

STILLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Stillington Parish Council, Minutes Created by VillageNotes.com

Minutes 8th January 2008

Present

Chair: Cllr. Mrs J Turner

Cllrs: K Borer, J Clark, W Hedley, E Larson, J Lithgo, R Tingle, Mrs M Tinkler,

Clerk: Mrs G Dunn

1. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies from Cllr. J Wills.

2. Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda

Cllr. Mrs Tinkler declared a personal and prejudicial interest in an item that would come up under planning, as she was the landowner.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Cllr. Tingle asked that the following be added to the minutes from the meeting held on 4th December 2007 – page 349 – Straw in the Forest Park - it was agreed to try and ascertain ownership of the land where the straw had been dumped as there was uncertainty whether it belonged to the school grounds, the Forest Park or to Stockton Borough Council as open space. It was accepted that this had been omitted from the minutes and should be added. With this addition Cllr. Mrs Turner signed the minutes of the meeting held on 4th December 2007 as a true and correct record. Proposed by Cllr. Tingle and seconded by Cllr. Hedley.

4. Finance

Proposed by Cllr. Mrs Turner and seconded by Cllr. Hedley the sum of £207.28 to the Clerk for salary and expenses (cheque no. 100610).

The Clerk distributed an update on the current state of the Parish Council finances and a budget proposal sheet for 2008/09. Following a discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Mrs Turner and seconded by Cllr. Tingle that the precept should be raised by £250 from £6250 to £6500 to allow for inflationary price increases. It was proposed by Cllr. Mrs Turner and seconded by Cllr. Borer that the Clerks salary should rise from SCP 17 to SCP 18 and that she is paid at a rate of £8.60 per hour from April 1st 2008.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes

P348 Stillington Open Spaces Project and Honeypot Wood Improvements

The Clerk had been asked to submit all receipts from the Honey Pot Wood project to Awards for all by the end of January. SBC were currently acting on this the Clerk hoped to receive the receipts imminently. Cllr. Mrs Turner intended to discuss the possibility of erecting a feature of some sort to mark the industrial heritage of Stillington (as discussed at the last Parish Council meeting) at the next industrialists meeting. The pipes to be used for the planters were ready

to be cut at any time. It was agreed that the materials required to cut the pipes could be bought from Claytons and put on the Parish Council account. The Clerk planned to contact residents in January asking for help to plant and maintain the planters.

P348 South Street Fence Repair

The officer responsible for this area at SBC had changed. The Clerk had spoken to the new person and he had agreed to look at the fence and assess what further work was required.

The Clerk was asked to contact the property owners of the fence that ran alongside Messines Lane and ask them if it would be possible for the fence to be repaired. There was concern that the drop on the landowner's side of the fence could be hazardous as the area wasn't fenced securely.

P349 Co-ordinated letters re bus services

The Clerk had received letters from all but one of the other Councils involved. The remaining letter was due to arrive at any time. The Clerk expected to be able to send all of the letters to Arriva and to SBC later in the week.

P349 Wall Light – Manor Drive

The Clerk not heard anything more from SBC on this matter; she agreed to chase it up.

P349 Hedgerow Cutting

The work around the Stillington gateway at the east end of the Village had been carried out by SBC. SBC was unable to cut the hedge on the opposite side of the road as that was privately owned.

P349 Damaged bench – Whitton

The officer responsible for this area at SBC had changed. The Clerk had spoken to the new person and he had agreed to look at the remains of the bench and assess what could be done.

P349 Stillington – Whitton Footpath

The Clerk had heard nothing further from SBC. She agreed to find out if a surveyor had been out to look at the issues and options.

P350 Messines Lane Street Nameplate

A new nameplate had been ordered by SBC.

P350 Dog Bins - Costs

The Clerk had received an approximate price from SBC for £250. She agreed to get a confirmation of a price before the next meeting.

P351 Morpeth's Charity

The Clerk had obtained some information about winding up a small charity and changing the objects of a charity from the Charity Commission website. She had asked for a copy of the governing document for Morpeth's Charity to be sent to her as this may clarify what procedures would need to be followed to change anything. Cllr. Borer suggested, and other members agreed, that as he and Cllr. Larson were named as Trustees of the Charity, the Clerk should pass the information to them once she had received it and they would look into it further.

P352 Wimpey Flagpoles

The flags had been replaced in the empty bases. Cllr. Mrs Turner informed Members that the welcome Packs put together by the Residents Association and the Parish Council were being distributed to new residents as they moved into the properties.

P350 Current Police Cover

Cllr. Mrs Turner had the contact details for the Community Police Officer that was currently covering the Western Parishes while the designated Officer was recovering from an injury. It was reported that there had been a number of thefts of scrap metal from Whitton recently. A vehicle that had been involved had been reported to the Police.

P349 Fishing in the Forest Park

Cllr. Borer agreed to try and find out from the Local Nature Reserves Warden if there had been any progress with trying to engage more people in the management of the fishing at the Forest Park.

6. Monthly Parish Walk

Members agreed to walk around the West St. Playing Field and the terraces nearby on Friday 25th January at 10:00am.

7. Parish Plan Meeting

The Clerk confirmed that this would be held on Thursday 10th January at 7:00pm. Jay Jackson from TVRCC would be attending to explain the Parish Plan process.

8. Wimpey Housing 106 Agreement

The Clerk provided some information to the members regarding 106 agreements as requested at the last meeting.

9. Cleveland Local Councils Association – AGM feedback

Cllr. Borer had attended this meeting. A new Chairman had been appointed and Cllr. Borer had been appointed Vice Chairman. The group is hoping to get the larger local councils involved with its work this year – such as Billingham and Thornaby Town Councils. The Quality Council designation was also discussed. The next meeting will be held at Ingleby Barwick.

10. Parish Council Liaison Forum Meeting - Feedback

Cllr. Hedley had attended this meeting. The Clerk had submitted the item regarding the LNR Warden's Post as requested but it had not been discussed as the deadline for the agenda had already passed. Development proposals for the town centres and the future of the bus services in the Borough had been discussed.

11. Standards Issues

The Clerk informed the Council of the material regarding the new Code of Conduct that had been sent from SBC. The Clerk read out a letter from Mr. Bond regarding the routine observation visit to the Council by a member of the Standards Committee. The letter had praised the conduct and procedures of the Parish Council. Further information about excluding members of the public and declarations of interest had also been provided.

12. Correspondence - December 2007

SBC Resources Parish Council Precept 2008/2009
SBC Law and Democracy Feedback from Monitoring Visit
SBC Law and Democracy Information re: New Code of Conduct –Paragraphs 12, 13 and 14
SBC Technical Services Annual Newsletter
SBC Planning Services Response to letter re planning application ref 07/17674/FUL
SBC Planning Services Local Validation Requirements for Planning Applications – opportunity for comment
SBC Every Child Matters Newsletter
SBC email Cost of Dog Bins
SBC Development and Open Space and recreation facilities – request for info Neighbourhood services
SBC Law and Democracy Canvass 2007 results
SBC Electoral Services New Electoral Register

Awards For All Monitoring letter for Honeypot Wood project
D. Carlton Allotment Rent
CE Electric UK Information Leaflets
County Durham and Risk Management Training, Community Engagement Training
Cleveland Training
Carlton PC Letters regarding Bus Services to forward to SBC and Arriva
Grindon PC Letters regarding Bus Services to forward to SBC and Arriva
M & G Investments Accumulation Units – Cassidi Youth Centre
Redmarshall PC Letters regarding Bus Services to forward to SBC and Arriva
SRCGA Invitation to Big Lottery Funding Event
SRCGA Christmas card
TVRCC Rural News
TVRCC Big Green Challenge Info.

The Clerk suggested that she attend the Risk Management Training Course.
The Clerk agreed to publicise the emergency contact no. for CE Electric – if it differed from that published in the telephone directory.
Details of the balance in the Cassidi Youth Centre Trust were provided.
Cllr. Mrs Turner informed Members that she would be attending the Big Lottery funding event.

13. Planning Applications

Cllr. Mrs Tinkler left the room.

App No. 07/3328/REM Reserved matters application for the erection of 8 no. detached dwellings
Townend Farm, Whitton

There were no objections to this application. Councillors were aware that Whitton residents supported the change of use from a pig farm to residential use and asked the Clerk to inform SBC of this.

App No 07/3382/FUL Conversion of existing farm outbuildings to form one dwelling
Townend Farm, Whitton

The Clerk was asked to submit the same comments of support for this application as for the other application at Townend farm.

Cllr. Mrs Tinkler returned to the meeting.

07/3354/FPD Conservatory to rear
34 Forest Park, Stillington

There were no comments about this application

07/3052/FUL Provision of bulk storage tank and fire escape
Bodycote Heat Treatment, Stillington

This application had been approved with conditions.

07/1779/REV Revised application for alterations and extensions to bungalow to create a dormer bungalow with new vehicular entrance and removal of condition 2 on application 90/1461 to allow the use of the property as an independent dwelling.
Hillcrest, Morrison Street, Stillington

This application had been approved with conditions.

07/2684/OUT Land to the rear of the stables, Kirk Hill, Redmarshall
Outline application for the erection of 21 no. two and three bedroom affordable dwellings.

As the Council had been approached about this application the Clerk informed them, for their information, that it had been refused.

07/1674/FUL Residential development of 13 new dwelling houses and conversion of barn to dwelling house
Townend Farm Whitton

The Clerk had given all councillors a copy of the letter from SBC. The letter responded to the Members concerns about the refusal of this planning application. Councillors felt that one of their main concerns – comments from an officer at SBC stating that the 106 agreement could be seen as bribery – had not been addressed. The Clerk was asked to contact SBC about this and ascertain that all those involved fully understood the nature of a 106 agreement.

14. Minor Items and Items for the Next Agenda

The Clerk agreed to contact Network Rail and inform them that the subway had been flooded on the 2nd January following heavy rain.

The Clerk to report that three panes of glass had been broken in the Morrison Street bus shelter.

The Clerk to retrieve the Regional Village of the Year certificate from the Health Centre. It was suggested and agreed that copies of the certificate be given to Darchem and Metabrasives. Cllr. Mrs Turner offered to copy the certificate.

The Clerk to report rubbish in the back alley between West Street and Redmarshall Street.

Following a couple of accidents over the Christmas period a resident had requested that West Street be widened. There had also been requests for speed humps on West Street. The Clerk agreed to talk to SBC and see what may be possible.