

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE MOLESCROFT PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30 PM  
THURSDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2007 AT THE MOLESCROFT PAVILION**

**PRESENT**

Councillor M. Hildyard (chairman), Councillors K. Agerskow, H. Brown, K. Farrow, M. Fleming, B. Gregory, B. Hanneman, A. Ingham, P. Maguire, P. Ranson, P. Smith.

**POLICE PRESENTATION**

Police Constable Chris Hughes, Beat Manager for St Mary's and Molescroft spoke about policing issues in the parish and answered councillor's questions and discussed their concerns. He remained committed to the parish and had the support of two Police Community Support Officers (PCSO). He made the point that resources were thin and he and his colleagues had to prioritise but he was always happy to speak to councillors about problems in the parish and they should not hesitate to contact him by phone or e-mail at Beverley Police Station. He was thanked for his attendance and support for the community.

**63. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Apologies were received from Councillor L. Richings. There were no declarations of interest.

**64. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes having been circulated and received by all members were accepted as a true record of proceedings and were signed by the chairman.

**65. MATTERS ARISING**

**1. Item 53(1) Leylandii hedge:** The clerk reported that the leylandii hedge at the playing field had been trimmed by a local farmer Mike Lount of Castle Farm, Leconfield. An invoice had not yet been received by it was expected to be somewhere in the region of £100, substantially lower than all other bids received. The clerk was trying to arrange for the same person to prune the hedges at the allotments.

**2. Item 53(2) Scrubwood Bridleway:** No progress to report. The chairman informed members that Mike Jackson of the Ramblers Association had warned him about new legislation which appeared to permit the use of motor vehicles on public footpaths and bridleways. We would need to take this into account in progressing the submission regarding Scrubwood Bridleway.

**3. Item 53(3) Special Expenses:** The chairman reported that he had spoken to Councillor Parnaby about the possibility of removing Molescroft from the list of parishes paying Special Expenses. The chairman was not optimistic that the desired outcome would be achieved.

**4. Item 53(4) Cold Calling Zones:** The clerk had nothing to add to his previous comments. He would pursue and report back.

**5. Item 53(5) Defence School of Transport - Amber Driving School:** an e-mail from Lieutenant Colonel Tony Cave, Commander of the Driver Training Wing of the Defence School of Transport at Leconfield responding to the council's letter had been circulated prior to the meeting. In discussion, it was agreed that the response was unsatisfactory and did not answer the concerns expressed by the council about the safety of residents, especially children travelling to and from school. While the council understood the need to provide training for troops who might be deployed in war zones abroad, it was strongly felt that this could be accomplished without putting the lives of local children at risk. Comments from Councillor Richings about learners using the roads near the primary school were read to the meeting. After further discussion, it was agreed that the clerk should take the following actions:(1) contact Amber Driving School direct to seek their cooperation, (2) Write to the Lieutenant Colonel again re-emphasising the danger and asking that learners use the facilities at Leconfield before 9am and asking him to use his influence to secure the compliance of Amber.

**Actions:** clerk as above.

**6. Item 61 60/40 Lighting Programme:** The clerk informed the meeting that confirmation of the

contract had been received from ERYC and that work was expected to be completed in the very near future. The clerk would monitor the situation to ensure no slippage.

**Action:** clerk as above

**7. Item 62 Trees, bulbs and metal fencing:** The clerk updated the meeting on his so far unsuccessful efforts to progress these items. The importance of the fencing to the play area project was emphasised.

**Action:** clerk to chase up and report back to next meeting

#### **66. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

A schedule of payments in 2 parts was presented to the meeting. The first part detailed the payments made during the summer recess. Authority to make these payments was ratified. The second part of the schedule detailed accounts that were due for payment. These also were approved. A copy of the schedule is attached to these minutes.

#### **67. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

A schedule of planning applications received was circulated. After appropriate discussion, **RESOLUTIONS** were made as shown below. Part 1 decisions were made by the chairman during the summer recess. Part 2 decisions were considered and made during the course of the meeting.

##### **Part 1**

100 St Leonard's Road	Erection of conservatory	Approved (chairman's decision)
15 Smithall Road	Erection of garage to side and conservatory to rear	Approved (chairman's decision)
19 Molescroft Road	Creation of vehicular access	Approved (chairman's decision)
44 Hillcrest Drive	Erection of single storey rear extension	Approved (chairman's decision)
47 Finch Park	Erection of first floor extension and front entrance canopy	Approved (chairman's decision)
51 Molescroft Park	Extension of two storey extension to side	No objections - recommend approval subject to concerns about (1) overlooking and (2) possible future multiple occupancy
10 Elmsall Drive	Amended proposal - alteration of roof height and construction of side dormer	Objection on same grounds as original application (chairman's decision)
* notice of refusal of application received prior to meeting		
1 The Lawns	Application to fell diseased elm trees	No objection (chairman's decision)
The Cedar Grove officers	Application to fell trees	No objection subject to views of tree (chairman's decision)

##### **Part 2**

38 Molescroft Road	Erection of single storey rear Extension	Approved
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11 Lilac Avenue	Erection of two storey extension to side and rear	Approved subject to no objections from immediate neighbours
12 Goodwood Close	Erection of single storey rear extension	Approved
38 St Leonard's Road	Erection of rear conservatory	Approved

The meeting also noted the decision of the planning authority to refuse the application by Longcroft School to extend the hours of use of the all-weather pitch on grounds of additional noise and disturbance. It was **agreed** that should the school appeal the decision, the council would reiterate its original decision not to object to the application.

The meeting also noted that the following appeals had been lodged with the Planning Inspectorate and that action had been taken as detailed in part 4 of the schedule. The chairman informed the meeting that his letter in respect of the wind farm at Tickton had actually been written in a personal capacity.

#### **68. PARISH CENTRE/SCHOOL ISSUES**

Councillor Hanneman informed the meeting that air conditioning had been installed in the assembly hall at the school from which the Parish Centre would benefit. The cost in full had been met by the school.

#### **69 PAVILION AND PLAYING FIELD**

Councillor Agerskow informed the meeting that the hedge alongside the path along Woodhall Way was overgrown and obstructing foot passengers. It was agreed that it should be cut and the clerk was asked to consider different means of achieving this, including using the same contractor who had pruned the leylandii hedge.

**Action:** clerk as above

#### **70. MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT/STANDING ORDERS**

Papers detailing the proposed changes made to incorporate paragraph 12(2) of the new Model Code of Conduct had been circulated prior to the meeting. Comments had been received from Councillor Smith. After discussion, Councillor Brown **PROPOSED** that the new standing orders be adopted by the council subject to any necessary minor amendments and Councillor Ranson **SECONDED** the proposal. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the amended Standing Orders be adopted. The clerk was asked to produce a new set of standing orders incorporating the agreed amendments and circulate copies to members.

**Action:** clerk as above

#### **71. CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA**

Councillor Brown had circulated a paper prior to the meeting. He made a presentation to the committee in which he detailed proposals received from contractors for the installation of a new play area for younger children. Two principal options were considered, one at a cost of £38,000 (Sutcliffe) and one including a zip-wire at a cost of £54,000 (SMP). Councillor Brown explained that items of equipment included in the proposals were based on preferences expressed in a survey of children at the primary school. Councillor Brown also detailed his attempts to engage public support and said that so far insufficient financial commitment had been forthcoming. This was the stumbling block in his bid to obtain funding from WREN, although they had encouraged him to submit a fresh bid which he was doing. Support was undoubtedly there, as evidenced by an 80% questionnaire return from the school. It was just that people had proved reluctant to back their desire for a new play area with financial support. Councillor Brown also said that he had canvassed residents in Hillcrest Drive and The Croft and found no objections among residents to the likely increase in activity a new play area would generate.

After Councillor Brown's presentation, a lengthy discussion took place regarding funding the project and specific details of the new play area. The clerk circulated a paper detailing current financial resources and

funding options. This was discussed and various options considered including raising the precept next financial year, a commercial loan, a WREN grant and donation of £10,000 from a local benefactor. It soon emerged that there was strong support for the idea put forward by the chairman that the council should implement the proposal without further delay, using its own capital project funds if necessary, seeking to spread payment over 2 years if possible. It was **agreed** that (1) Councillor Brown should re-submit the bid to WREN (2) a commercial loan was not a favoured option (3) that the potential benefactor should be approached to seek confirmation of the offer of a donation and (4) raising the precept might be necessary if other options failed (5) £30,000 from the reserve account should be used to fund the project.

Councillor Ranson **PROPOSED** that a sub-committee be formed. Councillor Gregory **SECONDED** the proposal and it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that a sub-committee should be formed to progress the project on the basis of the discussion outlined in the previous paragraph. Councillors Brown, Fleming, Ranson and Smith were elected to serve on the sub-committee.

The clerk was asked to enquire with ERYC whether planning permission was needed to replace equipment on the same site as the original play area.

**Actions:**

Sub-committee to meet as soon as possible and report back to next meeting. ((Note: the first meeting has been arranged for 7.30 pm Thursday 4 October.)

Clerk to enquire about planning permission.

**72. FLOODING IN MOLESCROFT**

Various papers received from ERYC had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. These were discussed and it was agreed that (i) the proposed offer of £5000 parish relief fund should be equally shared between all known flood victims in Molescroft (ii) our offer to store sandbags in the secure compound at the pavilion should be reiterated (iii) assurance should be sought that gulley clearing should continue on a regular basis in the future and should not 'return to normal' as the literature from ERYC suggests, which in the experience of members meant no clearing at all.

An e-mail from Peter Robinson, resident of The Croft was discussed and the clerk was asked to reply.

**Actions:** clerk to pursue these matters with appropriate officers of ERYC, and to reply to Peter Robinson.

**73. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Correspondence from ERYC detailing plans to introduce cycle lanes in Woodhall Way was noted.
2. The proposal from ERYC to make a new Traffic Regulation Order restricting parking in Molescroft Park and Finch Park (previously approved by the council) was noted.
3. A letter from ERYC with details of newly elected members on the Beverley Forum was noted.
4. The clerk had received a letter from Beverley Town Council enclosing a copy of the new Beverley Town Guide which the clerk would retain should members require any information from it.
5. An e-mail from detached youth worker Richard Innes was noted. The clerk was asked to contact Mr Innes and ask him to speak to members at a forthcoming meeting.  
**Action:** clerk as above
6. NALC Conference - Bournemouth 5 - 7<sup>th</sup> October. Noted. No attendees from Molescroft Parish Council.

**74. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

The chairman Councillor Hildyard updated the meeting on progress (or otherwise) on the Beverley Town Plan. Molescroft had contributed £10,000 towards the total cost of £70,000 and were clearly not getting value for money. The chairman produced a plan showing land bids received in the Beverley and Molescroft area and stated that it was essential that we remained involved because of the massive development intentions to the north of Molescroft shown on the plan. Because of this it was not feasible to recover our original contribution and it might even be necessary to make a further contribution.

Councillor Gregory, who had attended the last meeting, suggested that the chairman might send a letter to the Beverley Town Mayor and to Councillor Parnaby, ERYC, expressing our extreme dissatisfaction with progress and the management of the project to date. The chairman said that he would do this.

The chairman said that he hoped a meeting could be arranged before the end of September and that the consultation process could begin by the end of October. He would make a strong protest and keep the council informed of progress.

**THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING WAS FIXED FOR 7.30 PM THURSDAY 18 OCTOBER 2007 IN THE MOLESCROFT PAVILION**

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.20 pm.

**CHAIRMAN**.....

**DATED**.....