

**MINUTES OF RUFFORTH WITH KNAPTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2011  
IN RUFFORTH VILLAGE HALL STARTING AT 7.30pm**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillor RA Lee (RL) Chairman

Councillor R Syms (RS)

Councillor C Valentine (CV)

Councillor P Williams (PW)

Councillor Mrs A Powell (AP)

Councillor Mrs H Butterworth (HB)

Councillor Tim Haward (TH)

Councillor K Clarke (KC)

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Ward Councillor Chris Steward (CS), Barry Otley (Treemendous York), Mrs S Warden (Clerk) and 4 members of the public

**171 APOLOGIES ACCEPTED:** None

It was agreed to take Item 180 next.

**180 CO-OPTIONS:**

AP introduced Keith Clarke to the council, he is a resident of Knapton and treasurer of the Knapton Allotments. AP proposed Keith Clarke as councillor for Knapton Ward, this was seconded by RS and all agreed. RL welcomed KC to the council and after he had signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and the Register of Members Interests KC took his seat on the council.

**172 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** KC declared an interest in Item 178 as he was treasurer of Knapton Allotments

**173 TREEMENDOUS YORK:**

Barry Otley was welcomed by RL to talk about this project. Mr Otley had given out leaflets regarding the project to those present. The aim of the project is to plant 50,000 trees by 2014 as currently York has a low level of trees. This has been built into the Core Strategy, LDF and the CYC project officer is Wendy Taylor. Both she and Mr Otley are going around councils etc. to inform as many as possible about the project. A site has been identified near the Knapton allotments for woodland. The project is looking to plant trees and hedges on council land, schools, sports fields and private land. Donations are being sought through sponsorship and businesses.

RL asked councillors to give thought to where trees could be planted and to let the Clerk know, who would then in turn inform Barry Otley.

There is a Green Infrastructure Strategy, which works similarly to S106s. Any pasture land/hedges/trees taken away during the planning process has to be replaced to equal the biodiversity if not more.

Barry Otley also said that there was a new development with the cycle track in that Mr White had put in outline planning for Algarth and therefore there was an opportunity to bring the cycle track further into the village.

RL thanked Barry Otley for attending the meeting.

**174 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2011 were proposed as a true record by TH seconded by HB, agreed and signed.

**175 WARD COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS:**

CS said there had been a Ward meeting since our last meeting. He had also been on a tour of Knapton with AP.

**176 CLERK'S REPORT:**

The Clerk would enlist the help of the Gliding Club in getting the signs updated on Wetherby Road to read York Gliding Club as it was no longer the Ouse Gliding Club. They also needed to be brown to show a leisure activity.

AP will let the Clerk know the contact for getting the planning guide books for councillors. John Ross (CYC) had assured the Clerk that he had not forgotten about chippings for Southfield Lane.

**177 PLANNING:**

Oakwood Farm had applied for a trade counter in one of their business units and this has been approved with conditions. Ground Solar Panels had been approved at Acomb Grange. The Parish Council had made comments on the planning application for signage at the Old School. The Parish Council have also made comments and seek safeguards on the Outline Planning Application for Algarth. Council felt the access was too close to the bad bend on the B1224 and were seeking provision of land for the cycle track.

**178 FINANCE:**

The Clerk produced a monthly financial report, a copy of which is in the minute file.

Invoices for payment: It was agreed to pay the following: £165 to Mr Bush for grass cutting, £80 to Tim Bilbrough for cutting the grass in the Wildflower Meadow, £38.82 to HB for sand for the wheelchair access to the Burial Ground, £117.70 to Our Celebraton Ltd for newsletter printing and £970 to the Methodist Church for hosting the Post Office.

Receipts: £1.79 bank interest, £843 for a burial plot and reserved burial plot in the Natural Burial Ground, £3,125 2<sup>nd</sup> instalment of the precept and £40 memorial stone fee.

Bank Balances - £8,758.06

The Clerk said that she would endeavour to do the VAT reclaim before the next meeting.

RS had been unable to attend councillor training costing £85 due to a family emergency. The Clerk had tried to get the £85 back but was unable to. TH proposed that due to circumstances council would not ask RS for the £85 and all were agreed.

RL proposed £250 for a mower and strimmer for Knapton Allotments out of the S106 money and all agreed.

**179 CYCLE ROUTE:**

CS will email copies of the action plans on the various maps of the cycle way to councillors. There was nothing CS was able to add that Barry Otley had not already said under Item 173.

**181 KNAPTON PROJECTS:**

AP is looking for grants for a garden area by the allotments.

RS had done some litter picking around Knapton with some volunteers.

The Clerk is to ask Rachel Stewart how often litter picking is carried out in Knapton, if ever.

**182 CORRESPONDENCE:**

Most correspondence had been discussed earlier under planning. St Stephen's Scout Group are looking to recruit scouts from the parish.

**183 LDF (Local Development Framework):**

The Parish Council has responded to the consultation on the LDF and a copy of this response has been seen by all councillors.

**184 RUFFORTH POND:**

CV had taken pictures illustrating how overgrown the pond is and that there were tree branches overhanging the road. BTCV have not yet got back to CV with quotes and so this item is to go on the next agenda.

**185 ROAD SURFACE NEAR WEST COTTAGE, WETHERBY ROAD, RUFFORTH:**

A letter and photographs from the resident of West Cottage showed extremely bad flooding in wet weather and there was concern over speeding traffic. TH thought it appeared there was a collapsed or blocked drain. The Clerk will follow this up with Highway Drainage.

**186 ANOMALIES IN THE PARISH BOUNDARIES:**

AP explained that Acomb Grange on the Acomb side of the ring-road was in Rufforth Ward but Andrew Sykes' farm on the Rufforth side was in Knapton Ward. AP will go in to see Andrew Flecknor in CYC Electoral Services to see if this can be changed. Mr Sykes' farm should be in Rufforth Ward.

RL will see that newsletters are delivered to Acomb Grange in the future.

**187 REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS:**

Burial Ground – HB said that the Community Pay Back scheme needed stronger leadership. Some work very hard but others do as little as possible as they are only there because they have to be. CS felt that HB should feed this back to the scheme's managers.

Two wheelchair users had used the wheelchair access to the Burial Ground and said that the path was not wide enough by the grass and were happy to meet HB up there to discuss the problems.

Help is needed in the Natural Burial ground to rake off the grass as soon as it is dry enough. The Clerk is to email Julie Hood asking if the roundabout at the junction of the B1224 with the A1237 can be cut back as the sight lines are now bad due to the shrubs getting too tall.

Ward Committee – There had been a meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> October.

Archiving: Progress is being made. CV is planning another history weekend and would welcome anything of interest from parishioners. RL thanked PW and Rae Mould for their archiving work.

YLCA : The next meeting is in February.

**188 COMMUNICATIONS:**

RL thanked TH for putting out the newsletter.

TH will post up topical items of interest on the web site home page.

**189 MINOR MATTERS AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA:**

Knapton Councillors may look into making Knapton a "No Cold Calling Zone".

Milestones and Ideas for next year's budget are to go on the next agenda.

The Clerk will ask for grass cutting quotes - to go on the next agenda.

The Clerk is to ask Mr Bush to cut the hedges around the Burial ground and at the back of the sleeper area on Southfield Lane as per his quote.

**190 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2011 at 7.30pm in Rufforth Village Hall.

RL thanked all those for attending and closed the meeting at 9.25 pm.

**191 PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date

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