

ESCRICK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on **Monday 15th October 2012**
at Escrick & Deighton Club

PRESENT: Mr Steve Snowton; Mr Brian Forster; Mr Mike Russell;
Mrs Amy Lamont; Mr John Reader; Mr Bill Reader ; Mr John Gaskin,
Mrs Liz Casling, Mrs Avril Bowman

APOLOGIES: Mrs Lillian Coulson

ABSENT : Mrs Sara Cunningham

WELCOME TO CO-OPTED PARISH COUNCILLORS

The chair welcomed the newly appointed Parish Councillors, Mrs Avril Bowman, Mrs Liz Casling and Mr John Gaskin to the meeting.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Confirmed as a true record

MINUTES OF CO-OPTION MEETING

The names of all candidates was added to the minutes. Confirmed as a true record

SUBJECT: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Mr Forster, Mrs Coulson, Mrs Cunningham attended the training session at Selby which they all agreed was very informative. Mr Forster brought a map outlining the different stages of conflicts of interest. This map is attached to these minutes.

POLICE REPORT

<http://maps.police.uk/view/north-yorkshire/selby>

Clerk reported dog fouling on Main Street to PSCO Adam Wood as a resident had slipped on dog faeces.

Mrs Casling will get environment department to clear the paths of leaves and dog faeces. An article to be placed in the Parish Magazine. Mr John Gaskin will do a draft and send to the Chair. *Action JG*

Parking outside the school has become worse. Clerk to inform the school that the Parish Council are going to contact the Police about this. *Action VC*

NORTH SELBY MINE

Peel Environmental have submitted a planning application for the site. We have been informed that this application may have been submitted after the closing date. This application to be reviewed in the CYC January/February meeting.

ESCRICK PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION

Mr Huw Edwards reported there is an AGM next week. Mrs Lamont requested the litter be removed from the playing field. Work on the grass path through the paddock has begun and this to be continued in the Spring. Invoices have been received by the Clerk

which are overdue for payment. Mr Edwards requested the clerk email him with these invoices again. *Action VC*

PATH OUTSIDE NO 33 SKIPWITH ROAD FLOODS

Mr John Reader reported no work has yet been done here. Mrs Casling will enquire when this work is scheduled to commence. *Action LizC*

DESIGNATED SERVICE VILLAGE STATUS

Mrs Casling to circulate the document Seven Changes to Selby District's Core Statgery document. *Action LizC*

WAR MEMORIAL CHURCHYARD

Mr Russell has received a quote to clean the memorial £1620.00 + VAT.

Mr John Reader propose we include this amount in next year's precept and Mrs Casling proposed that when the budget for the following year is discussed any extras such as this item be considered for inclusion.

After the meeting Mrs Casling reported that a local resident has offered to pressure wash the War Memorial and tidy the area free of charge. As the Church Warden made clear that he felt this is a Parish Council matter rather than a Church responsibility, we have accepted the offer and will report back when it has been completed.

Action: SS

QUEEN MARGARET'S GATES

Mr Eric Hardy wrote to Mr Tom King at Queen Margaret's School (letter included in Correspondance) regarding the closing of their gates. Mr John Gaskin stated that if it can be established a right of way by usage then the Parish Council should make application to North Yorkshire Council. Mr John Reader stated this could involve a large cost.

It was agreed that Mrs Casling would make further enquiries with the relevant officer at NYCC. *Action LizC*

Residents who have passes to walk through Queen Margaret's School are confused as to whether they still have the right to walk through the school grounds as they have never been informed of any changes.

Mr Forster will ask Queen Margaret's School what the rights of people who have passes issued to allow them access to the school. *Action BF*

GARAGE SIGNS

Mr John Reader will discuss this with the manager at the Garage. *Action JR*

NEW LIGHT COLUMN AT THE GLADE

Clerk to obtain a report from Ringway about the condition of this column. *Action VC*

CHAIN LINK AROUND THE FOUNTAIN

Quote to replace the plastic links to metal £163.95 +VAT. Two quotes received for painting the posts of £160.00+VAT and £40.00.

It was agreed that the Clerk will purchase a quantity of the plastic links which she would pass to Mr John Reader who will take responsibility for this area.

Mrs Casling proposed the posts be painted and seconded by Mr Forster. The quote of £40 was approved.

Action VC

THYME. AT HOLLICARRS CLOSE, ESCRICK, YO19 6EF

No update from Mr Reynolds.

Action: IR

NETTLES ON SKIPWITH ROAD

Mr John Reader has tidied this area.

GRASS OUTSIDE THE PARSONAGE TO THE VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGN.

Highways cut this area in October. Ask Tru-Green to cut this area as part of their contract. *Action VC*

CLERK'S SALARY REVIEW

It was agreed that the Clerk's salary should remain at the current monthly rate. Any requested increase from this level should be submitted by the Clerk to the Council for approval.

ACCOUNTS

The accounts are in credit

A/c No 1	£8965.97
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A/c No 2	£2808.25
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It was agreed to pay:

Broadband September, October 2012	£37.82
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Escrick & Deighton Club - meeting 15 October	£10.00
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Escrick & Deighton Club	£10.00
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Wicksteed (for EPFA)	£5155.20
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Mazars	£162.00
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Staples	£93.47
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Greenvale Gardens have invoiced for an extra cut £50.00. The clerk has requested the return of the key to the padlock for the playing field before this invoice can be paid. The key has still not been returned. Greenvale Gardens has threatened court action against the Parish Council for this invoice but to date nothing has been issued.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

8/10/102C/PA erection of a new dwelling on land adjacent to Wild Acres 19 Wenlock Drive Escrick

The Parish Council notes that the application address is Wenlock Drive but would point out that the implications of the proposed dwelling are mainly on Skipwith Road, a main thoroughfare through the village.

We are surprised that the application did not include a Planning and Design Statement to support the application. The Parish Council objects to the application mainly on the grounds of over development of this garden plot also on highways safety grounds.

The NPPF encourages Local Authorities to incorporate policies in Local Plans to resist inappropriate development of residential gardens, for example where development would

cause harm to the local area (para 53). In the interim, the NPPF is a material consideration as an overarching statement of Government policy. Section 7 (paras 56 and 64) further emphasises the importance of good design and says that permission should be refused for developments of poor design. The Parish Council's objection to the proposal is not one of the principal of infill development within the village, but rather the poor quality of design and over-development of the garden land available.

The Parish Council considers that the proposals would be detrimental to the character of the village, whose character in this part is of detached dwellings in spacious green plots. The proposals are effectively 'town cramming' in a village location and will result in an extremely poor quality of amenity for the future residents of both the existing house and proposed new dwelling.

With regard to the proposal we are concerned about the highway implications. A new driveway is proposed immediately opposite to a lay by that is used by the school bus to pick up children for Fulford School on a morning. It will be poorly lit on winter mornings which could create a danger for children crossing the road.

Turning to the design of the plot itself the amenity of the proposed new dwelling is poor with no real private garden space provided despite the dwelling being a three bed family house. There is no real rear garden area and therefore will provide for a poor level of amenity for any future residents.

For the above reasons Escrick Parish Council objects to the application and request that it be refused. We request that the above comments be considered by both planning and highways officers before this application is determined.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course in response to the above.

8/10/44C/PA proposed erection of a detached dwelling 32 Wenlock Drive Escrick

Our main concern is still overdevelopment of a garden plot.

We note the building has been brought forward to squeeze in the rear garden and is not in line with existing buildings in Skipwith Road with regard to following the building line where other properties as set back and are in large plots.

The height of the new two and half storey four bed building is totally out of character with the rest of properties in Skipwith Road and Wenlock Drive.

While the building has been moved to assist with Highways matters the level of amenity is still poor for a house of this size.

The Parish Council stands by our previous views on this proposal and requests that the application is refused.

8/10/263/PA – Consent for minor crown lifting of Copper Beech Tree (T1) within TPO 16/1987 and Cypress tree Almshouses 51 Main Street Escrick – *no objections*
Mr John Reader declared an interest in this application.

CORRESPONDENCE

Copy letter from Eric Hardy to Mr Tom King of Queen Margaret's School:

Walking Permission - Queen Margaret's School

Further to our telephone conversation last Thursday, 1 November, I thought rather than write to Mr Gove, Secretary of State for Education as was recommended it was worth first writing to you and your Headmaster and explaining how I and many Escrick residents feel about your recent action to bar us from walking through the school grounds by locking the temporary gates in Main Street.

The village and school residents have co-existed for a long time and many of the residents, some who are well into pensionable age, have been walking through from Main Street for decades. In recent times passes were issued by the Headmaster, reputedly as a means of limiting the risk of undesirable strangers walking in that way and this was policed by your security man. To my knowledge no harm has ever come to your girls as a consequence of villagers walking through from Main Street, indeed because of the type of people that the village pass holders are they are likely to behave very responsibly towards your girls.

I have to say I am very suspicious of the real reasons for you doing what you have done, partly because of the way you have done it, neglecting to personally inform us and partly because you say you have not been issuing passes for a few years now and yet you have not rescinded the existing ones. It seems to me that you wish to prevent villagers from walking through from Main Street and you are using recent legislation as an opportune vehicle to achieve that aim.

You mentioned last years Ofsted Inspection as being the prime reason for restricting access and that you were instructed by Ofsted staff to do what you have done but the reasons do not make sense. The school boundaries are open to access from all types of strangers and from various directions, for example the cricket ground, the main entrance from Skipwith Road and from south of the sports fields when horse riding events and marquee functions (including weddings) are being held on the open ground near to the Escrick Park Estate Office.

I can accept that Ofsted may well have said that something should be done about restricting potentially harmful persons from entering the school grounds, but without really meaning it the way you have interpreted it or indeed without really having weighed up the reality of what they were saying and because it suits your ends I believe you may well have gone ahead in the way you have done. I also believe that with a will to do what is right you could contest any such Ofsted ruling that devalues the quality of life for a number of respectable villagers in this way.

For your information and consideration I give below a list containing some of the valid reasons for permitting respectable villagers to continue to use the Main Street "Walk Through" route:-

1. Some of the older villagers have been taking that route for 70 years. Some of the more recent inhabitants were attracted to the village because of the benefits of walking through from Main Street and that has involved considerable investment on their part.
2. Neither of the alternative routes for villagers to gain access to the "Park" is safe, for example via Skipwith Road or through Gas House Wood and putting the shoe on the other foot you would not want your girls to have to undertake these routes to get to the village would you?
3. You could eliminate most of any risk by vetting those villagers that you issue permission to. Also, it should be relatively easy, using modern day technology, to maintain integrity of security at the gate rather than using the crude measure of barring respectable villagers.
4. The school and the village currently enjoy a degree of mutual goodwill but upholding your current stance is likely to upset that situation, villagers will resent what you have done and it could backfire on the school in a number of ways.
5. On occasions ruling bodies make rulings that don't stand up to scrutiny and when that happens, as it seems in this case, then for the sake of doing the right things for the right reasons they should be challenged. I presume that's what you'd hope your girls would do once they are in the big wide world.

I trust that you will give consideration to the points made in this letter and find a satisfactory mutual solution.

Mrs Linda Warnes of Skipwith Road sent an email about overgrown trees at No 18 The Glade blocking light to her property. Clerk has written to the owners of No 18 requesting they cut their trees back. Chair has contacted the District Councillors and this to be on the agenda at the next meeting. *Action VC*

Selby District Council - Precept for 2013/2014 received. Closing date 7th January 2013. It was decided this would be discussed at the December Meeting; the Chair will prepare a draft budget.
Actions VC/SS

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs Liz Casling reported resurfacing along the A19 has been completed. Section 58 notice has been put on this road which is for any Utility Companies who upset the surface on this road will be responsible to reinstate the road. Mrs Casling to send notes of this meeting. *Action LizC*

Mr John Gaskin questioned what is the significance of schedule of works which are not adhered to. Mrs Casling agreed to ask SDC for their view.
Action LizC

Mr Bill Reader reported the hedge on Carr Lane needs attention. Mr John Reader will trim this. *Action JR*

Mrs Bowman would like the minutes made available to residents without internet access. Minutes to be placed on the Parish Notice Board. *Action VC*

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 17 December 2012 at 7.30pm in Escrick & Deighton Club