

Minutes of the Meeting of Escrick Parish Council on Monday 6th May 2013 at 7.30pm held at Escrick and Deighton Social Club

Present:

Councillor A Bowman
Councillor E Casling (Chair)
Councillor L Coulson
Councillor S Cunningham
Councillor A Lamont
Councillor M Luscombe
Councillor B Forster
Councillor J Goode
Councillor J Reader
Councillor I Reynolds
Councillor S Smowton

Mrs L Reader (Clerk)

5 members of the public

1. **Apologies for Absence**
There were no Apologies.

2. **Public Session**
The Public Session was declared open

Members of the public raised the following issues:

The Escrick Parish's addition to Selby District's Council Tax bill has gone up by around 8.8%. Why was this?

The ongoing maintenance of street lights in the village was cited as one of the reasons for this. It was noted that Selby District Council and North Yorkshire County Council kept Council Tax increases to 0. Escrick Parish Council's increase was only £1000.

What is the outcome of the Status of Escrick as a Designated Service Village?

Cllr Reynolds reported that the results of the Core Strategy had been delayed and were due.

A question regarding the planning application for North Selby Mine

This item was on the Agenda and therefore would be covered in due course.

Online Agendas – a member of the public stated that the Parish Council agreed in December 2012 to put the agendas on the website. It was agreed that the Council would try to get this arranged by the next meeting.

When would the Annual Parish meeting be held.

Cllr Casling stated that the Parish Council would aim to hold this before the 1st of June 2013.

Escrick Park Gardens – a member of the public stated that there was still some anti-social behaviour around the park playing fields late at night.

Cllr Casling agreed to investigate the situation regarding by-laws to prevent this type of behaviour and that **the Queen Margaret's** school had done a lot to rectify this situation already as well as the park being closed at dusk now.

The Public Session was declared closed.

3. **Receipt of Declarations of Interest not already registered/Dispensation requests**
All Declaration of Interest forms had been received.
4. **Receipt and Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 April 2013.**
The Minutes were moved, seconded and approved as a correct record of the business conducted at the meeting.

5. Receipt of an Update from the Clerk on issues not otherwise on the Agenda

5.1 Emergency List

The Clerk reported that an Emergency List had been found in the files and this would now need updating. It was agreed that this would be handled by the newly formed Admin and Finance Committee.

5.2 Standing Orders

The Clerk reported that no Standing Order documentation had been found for Escrick Parish Council and that a Model Document was available from the NALC website. The Clerk agreed to send a link to all Members by email before the next meeting so that they could familiarise themselves with the document.

6. Receipt of Correspondence

6.1 Land Ownership

The Clerk reported that a question regarding the ownership of a piece of land in the village had been received. It was agreed that this was not Parish Council business.

6.2 Bridge Dyke Works

Information relating to minor maintenance work to be carried out commencing 7th May 2013 by Jacobs UK Limited was received by the Clerk. The work involves removal of vegetation around existing brickwork and repairs to the bridge to be made.

6.3 Letter of Thanks from NALC

The Clerk had received a letter thanking the Parish Council's members for attending a meeting of the All Party Parliamentary Group on local democracy. However, no members from Escrick had actually attended this meeting.

7. Receipt of Reports

7.1 Police

It was suggested that a paragraph be printed in the Parish Magazine to reflect the salient points of the police report below.

There have been 6 crimes in the "Riccall with Escrick" beat since the start of April. There are no real crime trends to speak of. May is our 'Spring Burglary Campaign' – i.e. if residents are going away then please make sure to shut all windows and lock doors. Simple things, like avoiding being victim of sneak in burglaries by locking the front door if you're out in the back garden. We have had a few burglaries in Hemingbrough and Barlby over the previous bank holiday weekend, where properties attacked were away for the weekend. So it's worth leaving timer lights on, or having a trusted friend/neighbour popping in to close curtains in the evening so it appears that someone is home. If anyone does want further advice then please contact the team on 101.

We are aware of some anti-social behaviour from young people on the green and in the park. These areas are being patrolled but if there are issues then please ring and report it on 101. That way, if our team isn't on, then if control room have someone free then they will be sent and we have more chance of catching them!

[Shed Breaks]

During the past week there have been a few shed breaks - in villages including Barlby, Kelfield and Monk Fryston. Please can all residents review their shed security and consider the following shed security tips: Fit a closed shackle padlock to the door. Fittings should be bolted through the door and any screws concealed. Consider fitting mesh to the windows. Consider a shed alarm and secure large items like bicycles together so that they cannot be easily removed or carried away. If you want any further security advice then please contact 101 and speak to your local safer neighbourhood team.

Minutes of the Meeting of Escrick Parish Council on Monday 6th May 2013 at 7.30pm held at Escrick and Deighton Social Club

The question of whether the Neighbourhood Watch scheme was still in existence was raised. Cllr Coulson agreed to speak to Mike Russell about this.

7.2 County Councillor

Cllr Casling reported that she had been successful in the local Elections held last week.

There was no information on the A19 repairs but Cllr Casling agreed to report back.

The repairs to the road at the end of Dower Chase are now complete but the yellow lines had not been painted down Skipwith Road near the post box yet. It was reported that local homeowners had complained about the kerbside appeal of double yellow lines outside their houses and that cars had been parking further down in the lay-by opposite the far turning to Wenlock Drive instead. Cllr Casling agreed to report back on this matter.

7.3 District Councillor

Cllr Reynolds reported that the results of the Public Enquiry were still awaited. There had been a delay in the Designated Village Status decision and after this decision there would be a Green Belt review.

7.4 Other

There were no other reports

8. Accounts

The Clerk presented the Accounts in a Bank Reconciliation sheet. It was agreed that in future this sheet would be emailed to all Members prior to the meeting so that they were familiar with it at the meetings.

8.1 Receipts

Amount	Received From	Details
£5,000.00	Donation from EPFA	Zip Wire
£4,117.00	Donation from EPFA	Zip Wire

8.2 Accounts for Payment

Amount	Received From	Details
£10,940.40	Wicksteed Playscapes	Zip Wire
£94.41	nPower	Electricity Bill
£120.90	nPower	Electricity Bill
£1,953.99	nPower	Electricity Bill
£10.00	Escrick & Deighton Club	Room Hire for 6 th May 2013

RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed that these should be paid.

8.3 Update on current position re HMRC Real Time Information

The Clerk reported that Mrs Smowton had provided the details required to set up the HMRC RTI application.

8.4 Statement of Current Balances, Income and Expenditure to Date

Bank Reconciliation at 6th May 2013

Balance brought forward at 1 April 2013 £6,394.26

Add Receipts for Year £0.00

Minutes of the Meeting of Escrick Parish Council on Monday 6th May 2013 at 7.30pm held at Escrick and Deighton Social Club

	£6,394.26
Less Payments for Year	£393.00
	£6,001.26

Balance at bank and in hand at 1 April 2013

	Community Account	£5,456.92		
	Money Manager Account	£937.34		
		6394.26		
Less unrepresented cheques	100601	£115.00		
	100602	£268.00		
	100603	£10.00		
		£393.00	£393.00	£6,001.26

8.5 Statement of Accounts for the Year Ending 31 March 2013

The Clerk reported that the Accounts were still being prepared but that they would be available for the Elector's Rights deadline of 10th May 2013. It was requested that the Clerk send a copy of these to all Members when they were complete.

8.6 The Audit Commission Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2013

There was no further update on the Annual Return.

9. Planning

9.1 Applications Received

2013/0337/FUL Proposed Erection of 3 Dwellings Rear of No's 48 – 52 Main Street, Escrick for Escrick Park Estate

Cllr Luscombe and Cllr Reynolds declared an interest in this application and left the room.

An extension to the deadline for written observations had been requested. Objections had been received from nearby residents which were concerned with the increase in traffic and safety of pedestrians – particularly school children. It was agreed that the Planning sub-committee would respond to the objections and respond to Selby District Council.

2013/0235/COU Proposed change of use of 10 acres of agricultural land for 4 sports pitches with a timber post and rail fence enclosure.

Cllr Coulson reported that land in question was not Green Belt land and that the pitches were to be covered in grass. The Members were happy with this. It was agreed that ~~conditional lighting would be preferred~~ **the area should be conditioned for lighting** and Cllr Luscombe asked for information regarding the height of fencing around the area, his concern being dog walkers passing by and the possibility of dogs getting onto the pitches and disrupting the games. ~~This application had not been determined yet and Cllr Coulson agreed to keep an eye on it.~~ **The Parish Council had already submitted their representations which were approved by four designated Councillors. Full delegation was given to Cllr Coulson to respond on behalf of the Parish Council.**

2013/0236/HPA Proposed construction of new joint vehicular access for 1 & 2 East Lodge to replace two existing substandard accesses.

Cllr Coulson agreed to go and have a look at the area in question but the Parish Council was supportive of this application.

9.2 Notices of Decision

There were none.

10. North Selby Mine Update

Cllr Casling reported that she had attended the planning meeting on 25th April and had put over an argument against this proposal. Unfortunately, despite many other objections that were voiced at this meeting, the Chairman advised the meeting to vote in favour of the application, which they did.

Cllr Casling reported that she had been in contact with Cunnane Town Planning who represent Samuel Smiths Old Brewery Tadcaster (SSOBT) who represent Humphrey Smith in planning matters. They lodged an objection and it is hoped that they will take this matter further. Cllr Casling agreed to report back at the next meeting.

At this point, Cllr Casling invited the member of the public who raised this subject in the Public Session to speak on the matter. The gentleman is an ex-employee of North Selby mine and as such had a lot of experience of the site. He is very much opposed to the application on several grounds including Health and Safety issues relating to the instability of the shafts at the site, risk of subsidence, traffic issues – the area was always an accident blackspot when the mine was in operation and the fact that the smell from the site would directly affect the village.

Cllr Casling agreed to contact Tim Williams, the force behind the North Selby Mine Action Group and Stuart Vendy of Cunnane Town Planning about working together on a judicial review of the planning decision. The Parish Council has offered its continuing support.

11. Stillingfleet Mine

Cllr Casling reported that she had written to North Yorkshire County Council and they are now in the process of serving an enforcement notice on Stillingfleet Mine. Methane gas is currently being tapped at the mine head.

12. Damage to lamppost 17-19 Main Street

The Clerk reported that a resident had hit the lamppost with a vehicle and another resident had reported the incident to the electricity company who had come out and disconnected the lamppost to make it safe. The Clerk contacted the Parish Council's insurance company and Ringway were asked to come out and survey the damage with a view to providing a quote for the repair/replacement of the lamppost. The quotation has not yet been received but the Clerk agreed to chase this up. Cllr Reader asked whether the lamppost could be moved back into the hedge line, where it had originally been sited prior to the hedge being moved.

The Members agreed that the resident who had caused the damage should be liable for the cost of repairing/replacing it and the Clerk agreed that she would write to the resident in question and advise her that the Parish Council will be sending her details of the cost of repair/replacement and would be expecting her insurance to cover it.

Cllr Casling agreed to chase up a survey that Ringway had reportedly been doing on the lampposts in the village.

The clerk agreed to investigate which lampposts are the responsibility of the Parish Council and draw a map of them for future reference.

13. Matters for the Clerk's attention raised by Councillors and items for the next Agenda

13.1 Noise from the playing fields

It was reported earlier that this is already being dealt with. In addition, the Headmaster's wife has contacted Cllr Casling in her capacity as External Liaison Officer. The police have also visited the Queen Margaret's school to address the anti-social behaviour problem and the youths from outside the village have moved elsewhere.

13.2 Previous minutes meetings

Minutes of the Meeting of Escrick Parish Council on Monday 6th May 2013 at 7.30pm held at Escrick and Deighton Social Club

Cllr Forster expressed his concern that there seemed to be some items from previous meetings that were minuted but not dealt with.

13.3 Public access to Queen Margaret's School

It was reported that North Yorkshire County Council has received no information as to evidence of Public Rights of Way and therefore nothing has been done about this.

13.4 Bus stop in the village

There have been no more developments. The Council thought that the suggestion of moving the bus stop to the lay-by outside the Sangthai Restaurant needed careful consideration as this was even further away from the centre of the village.

13.5 Contact Details

The Clerk has an up to date list of Councillors and agreed to circulate this. Cllr Forster produced the Emergency List that was discussed earlier and all agreed that this would need updating.

13.6 Parking on Footpaths

Cllr Reader requested that a notice went in the Parish Magazine reminding residents not to park on the pavements.

13.7 Trespassing on Private Land

Cllr Reader reported that there had been a lot of instances of trespassing on private land, including dog walkers roaming around on farmers' land near the dyke and complaints from gamekeepers about this problem. It was agreed that this would need addressing.

13.8 Chain Around the Fountain

Cllr Reader reported that the chain around the Fountain needed attention as there were not two lengths that were the same. Cllr Reader offered to purchase some replacement chain for this out of his own pocket.

13.9 Annual Parish Meeting

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held on 20th May instead of the next Parish Council Meeting. The budget for the ensuing year would be agreed at this meeting and the accounts would need to be audited prior to this meeting so that the Members of the Council could approve them before the deadline for the External Audit.

The Governance documents would then be discussed at the next Ordinary meeting on 1st July, for which a draft Agenda would be sent out by email.

The setting up of Standing Orders would be handled by the newly formed Admin and Finance Committee.

13.10 Notice Board

Cllr Reynolds requested that the notice board glass was cleaned.

13.11 Parish Council Website

Cllr Smowton stated that he no longer wished to be responsible for maintaining the Parish Council Website but that for the moment he would put a notice on informing the public that the website was under review. Cllr Casling proposed that someone else be found to take over the maintenance of the website and this could be discussed further at the next meeting.

14. Part II Items

Members of the Public were asked to leave the room at this point in the meeting.

14.1 Freedom of Information

The Clerk reported that a request for information had been received under the Freedom of Information Act. It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the Clerk should provide answers to these questions.

Minutes of the Meeting of Escrick Parish Council on Monday 6th May 2013 at 7.30pm held at Escrick and Deighton Social Club

14.2 Queries

The Clerk reported that there were several items in the bank statements that she was unable to account for, for which there appeared to be no supporting documentation.

There was also an expenses claim by the previous Clerk for which the current Clerk sought clarification. This was provided; the claim was for the allowance that the Clerk may claim which compensates for the use of the Clerk's home for Council business.

The Clerk was asked to find out what would be required for all the Councillors to become signatories and what the procedure for setting this up would be.

15. Date and Time of the Next Meeting

Monday 1st July 2013 at 7.30pm at Escrick and Deighton Club

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.