councillor Sheardown, seconded by Councillor Fillingham and agreed, it was :

**RESOLVED : That the cashbook as at the end of September 2007 should be signed by the Chairman and Clerk as a true record.**

**140 2007/08 : To approve payments to be made**

The Council examined the accounts to be paid for supplies and services received since the last meeting. Proposed by Councillor Bullivent, seconded by Councillor Brown and agreed (with the exception of Councillor Sheardown who had earlier declared an interest and abstained), it was :

**RESOLVED : That, in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act, 1972, the Council will incur expenditure on a skip service which, in the opinion of the Council, is 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 NO.</u>	<u>TO WHOM PAID</u>	<u>PARTICULARS OF PAYMENT</u>	<u>NET VALUE</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>TOTAL PAYMENTS</u>
Direct Debit	Tiscali	Broadband/phone calls, Aug '07.	17.89	3.13	21.02
401775	H.M. Revenue & Customs	PAYE & NI, Month 6	367.76	-	367.76
401776	Mrs M. Brown	Wages	491.56	-	
		Mileage	9.20	-	
		Postage	4.06		
		Stationery	2.95	0.51	508.28
401777	Mr. J. Lyon	Wages	500.28	-	500.28
401778	Thompson Waste Mgt	Skip service - St Peters Rd (06/09)	151.00	26.43	
		Skip service - Franklin Rd (20/09)	151.00	26.43	354.86
401779	Spencer's Garage	Fuel	64.37	11.26	75.63
401780	LDTBF Ltd	Parson's Field rent - 6 mnths	5.00	-	
		Access lane rent - 6 mnths	0.50	-	5.50
401781	Veolia ES (UK) Ltd	Verge flailing/bank strimming (20hrs)	342.00	59.85	401.85
401782	A. Sheardown	Mileage to attend Parish Forum	18.40	-	18.40
401783	SVHA	Room/office hire, Q2 2007/08	222.95	-	222.95
401784	R N Store & Co.	Internal audit service for 2006/07	275.00	48.13	323.13
		<b>TOTAL PROPOSED PAYMENTS</b>	<b>2,623.92</b>	<b>175.74</b>	<b>2,799.66</b>

**141 2007/08 : To take any points from members, identify items for the next agenda and to note urgent items of interest.**

**141a** Councillor Bullivent reported on the Gainsborough Area Forum held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2007, attended by him and the Chairman. The first two agenda items (about future policy and regeneration) were totally focussed towards Gainsborough itself, with no regard for the outlying areas. When Councillor Bullivent raised this issue, he was informed that Scotter should not form part of the Gainsborough Area Forum and should join the Wolds Forum! This attitude further supports the impression that many of our parishioners already hold that WLDC has little interest in

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those parts of its district outside of Gainsborough. The third item on the agenda was related to the June floods. It came to light that the Public Inquiry, originally intimated to take place in late October/early November 2007, will now not occur until January 2008 (to be held on a Saturday morning). It would appear that the jury (that will consider the evidence given by the responsible authorities in relation to their actions during the flood) will be chosen from interested members of the public by the responsible authorities (who are effectively choosing who will judge them) and the meeting will not be open to other members of the public. Councillor Bullivent, in his capacity as Flood Warden, has written to WLDC asking for full clarification of the jury selection process and a response is awaited.

**141b** Councillor Allen raised the issue of the poor visibility for drivers when turning onto High Street from The Green. Councillors informed Councillor Allen of the investigations previously carried out in respect of this matter. LCC is unable to erect a mirror as this is contrary to regulations and could result in the dazzling of a driver. Due to the tightness of the turn closest to the War Memorial, it is also not possible to consider a one-way system.

**142 2007/08 : 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 due to the commercially sensitive nature of the following business.**

Proposed by Councillor Fillingham, seconded by Councillor Brown and with all agreed, 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 due to the commercially sensitive nature of the following items of business.** The Chairman, having earlier declared a prejudicial interest in relation to the following item, left the meeting room at this point and the chair was taken by the Vice Chairman. With the public and press excluded :

**143 2007/08 : To agree the future course of action in relation to the Council's land holding at Goosemoor**

The Council considered the paper prepared by the Clerk. At the conclusion of its deliberations, proposed by Councillor Rayner, seconded by Councillor Brown and agreed, it was :

**RESOLVED : To reduce to six months the period of notice required from the current tenant of Goosemoor (subject to the latter's agreement to remove redundant equipment from the land prior to the end of this period) and, in light of access constraints, to assess the interest of the farmer of the adjacent land in taking over the tenancy.** The Clerk is to ensure that any subsequent tenancy agreement provides protection for the wooded area. The Council also considered a request from its legal advisor for the Council to reconsider its decision in respect of a matter previously raised by him and decided that its previous decision on the matter (to do nothing at this time) should continue to stand.

The Chairman then returned to the meeting room and declared the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Clerk: .....

Chairman: .....

Date: .....

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