

**MINUTES OF THE MOLESCROFT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 26 APRIL 2007 AT THE MOLESCROFT PAVILION**

PRESENT

Councillor M. Hildyard (Chairman), Councillor L. Richings (Vice Chairman), Councillors K. Agerskow, H. Brown, K. Farrow, B. Hanneman, A. Ingham, P. Ranson and P. Smith.

1. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies were received from Councillors D. Clayphan, P. Maguire and J. Whalley. There were no declarations of interest.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (29.3.07)

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated and were approved as a true record of proceedings. They were signed by the Chairman.

3. MATTERS ARISING

91 Scrubwood Bridleway The clerk reported that, after some difficulty, he had traced Michael Jackson, the footpath secretary of the Ramblers Association, and would be working with him towards securing footpath status for the bridleway.

101 Planters on Parish Boundaries The clerk reported that he had sent off for some brochures on decorative boundary markers and would report back to the next meeting. Councillor Hildyard reported that he had made further contact with ERYC on this matter and we would be getting an invitation to meet with them for discussion. It seems that the county council are still insisting on keeping the statutory black and white signs, but he was hopeful they might be persuaded otherwise at the meeting.

136 ERNLLCA subscription The clerk reported that ERNLLCA did not have a website as such and the useful materials published by the association could only be accessed through membership. After a brief discussion on the merits and otherwise of membership it was **RESOLVED** to renew membership for one further year, the decision to be reviewed in 2008.

4. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were due and were approved for payment in accordance with the schedule presented to the meeting, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

5. END OF YEAR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT

The end of year financial statements were presented to the meeting by Michael Brown, the former Clerk to the Council, who had prepared them before his

handover. Mr Brown said that the District Auditor no longer required statements to be prepared but after a brief discussion it was **agreed** that the statements provided a useful summary of the council's financial status at year end and should be continued.

Councillor Richings said that we should aspire to be a transparent council and proposed that the statements should be placed on the council web site to keep the public informed. Councillor Farrow added that the public paid their precept and were entitled to know how their money was being spent. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Hildyard and it was **RESOLVED** to place the package of statements on the website.

Action The clerk to forward the statements to John Whalley at Adveb for inclusion on the website.

Sections 1 and 2 of the Audit Commission Annual Return document were signed by the Chairman and the clerk, **it was agreed** that Dutton Moore should be asked to conduct the external audit.

6. ELECTION 3 MAY 2007

The clerk told the meeting that he had received a letter from the Returning Officer notifying the Return and Result of Uncontested Election in the Molescroft Parish. The councillors named below were therefore elected without contest.

Councillor Kathleen Mary AGERSKOW	Councillor Anne INGHAM
Councillor Harvey Matthew BROWN	Councillor Pat MAGUIRE
Councillor Kay FARROW	Councillor Peter Charles RANSON
Councillor Barbara Marian HANNEMAN	Councillor Les RICHINGS
Councillor Michael Thomas HILDYARD	

May The new council takes office with effect from the fourth day after Thursday 3 2007, ie. 7 May.

The council is, therefore, 3 members short of the required number. In such a case the elected members may co-opt any persons to fulfil the vacancies which remain unfilled. This power must be exercised by **no later than Thursday 28 June 2007**. If the Parish Council fails to fill the vacancies, ERYC may then exercise its power to order fresh elections to fill the remaining vacancies.

7. Councillor Hildyard said that Bryan Gregory, a former member, was keen to return to the fold and he **proposed** that he be co-opted onto the council. Mr Gregory was present and confirmed his willingness to this proposal. Councillor Richings seconded the proposal and **it was RESOLVED** to co-opt Mr Gregory with effect from the formation of the new council on 7 May.
8. A discussion then took place about filling the remaining two vacancies. It was **RESOLVED** that in order to attract the optimum number and quality of potential

candidates, advertisements should be placed in the local press, council notice boards and other prominent localities inviting interested parties to submit applications via the clerk in time for consideration and decision at the next meeting of the parish council.

Action The clerk to notify the Returning Officer regarding Mr Gregory and advertise as above.

Councillor Hildyard also asked the clerk to prepare letters for his signature thanking the outgoing councillors for their sterling work on the Parish Council.

Action The clerk as above.

9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

A schedule of planning applications received was circulated. After appropriate discussion of each application **RESOLUTIONS** were made in each case, and are shown on the attached schedule.

The clerk also informed the council about two planning decisions recently taken on Molescroft applications.

the	Various externally illuminated signs Hayride Public House	Refused on grounds that it would detract from the visual amenity of area.
	Erection of 5 dormer bungalows On site of 27 Woodhall Way	Refused on grounds that it would have adverse effect on neighbouring properties due to additional noise and traffic activity

10. PARISH CENTRE/SCHOOL ISSUES

There had been no meetings of the Parish Centre committee since the last council meeting. The next one is due on 23 May. Councillor Ranson agreed to take the place of Councillor Clayphan on the committee. Councillor Hildyard reported that no decision had yet been reached on who was responsible for decorating the Parish Centre. He said we would await developments with interest.

11. PAVILION AND PLAYING FIELD

play Councillor Brown reported on his attempt to secure funding for the children's area. The lottery fund and REN (check spelling) had both recently turned down bids for grants. The lottery fund people could not be convinced that Molescroft children were under-privileged and REN were keen that local fund raising should take place to match any grant. There had been little response locally to fund raising, therefore REN had turned us down. Councillor Brown said that he would be submitting another bid to REN in July. He did, however, report that he was visiting Stockton the following Wednesday to see a potential funder and was

hopeful of some success. Councillor Hildyard said that the council would fund his expenses.

Councillor Richings then suggested that Councillor Brown might find it beneficial to speak to Alan Menzies, Assistant Chief Executive (Economic Development) at ERYC. He had proved very helpful previously in pointing us in the direction of funding.

12. A discussion then took place about grass cutting around the edges of the playing field and it was **agreed** that some action needed taking to make the area presentable. The clerk reported that the caretaker was willing to undertake cutting and strimming in the effected areas for an agreed amount of overtime but the previous caretaker had damaged the strimmer beyond repair and the petrol-driven lawn mower was still in the storage shed but was in a very bad state of repair. As an interim measure the caretaker had agreed to use his own mower but that was underpowered and could not be relied upon beyond the short term.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

1. The clerk should purchase a suitable strimmer for use by the caretaker.
2. He should undertake to have the existing mower examined by a service engineer with a view to determining whether or not it could be restored to working order. If not a suitable replacement should be purchased.
3. The clerk was given authority to make the purchases up to a maximum of £1000 in total for both pieces of equipment if necessary.
4. The clerk should liaise with the caretaker with a view to sowing wild flower seeds in the uncut margins.
5. The pavilion and playing field sub-committee would supervise the use and maintenance of the strimmer and mower to avoid similar problems in the future. (It was, however, accepted that the current caretaker would no doubt care for the equipment better than had been the case previously.)

Actions The clerk to action resolutions 1 to 4 above.

13. Councillor Ranson then asked whether the storage situation in the bar and preparation room had improved. The clerk reported that it had and that the caretaker had again written to users about this issue. It was agreed that the

situation should remain under review.

Councillor Hildyard said that he had received compliments from users about the cleanliness of the pavilion and the helpful and pleasant attitude of the caretaker. Members agreed that Mr King was doing an excellent job, and the clerk said that he would convey those sentiments to him.

- 14.** The clerk then reported that he had received a complaint from a resident of Hillcrest Drive whose garden backed on to the drive leading to the pavilion car park. It seems that drivers seeking to avoid the speed bumps were driving onto the strip of land between the edge of the drive and fencing belonging to residents. This had caused deep ruts to form which filled with water in rainy periods. Muddy water then splashed up onto the fencing, with a potential for damage and rotting. Following a discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the caretaker, in his private business capacity, should be asked to erect low fencing alongside the speed bumps to prevent this happening in the future.

Action The clerk to arrange for the caretaker to undertake private work as above.

15. PAVILION CARETAKERS CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT

Copies of relevant pages of the caretaker's contract of employment were circulated. A discussion then took place regarding interpretation of terms 6 and 8 relating to holiday pay and leave entitlement. It was **RESOLVED** that:

1. The caretaker should be paid at a rate of 5 hours normal pay for each statutory holiday and each annual leave day.
2. That the entitlement to 20 working days holiday in every calendar year should be interpreted as equating to 4 weeks annual holiday.
3. It was further agreed that the contract did not require rewriting and that this was a matter of interpretation of the existing contract only.

Action The clerk to write to Mr King informing him of these resolutions.

- 16.** A discussion then took place about cover when the caretaker was absent sick or holiday. The clerk said that the caretaker had a friend who was interested in providing cover. After discussion regarding the best way of paying for this occasional cover Councillor Smith suggested that the friend submit an invoice for services rendered and this be paid in the normal fashion. It was **RESOLVED** to do this.

Action The clerk to liaise with the caretaker to initiate and report back to the council.

17. CORRESPONDENCE

Remittance advice from ERYC to notify that the parish precept of £11,500 would be paid into our account on the next working day. This was noted.

- 18.** A letter from Mr and Mrs Simpson of 25 Tardrew Close complaining about hedges being cut down and barbecues being lit on the strip of land alongside the Scrubwood bridleway by residents of the new housing . Councillor Hildyard said this land had been adopted by ERYC and that we needed to inform them and possibly arrange a site meeting.

Action Clerk to action as above and to keep Mr and Mrs Simpson informed.

- 19.** A letter from Cooper Lighting and Security informing the council that cover had lapsed due to non-renewal. After discussion it was **RESOLVED** to seek renewal.

Action Clerk to contact Cooper and arranged renewal of cover.

- 20.** A letter from ERYC about the 60/40 Lighting Programme. Councillor Farrow said she keen to have another lamp, possibly low-level, in Sister Beck in the area between the bungalows and Lockwood Road. After discussion it was **agreed** to initiate a request with a view to obtaining a formal cost quote before a final decision is taken whether to proceed.

Action Clerk to obtain application form, obtain a cost quote and report back to the council.

- 21.** Letter from Dutton Moore offering to do the council payroll work for 2007/8 for the sum of £100 plus VAT. This offer was accepted with alacrity. Formal letter engagement awaited.

- 22.** Letter from the Department for Communities and Local Government enclosing the new Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007.

Action Clerk to compare with old Order and notify any significant changes to the next meeting.

- 23.** Letter from Molescroft Football Club asking to use the football pitch for the season 2007/08. It was **RESOLVED** to offer the letting at the same rate as the previous season. (see also minute 141, 29 March 2007)

Action Clerk to write to the football club treasurer notifying her of the outcome.

- in** Letter from ERYC notifying the outcome of consultation on parking restrictions Molescroft Park, Finch Park and Molescroft Road. Noted.

24. Letter from ERYC enclosing the Statement of Common Involvement document. Passed to the Chairman for perusal and consideration.

An e-mail had been received from PC Chris Hughes, the Molescroft community PC, apologising for his absence at the meeting and stating that he hoped to be able to attend in the near future. He asked that councillors be informed that he can be contacted at work at Beverley Police Station and is more than willing to meet to discuss any concerns councillors may have about policing issues. His e-mail address is shown below:

Christopher.Hughes@humberside.pnn.police.uk

25. **ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

The clerk reported that he had arranged a meeting on 30 April with Councillor John Whalley to review the council website and seek improvements. Alternative providers were considered but Adveb were competitive and it was resolved to remain with them for the time being at least.

The clerk reported that he had recently inspected the allotments on Malton Road and all were in a good or reasonable condition.

Councillor Richings reported that the Parish Council Forum meeting in April had been cancelled at the last minute without explanation and no date set for another at the present.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL was fixed for **Thursday 24 May 2007 at 7.30 pm**. This will be the Annual meeting of the Parish Council at which Chairman and Vice-Chairman must be elected. On the same date the Parish Meeting will also be held, starting at 8.00 pm. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Meeting would be held in the main hall.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.0 pm.

MOLESCROFT PARISH COUNCIL

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS MADE AT MEETING 26 APRIL 2007

1.	D. Metcalf - salary	£438.80
2.	A. King - salary	£491.00
3.	D. Metcalf - petty cash	£12.36
4.	HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE & NI	£363.16

5.	ERYC - refuse disposal	£110.90
6.	Yorkshire Water - first quarter 07 allotments	£13.22
7.	Airo Refrigeration - air conditioning annual Maintenance contract	£205.63