

REDMARSHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on the Monday, 12th November 2007 The Methodist Chapel Schoolroom, Carlton 6.30pm

Present Cllr. T Bowker (Chair) Cllr. J Turnbull
Cllr. J Stevens Cllr. S Bell
Cllr. L Evans

Apologies Cllr. E McDonald, Cllr. R Dee, Mrs A Wray (Parish Clerk)

Attendance Cllr. F Salt, Mr & Mrs Lambert, Mr & Mrs Batie, Mrs M Kirton, Mrs D Bell, Mr B Dee, Mr R Robinson, Mr F Burrell.
Mr B Buckley (Highways Manager, Stockton Council)

Declarations of interest

No declarations of interest.

Action

The Chair introduced Mr Buckley whose staff had prepared a new lighting scheme for the crossroads. Mr Buckley reported that the lamp columns were at the end of their life and a scheme to upgrade the lighting had been completed. All the existing columns were to be replaced and Mr Holmes had also asked for an extra light at the top of Kirk Hill. This had been added to the project but if the residents did not see any benefit then it would be removed. Parish Councillors and residents were very concerned that none of the residents of Redmarshall had asked for this new column but Stockton Council had agreed to a request from a resident of Wynyard! There was also concern that when the Parish Council did request things (Drovers Lane accidents, overgrown footpaths, hedges etc. etc.) from the Borough Council it usually took years before we got any action, if at all!

The Chair thanked Mr Buckley for his attendance and he left the meeting.

It was agreed that residents did not want the extra lamp column and felt it would be better to spend the money on upgrading the direction signs at the crossroads which were a mess. JT to inform Mr Buckley by e-mail.

JT

Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the 18th October 2007 were agreed and signed as a true record.

Matters Arising (1/11/07)

Planning (5/09/07) – Plans had finally been received for the proposed conservatory – see Minute 5/11/07 below.

Finance (2/11/07)

Cheques	100083	Zurich Insurance	£288.75	Annual Policy
	100084	S Bowker	£165.53	Notice Board
	(see Minute 10/11/07)			

Petty Cash Petty cash was checked £5.51

Budget Sheet This was circulated. The only proviso to the sheet was we needed to clarify the proportions of the £15.20 which were Clerk Expenses or Stamps & Stationery.

Cllr. McDonalds request for a copy of the Internal Audit report. The Parish Council agreed that when we receive the Audit Report back from the External Auditor a copy would be given to Cllr McDonald.

JT

Audit - BDO Stoy Hayward (3/11/07)

In a letter received from the Auditor they have now agreed the Audit for 2006/07. While we have not received the full report yet we are expecting a few minor administrative recommendations. Unfortunately the cost to the Parish Council and the residents of Cllr. McDonalds complaints stands at approximately £900.00! The Parish Council and residents were very unhappy that problems which should have been discussed at the Parish Council were taken straight to the External Auditors who charge £150.00/hour.

Village Green (4/11/07)

We have now received a deed letter from the solicitors. It was agreed we look at holding a celebration early next year and the Parish Clerk had started to complete a funding application.

Agreed the Parish Council need to discuss a proposal to not allow The Green to be sold at any time – Agenda item for December 2007.

AW

Planning (5/11/07)

The Stables Appeals – The Planning Inspector had agreed some of the appeals and upheld others.

Land to rear of The Stables - Residents were annoyed that Mr Holmes was allowed to make many false claims after the closing date which they could then not comment on. The Parish Council agreed the system is open to abuse and the Chair suggested that if residents felt so aggrieved they could raise a complaint with the Local Government Ombudsman.

07/1799/FUL Conservatory – the Parish Council had no objection to this proposal.

JT

Risk Assessment (6/11/07)

In view of the large agenda and the Parish Clerk absence we agreed to discuss at the next meeting.

Drovers Lane (7/11/07)

After this point was raised with Mr Buckley we agreed to await further communication.

Street Lighting Crossroads (8/11/07)

See discussion at start of meeting with Mr Buckley.

Care for Your Area (9/11/07)

Dog Fouling - Stockton Council Enforcement Team would carry out surveillance of the area.

Hedge Cutting – this had been done on Bishopton Road.

Notice Board (10/11/07)

Mr Burrell and Mr Bowker had supplied wood and Perspex for our new notice board. Mr Bowker had used his considerable skills and spent a lot of time making the board out of oak wood - most of which he actually supplied free! Cllr. Turnbull had agreed that rather than using soft wood legs that Mr Bowker should purchase some oak to complete the board in the most sensitive way. The Parish Council

were indebted to the residents, especially Mr Bowker for all the hard work he had put in. The total cost to the Parish Council was £165.53 and it was agreed to pay this straight away. A similar oak notice board would have cost us approximately £750.00 if bought from a company.

Stockton Core Strategy (12/11/07)

The Core Strategy had been circulated and comments by Councillors added. Most comments agreed on the preferred Options. Tricia would compile the reply.

TB

Christmas Tree (13/11/07)

It was agreed we would purchase a 15ft tree for the village (£64.00). Tricia to contact CFYA to decorate the tree which would be delivered and erected on Tuesday 27th November.

TB

St Cuthbert's Church had approached the Parish Council to see if we would sponsor a tree at their Christmas Tree Festival to be held on the 14th, 15th & 16th December. Agreed we would sponsor a tree and Cllr. Stevens would co-ordinate decorating etc.

JS

Bus Service (14/11/07)

A letter received from Stillington P.C. suggested the villages should co-ordinate a complaint to Stockton Council and Arriva about the very poor bus service in the villages. Agreed Tricia would contact Stillington agreeing to their proposal and highlighting the concerns we would raise with the authorities.

TB

Parish News (15/11/07)

No articles for the parish news.

Correspondence (16/11/07)

A list was presented to the meeting. A number of magazines would be circulated.

Any Other Business (17/11/07)

No further business.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 20:30.

Next meeting to be held on Monday 10th December 2007 – agenda items to Clerk by 2nd December.

Open Meeting

Residents were concerned about the number of blockages and smells emanating from the drains on Drovers Lane. A worker who had cleared one blockage has said the drain goes from 6" to 4" and there will always be problems. Agreed to write to Northumbrian Water.

Residents also complained about the number of rats being seen around the village. They were encouraged to report sighting to the Care For Your Area team in Stockton Council.

Signed

Date