

Rudston Parish Council

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Minutes of a Meeting held in the Village Hall on
Wednesday, 22nd August, 2012.

1. Present: Mr. A.S. Ezard (Chairman)
Mr. N. Watson
Mr. S. Rhodes
Mr. R.D. Corner
Mr. T. Smallwood
Mr. R. Overfield
Mrs. F. Turner
Mr. P. Wood
Mr. B. Warcup
Mr. P. Crossland (Clerk)
2. Apologies: Mrs. A. Starkey
3. Minutes of Previous Meetings
Amendments were agreed as follows: Item 6 (xi) 27/6/12 – substitution of “Mr. Warcup and Mrs. Turner” for “Mr. Watson”. Also: item 3 (ii) 1/8/12 - substitution of “catchment areas” for “cost per child”. The Minutes of the meetings held on 27th June and 1st August, 2012 were then agreed and signed as a true record.
In passing, Mrs. Turner remarked that Church Lane footpath (item 6 viii, 27/6/12) was still a concern, and it was agreed that the Clerk should request repairs.
4. There were no Declarations of interest.
5. Public Representations.
- A letter had been received by the Chairman from Mrs. Dawson of Rudston House. By request it was read out to the meeting, by the Clerk. Regarding the Wind Turbine plans for Springdale (item 2, ii, 1/8/12, refers), Mrs. Dawson took exception to the Parish Council’s official response from Mr. Watson as it appeared on East Riding of Yorkshire Council’s website.
Mr. Watson then read out a copy of that response, and members confirmed that it fairly and accurately represented parish council views.
Mr. Watson to reply directly to Mrs. Dawson.

6. Matters Arising:(i) Audit (item 6 v, 27/6/12)

The audit had been completed, with no comment from the Audit Commission. The results had been duly advertised and made available in the village for the statutory period. Invoice since received (same fee as last year), and to pay at this meeting.

(ii) Development Limits (item 6 vi)

No report, as the sub-committee had yet to meet. The Chairman then arranged for that to happen shortly.

(iii) Cluster Meeting (item 6 x)

Mr. Watson had attended, and reported. The agenda had been changed, but Rudston topics had received an airing. They included: school transport (as reported in item 3 ii, 1/8/12), pot-holes (most now repaired), and planning (no change likely). A map showing Ward areas and Rudston's position along with surrounding villages as regards Driffield and Bridlington, was produced. There was some discussion about this and its implications.

The Clerk had received notice of a "cluster meeting" to be held in Rudston, but it was established that this referred to a different one. (see Any Other Business).

(iv) Denby House Wind Turbines (item 7 ii)

Like Tuft Hill (item 7 i), an appeal had now been lodged with the Planning Inspectorate against the refusal of the plans.

(v) East of "The Teazels" (item 8 ii)

Planning permission granted for: erection of single storey dwelling, access and layout to be considered. The Clerk read out some notable conditions, especially with regard to latter part of the permission.

(vi) Code of Conduct (item 9)

The updated Code of Conduct had been received from E.R.Y.C. and the Clerk had re-printed with minor wording changes as appropriate for the parish council. Copies had been distributed to members with agendas.

The Code was agreed, and formally adopted with immediate effect.

(Clerk's note: For the record, all members completed Register of Interests forms)

(vii) Bosville Arms (item 14 ii)

Mr. Watson had prepared a report for the newsletter, which he read out to the meeting. There was discussion of the current position as known, which would be relayed to the village at a meeting to be held in the Village Hall on 8th September. The Bosville Arms was "for sale" and though provoking interest, there had been no offers. Villagers were to be asked for views on the possibility of setting up a Community Interest group. This would be separate to the parish council, but Mr. Watson had produced a suggested Business Plan as a start. It was stressed that the other buildings at the site gave the potential for a number of businesses or activities besides a public house. Various suggestions had been made, and others from any interested person in the village would be welcomed. A considerable advantage was that the property was "freehold". Mrs. Turner remarked that it should

- be emphasised that this would be separate from the parish council, and Mr. Watson would ensure that this was made clear.
- (viii) 21 Southside Lane (item 2 i, 1/8/12)
Planning permission granted for: erection of conservatory to side.
- (ix) Springdale Wind Turbine (item 2 ii, 1/8/12)
This item had been largely superseded by the letter in item 4, but it was noted that there were strong objections to the plans from elsewhere, with “cards” having been produced urging people to lodge individual objections.

7. Parish Council as Employer

The Clerk had only recently become aware that when he became classed as an employee for tax purposes last year, then the parish council as employer became subject to national employer/employee regulations. He read out a prepared statement outlining requirements. While some could wait, as they would only need to be in place before any new clerk was appointed, the salary question was more urgent as the national minimum wage (currently £6.08 per hour) was now a consideration. Clerks’ hours were difficult to work out, as an hourly rate rather than a salary would need to be established, but the Clerk had made a start at estimating a reliable average per week or month. Meanwhile he recommended that an increase in pay from 1st October should be considered, with another from 1st April next year, and any further to be negotiated at that time.

The Clerk apologised for not being aware of all this earlier, and also for recent extra expenses in connection with Code of Conduct.

Members to consider this for next meeting, and Mr. Watson would consult National Association of Local Clerks website, from where full information would be available.

8. Committee Reports

- (i) The Tennis Club required sight of the playing field lease, which the chairman and clerk had so far been unable to locate.
- (ii) Village Bingo money for another year was to go to Playing Field, where the cricketpitch was undergoing repair after an unfortunate early season error.
- (iii) There was further discussion on Childrens Playground (item 3i, 1/8/12 refers)

9. (There were no further Members’ Village Issues).

10. Payment of Accounts

Payment was authorised and cheques signed for:

Audit Commission (2012 audit)	£162.00
Clerk’s Expenses	£ 20.00
Rudston Village Hall (Hire, two meetings)	£ 15.00

The Clerk also reported receipts of: Bowls Club insurance £62.58,

Gravel Pit Field rent £50.00, and Recycling £118.77. The latter covered

collections of paper and glass in April, glass in May, and nothing in June.

(Clerk's note: also paid E.R.V.A.S. Payroll Services 21/7/12, £15.00)

11. Correspondence

- (i) Two months of E.R. Parish News, one of which mentioned Rudston's Wind Farm Survey with link to website.
- (ii) Latest edition of Playing Field magazine – no interest.
- (iii) Information (but no prices) from a Sandbag supplier.
- (iv) News of E.R.Y.C. Older People Housing Survey. Main points read out to meeting.
- (v) E.R.Y.C. empty properties initiative – Chairman retained for possible interest.
- (vi) E.R.Y.C. were discontinuing involvement in annual parish councils' Playground Inspections, and their sub-contracted company (Play Inspection) had offered the same service for the same price as last year. Then another company (named Playsafety Ltd., but carrying RoSPA heading) had offered an inspection next month for £2 less providing there were five or less pieces of equipment.
Mr. Watson proposed staying with the first, who would be familiar with the site, and all agreed.

12. Any Other Business

- (i) Mrs. Turner reported on the co-operative purchase of Heating Oil idea (item 6 i, 21/3/12 refers). It was thought that a significant discount would be available, and an order would be placed within a week. There were only three households in Rudston involved however (and only two buying), and though it was thought others would be interested they would need to make contact quickly. Mrs. Turner envisaged only two such orders per year, i.e. roughly every six months.
- (ii) Mrs. Turner also reported that Broadband Surveys (item 3 iii, 1/8/12) had been available in paper form at recent Thursday coffee mornings in the village. A few of those left over were produced at the meeting. The Clerk had also mentioned this matter once more in his newsletter column for September, following separate correspondence on the importance of the matter.
- (iii) There was discussion of possibly organising snow clearing on other roads than the usual main road in winter.
- (iv) (The other "cluster meeting", item 6 iii). Mr. Watson reported a disappointing response to a proposed North Wolds Group meeting at Kilham, with only a reply from Boynton to date. Unless further interest was shown, he intended to cancel.

13. Date, Time & Place of Next Meeting

To be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 3rd October, 2012, at 7.30 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

