

**Minutes of the Meeting of Husthwaite Parish Council held
on Tuesday 20 November 2007**

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Present: C. Fenwick (Chair), (RW), R.Houlston (RH), E.Smith, (ES), P Davison (PD), L. Ponte (LP),

In Attendance: B.Ward (clerk), Cllr P Featherstone (HDC) Cllr C Patmore (NYC)

There was one member of the public present

1. **Apologies:** R. Woodhead

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** Approved and signed as a true record.

3. **Matters Arising:**

3.1 Kerbstones, High Street: This work is now complete but the footpath now needs some attention.
Action: Clerk to write thanking NYCC for work done and requesting resurfacing of footpath.

3.2 Bus stops and shelter. Still no news from NYCC re installation. **Action: Clerk to contact relevant authority to expedite.**

3.3 School Traffic: It appears that the availability of the pub car park has made some improvement to the traffic situation. **Action: Clerk to write letter of thanks to the owner of the Balmoral.**

3.4 Parish Plan: a meeting was held on 1 November 2007 at which the major issues were addressed. A resume of this meeting is attached to these minutes

3.5 Cemetery Trees: Only one request for quotation has received a response. This is for £250 and will include cutting back trees/hedges at the rear, pruning of one large tree and levelling of some uneven ground. It was agreed that this quote be accepted.

3.6 Recreation Field: LP has spoken to D Goodwin of HDC who has offered to provide details of relevant funding agencies. He has also contacted Graham Hind about access to the site and he is of the opinion that consent should not be a problem. However, this will also need approval from the Planning Department. LP will also seek advice from the Planning Department about the potential for development on both the recreation field site and the current village hall site.
Action: LP

In addition, PD has identified a source of funding to provide trees on the site. The Parish Council will need to provide 25% of the funding either in cash or kind. It was agreed to include a sum of £250 in the 2008/9 funding for this. **Action: PD**

3.7 Kerbside recycling: this has now commenced and HDC have provided 4 new vehicles and a staff of 14 to accommodate the workload.

3.8 Local Development Framework: concerns have been expressed about the number of additional properties to be built in the village during the life of the plan. In particular, the adequacy of the infrastructure to cope was suspect.

3.9 Resignation of A. Nixon: Statutory Notice of Vacancy was posted on the notice board but there were no calls for an election. As a result the Council is now empowered to co-opt a new member.
Action: Clerk to write to those unsuccessful in the recent election and to advertise the vacancy in the Newsletter.

3.10 War Memorial: RH has met on site with the PCC representative and a consultant who advised on a possible solution. Cost estimates are awaited.

3.11 Cemetery Charges: no progress. Clerk to ascertain local costs.

3.12 Grit Bins: NYCC have indicated that it MAY be possible to site bins as requested. **Action: Clerk to pursue with NYCC.**

4 **Matters arising between meetings.**

The account for the Parish Council election costs has now been received from HDC. The cost is £996.64. The option of paying in 2 or 4 instalments is offered. As £600 has already been budgeted and funds are available for the balance, it was agreed to pay the costs in full in this financial year.
Action: Clerk

5 **Planning/Planning Policy:**

The following planning applications have been received by HDC:

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Stonewold, work to 2 trees

The Old Lodge, construction of a replacement agricultural building

The following application has been approved:

Husthwaite School, Retention of temporary classroom building

The following application has been declined:

Bye Green Holding, Certificate of Lawfulness for a residential caravan.

6. Finance:

6.1 Current Account

Cheques/Monies out:

26.09.07	100616	£80.00	Mrs M P Jarvis (re-purchase of burial plot)
09.10.07	100617	£1000.00	Husthwaite Village Hall
17.10.07	100618	£473.33	Burn Bros (Grass cutting)
31.10.07		£500.00	To Cemetery Fund
12.11.07	100619	£16.50	Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal
19.11.07		£1000.00	To recreation field fund

Total £3069.83

Cheques/Monies in

01.10.07	£3,500.00	Precept, 2 nd installment
12.11.07	£80.00	From Cemetery Fund re M P Jarvis plot

Total £3580.00

Statement Balance at 15.11.07 £4676.34

6.2 Cemetery Fund

	<u>Monies in</u>		<u>Monies out</u>
18.10.07	£25.00	Memorial fee (Slater)	
02.11.07	£25.00	Memorial fee (Raper)	
05.11.07	£500.00	From HSBC	
12.11.07		To HSBC account re Jarvis burial plot	£80.00
	£550.00		£80.00

Statement Balance at 20.11.07 £4518.40

6.3 Recreation Fund

	<u>Monies in</u>		<u>Monies out</u>
28.09.07	£19.58	Interest	
26.10.07	£19.03	Interest	
19.11.07	£1000.00	From HSBC	
	£1038.61		

Statement Balance at 20.11.07 £5709.42

Accounts approved for payment:

To HDC in respect of election costs - £996.64

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Donation to Hambleton Citizens Advice Bureau - £50

7. Review of Pay and Conditions of Clerk

The Clerk retired from the meeting whilst this item was discussed. Agreed that the remuneration will be increased by 5% to £1300.00 pa wef April 2008. No change to conditions

8. Expenditure for the Year 2008 - 2009

It is anticipated that the 2007/8 year end balance will be £1034.70. Income for the year 2008/9 is estimated at £246.15 and expenditure is forecast at £7547.50. As a result the Precept for the year is calculated at £7000.00. This was agreed unanimously. (the precept calculation is attached to these minutes).

9. Circulated Items

9.1 Hambleton Strategic Partnership - a letter has been received inviting the Council's involvement. Agreed that the Community Link Officer, Lisa Wilson, be invited to a meeting of the Council to give a presentation on Area Groups. **Action: Clerk**

9.2 Affordable Housing - concern was expressed about the level of affordable housing proposed in the LDF. It was explained that the percentage of affordable housing in any development was government driven.

10. Reports from Council's Representatives on Other Bodies.

10.1 Village Hall - a draft Newsletter item from Richard Wood was read by the Chair. It was generally agreed that the item should not be published in its present form. CF will revise and discuss with Richard Wood **Action: CF**

10.2 YLCA - ES reported on the discussions at the recent meeting which had included suggestions on improving the Annual Parish Meeting, such as inviting visiting speakers. Concern had also been expressed about the difficulty in finding an NHS dentist.

10.3 District/Parish Liaison Meeting - PD reported on the proceedings of the recent meeting. These included an update on the Beacon Status, the LDF and a review of the failed unitary status bid. The meeting was also advised that HDC and NYCC were now in discussion about closer working relationships to the benefit of the consumer.

9. Reports from County/District Councillors.

9.1 Cllr Featherstone advised that

- Area Forums have started on a pilot basis in the five market towns.
- The Citizens Advice Bureau is closing some local offices and looking at replacing them with video links.
- Yorkshire Rural Community Council has decided to rename to Rural Action Yorkshire
- He had received a questionnaire about transport in the Thirsk area and will ensure that the PC gets a copy.

9.2 Cllr Patmore advised that

- She had recently met with the Chief Constable and the Chief Fire Officer who had both expressed concern at their current level of funding restricting their ability to operate as they would wish.
- NYCC is in the middle of the budget process for the next financial year. Of particular concern is the rising cost of care for the elderly and the costs involved in recycling. Despite best efforts there will remain an amount of unrecyclable waste which is building up a problem of significant in the future. Despite all this the NYCC community charge increase will be capped at 5%.
- The level of policing in the Easingwold area has again been reduced

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- The Post Office will publish its 'hit list' of offices for closure in the next two weeks

AOB:

- An application has been received to place a memorial on an empty burial plot. The burial rights to the plot are owned by the applicant. Before discussion RH declared an interest. There was some general concern at this unusual request but the Clerk advised that nothing in the Cemetery Rules prevented such an action. After some vigorous discussion it was agreed that the application be granted. However, certain conditions would apply - the memorial must be placed in the usual and accepted manner with the inscription facing the foot of the grave and the applicant must bear any costs of removal, storage and replacement should the plot be required for an interment **Action: Clerk to advise the applicant accordingly and review Cemetery rules with CF**
- A letter has been received from the Citizens advice bureau requesting a donation. It was agreed that a sum of £50.00 be donated. **Action: Clerk**
- Hambleton District Council have forwarded the Registers of Interest for Parish Councillors. Each member updated their own and they will now be returned to HDC. **Action: Clerk**

Date and Time of Next Meeting:

The next Parish Council meeting will be at 7.30pm, Tuesday 15th January 2008. Venue the Village Hall, Husthwaite.

SignedDate 15 January 2008..

PARISH PLAN - IMPLEMENTATION UP-DATE (3)

The third special meeting of the Parish Council to address issues identified in the Parish Plan was held on Thursday 1st November 2007. It was encouraging to be able to welcome 2 village residents.

Recreation Field - Wildlife Area

As two experts - Matt Millington (Biodiversity Officer for NYCC) and Gordon Scaife (Project Manager - Yorkshire Wildlife Trust) were able to attend this meeting, the agenda was modified in order to take advantage of their expertise. In their presentations, Matt and Gordon pointed out that the designated recreation area was an ideal place for Biodiversity enhancement. Possible features could include mown grassland, amenity areas (including picnic benches and natural play equipment), habitat piles, wildflower meadows, patches of berry bearing scrub and mown/surfaced paths which can be incorporated into valuable wildlife resources. A draft sketch plan provided an illustration of how the site may be developed. As well as maximising the full potential of this site, the proposals provide scope to involve the School in managing and developing learning opportunities. Matt and Gordon also referred to funding sources which could be explored to meet costs involved. In principle, the Parish Council agreed to work in partnership with Matt and Gordon to plan and develop wildlife aspects alongside provision for play, games and other recreational activities. The remainder of this third meeting focussed on receiving an update on any recent progress regarding issues in hand,

Pavement Maintenance

It is pleasing to note that replacement of damaged kerbstones started towards the end of October, as scheduled by NYCC. (now completed)

Passing, Places

In response to our recent approach, Carlton Village Committee welcome the opportunity to work with the Parish Council in addressing this matter. There is agreement that where passing places have evolved naturally on the Carlton Road they now need to be clearly defined and brought up to road surfacing standards. The position on Malton Street is very similar. Carol Fenwick and Robin Houlston will continue to progress this initiative.

Public Transport

As bus stop signs with timetable information panels have yet to appear, the Parish Council will write to NYCC and try to speed up provision.

Recreation Field - Play and Games

Luis Ponte will progress planning to define possible play/games/sport zones. This will allow progress concerning proposed wildlife areas. As an interim measure, Robin Houlston kindly offered to mow this field. (now completed)

School Parking Problems

It was generally felt that parking at School has improved a little, due possibly to the very kind gesture by Lynn and James Stephenson of The Balmoral in allowing the use of their car park by parents willing to walk their children the remaining distance to School. The co-operation of parents in relation to this matter is much appreciated by the Parish Council. A further request - please avoid parking opposite the School entrance in order that the bus can manoeuvre safely.

Village Design Statement/Conservation of Rural Setting

In response to Elaine Smith's article in the September Newsletter, the Parish Council is pleased to report that there are now 6 volunteers willing to work on this priority.

Information Pack for New Residents

The contents of this pack have now been prepared. A design for the A5 folder and costings are awaited. A grant application to cover printing costs has recently been submitted.

Village Hall

The Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council will shortly begin a series of meetings to explore development possibilities.

Next Meeting

The fourth session in this series of special meetings will be held in the Village Hall at an earlier time of 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday 11th December 2007. All residents are warmly invited to attend.

Husthwaite Parish Council Proposed Precept 2008 - 2009

Grass cutting	£1,420.00		
YLCA membership	£100.00		
YRCC membership	£35.00		
Society of Local Council Clerks	£75.00		
Playing Fields Association	£12.50		
Assoc of Burial Authorities	£86.00		
Insurance	£450.00		
Audit	£160.00		
Clerk's salary	£1,300.00		
Husthwaite Village Hall	£1,000.00		
Cemetery Fund	£500.00		
Petty cash	£50.00	Proposed Village Amenities 2008/9	
CAB donation	£50.00	V/green seat base	£300.00
Donations	£50.00	Recreation field Trees	£250.00
Courses/publications	£50.00	Recreation field	£1,500.00
Village Newsletter	£150.00		
Election costs	£0.00		
Other	£25.00	Total	£2,050.00
Sub Total =	£5,513.50		
add Proposed Village Amenities	£2,050.00	Estimated Income 2008/9	
Assigned Total =	£7,563.50	Bier House Rent	£245.00
		Northern Electric Wayleave	£1.15
less Estimated Income	£246.15		
			£246.15
	=	£7,317.35	
less Estimated y/e Balance	£1,034.70		
	=	£6,282.65	
+ Contingency reserve @ 10%	£628		
		£6,910.92	
Proposed Precept	£7,000.00		