

Rudston Parish Council

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Minutes of a Meeting held in the Village Hall
on Wednesday, 4th December, 2013

1. Present: Mr. N. Watson (Chairman)
Mr. S. Rhodes
Mr. T. Smallwood
Mr. R. Overfield
Mr. P. Wood
Mrs. A. Starkey
Mrs. F. Turner
Mr. J. Moorfoot
Mr. A.S. Ezard
Mr. B. Warcup
Mr. P. Crossland (Clerk)
+ Mr. P. Ashcroft (Guest Speaker)
2. There were no Apologies, all members being present.
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting
The Minutes of the meeting held on 16th October, 2013, were agreed and signed as a true record.
4. Declarations of Interest: The Chairman declared Eastgate Farm (see later)
5. There were no Public Representations.
6. E.R.Y.C. Planning.
The Chairman welcomed guest speaker, Mr. Peter Ashcroft, Head of Planning, East Riding of Yorkshire Council. He had been invited after the approval of plans for erection of a dwelling East of Olcote (item 6 x, last meeting refers), and a subsequent similar application for Westcroft (see later).
Mr. Ashcroft explained that his council were bound by government housing targets, and though most new development took place in the towns of the area, a few had to be in villages. This could include Rudston, despite its lack of amenities (of which he was reminded by members), with the implication that it was lucky this was only one house. On the particular East of Olcote case, a new Local Plan had yet to be approved at the time of consideration. It has since, and he gave assurance that there should therefore

be no further development on that field. By the same token, the latest plans for Westcroft would not be decided under the same rules as East of Olcote. During questioning from members, Mr. Ashcroft denied that his department were “riding rough-shod” or ignoring parish council recommendations. He explained county council procedure on receipt of applications, 85% of which are processed by officers without need to go forward to planning committee. The case in question had done so however, and he took note of the fact that our Chairman had not received notification by e-mail as should have happened.

Mr. Ashcroft was thanked for his time, and left the meeting.

7. Matters Arising:

(i) Parish Council Vacancy (item 2)

Mr. Corner had duly handed in a letter of resignation to the Chairman. The resulting vacancy had been advertised and no election called, so the Parish Council were free to co-opt a new member. A notice was currently on notice boards and in the newsletter inviting any interested resident to apply before the January meeting.

(ii) Current Grant Expenditure (item 6 i)

Mr. Wood had sourced a suitable paint at a cost of approx. £30, and would proceed at a time of suitable weather. Suggestions of temporary solutions for the footbridge were made by other members, but it was decided not to follow them up.

(iii) Notice Boards (item 6 vi)

Mr. Warcup had obtained measurements but had omitted to bring them along. Matter to be held over until next meeting.

(iv) Community Transport (item 6 ix)

From limited response from the village, but there did appear to be a need for an additional bus service, preferably to Bridlington. After some discussion it was agreed that Nafferton Millennium Bus should be approached.

(v) Broadband (item 8)

There had been more positive response to this, although some people preferred to remain with B.T. A site visit had taken place between the Chairman, the new company, and the vicar at the church, and the tower found to be suitable for a small receiver. The proposal had been put to church authorities and response awaited.

(vi) Cottam Wind Farm (item 12 viii)

A “drop-in” session had taken place in Driffild the previous Saturday, which the Clerk had attended. Not much detail was available as yet, with the company gauging local opinion before presenting plans to the county council.

(vii) Code of Conduct (item 6 vii)

Extra item added, as a further possible addition to Code of Conduct had been received after distribution of agenda. This was for “prejudicial interest” to be considered alongside pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests. Parish councils were

free to add or not at their discretion, and the Chairman proposed that it could be left until the next time the Code of Conduct had to be signed..

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8. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

(i) Thornholme Wind Farm (item 6 ii, 4/9/13)

An acknowledgement to the Parish Council's letter had eventually been received from the Planning Inspectorate. A decision was expected shortly.

(ii) E.R. Local Plan (item 6 vi, 20/3/13)

A final chance to comment had been extended into January, but there was nothing more to add from Rudston.

(Mr. Smallwood left the meeting).

9. Planning Applications:

(i) Eastgate House

Plans received soon after last meeting for: erection of single storey extension to rear following demolition of conservatory. Seen by members, with no observations.

Subsequently approved by E.R.Y.C. - no unusual conditions.

10. Westcroft ("Old and New" Plans)

Concern had been raised about building currently taking place (North of Westcroft plans approved December, 2012), as work was encroaching almost on to the highway. The plans show that only one corner of the building should be up to the boundary. The Clerk had detailed by letter and an e-mail reply later received to say that the site had been visited and the opinion formed that it did not look as though it was going to protrude further. The officer, Mr. Carver, would consult however, and pass on our comments to Highways section. The Chairman suggested that if nothing was heard after a further two weeks, then the Clerk should contact Mr. Carver again. Agreed.

The new plan referred to in item 6 was an outline application for: erection of a dwelling South of Westcroft. Again, this would be outside the village development limit, and all members, having seen the plans, were opposed to the proposal. Planning department verdict on this one awaited.

11. Precept 2014/15

The usual 3 year tables had been included with agendas.

Council Tax Support Funding was again being implemented and figures received that day indicated a sum of £171.77 for Rudston. As last year, this would be rounded to £200. After questions and discussion an unchanged figure of £4,000 (so £3,800) was agreed, and the appropriate form signed by Chairman and Clerk.

12. Committee Reports

Mr. Rhodes reported a grant received by Village Hall, and the installation of solar panels.

13. Members' Village Issues

Mrs. Turner reported a problem with moles alongside the path from Eastgate to Village Hall and on the Children's playground. That had also been noted in a recent playground inspection. (see later). The Chairman offered one possible solution as being the planting of a certain type of bulb, which apparently keeps moles at a distance.

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The Chairman reported road improvements on the main road to Boynton, but they did not include Binsdale Hill drainage.

Mr. Overfield mentioned pot-holes on Kilham Road. The Chairman could not recall if the particular one noted had been reported, and would do so if not.

14. Payment of Accounts:

Transactions connected with Tennis Court work and Grant had taken place.

Paid to Pavescape Ltd.	£4,800.00
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Payment was authorised and cheques signed for:

E.R.Y.C. (Street Lighting Maintenance)	£1,020.44
(increase of £20 inc. V.A.T. on last year)	
Driffield School (Twilight Bus Service donation)	£ 40.00
Mr. A. Moore (Parish Paths)	£ 40.00
Rudston Church (Graveyard maintenance)	£ 100.00
Play Inspection Co. (Children's playground inspection)	£ 78.00
Rudston Village Hall (Hire)	£ 7.50
G. Chatterton (Parish Paths)	£ 75.00
Pavescape Ltd.	£8,082.00

(This necessitated a transfer of funds and the appropriate letter was signed at the meeting – Clerk's note: cheque to be posted Friday).

Receipts ex Grant had been £5,400 from Biffa, and £5,000 from Tennis Club.

There had also been a receipt of £101.15 for Recycling, which although covering three months, was for collection of paper & glass in September only.

15. Correspondence

- (i) Latest Anti-Social Behaviour Report showed one letter sent out to Rudston.
- (ii) The village was invited to register its War Memorial on a national website free of charge ahead of planned centenary events next year. Agreed.
- (iii) E.R. Parish News – nothing to report.
- (iv) Attendance at Fire Service Efficiency meetings was invited, with the nearest at Beverley next week. No interest.
- (v) Introductory letter and leaflet from a Complaints Advocate who will handle any complaints about the N.H.S. Mentioned by Clerk in newsletter.
- (vi) Playground Inspection Report as mentioned earlier. They had found a number of faults (besides moles) but all were of low risk. The report had been passed to Mr. Rhodes. The same company would be booked for next year.
- (vii) A quarterly newsletter "Rural Matters" by e-mail. A round up of matters seen or known from elsewhere.

(viii) E.R.Y.C. had produced a "Winter" booklet containing plans for the onset of bad weather etc.

(Apologies for omission of the following)

(ix) The Parish Council were co-signatories, along with Burton Agnes, Boynton,

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Beeford and Lissett in a letter to Bridlington Free Press regarding wind turbines. This had appeared in the newspaper together with a separate article making clear the opposition by local parish councils to any further wind farm developments, including Thornholme.

16. Any Other Business

(i) Mr. Ezard reported receipt and planting of daffodil bulbs in the village. Thanks due to Mrs. Ezard and Mr. Smallwood for that.

(ii) The Chairman reported on the Old School Garden site (item 6 i, last meeting). He had been asked various questions in view of the Grant applied for. Mr. Ezard's name had been given in connection with wildlife issues, to which he agreed. Soil sample was another question, but it was pointed out that there would be no deep digging there. Mr. Warcup stressed that a clear boundary of the site should be ascertained before any work commenced, and the Clerk was asked to check Land Registry details from the time they were last referred to, in the last few years.

17. Date, Time & Place of Next Meeting

To be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 29th January, 2014, at 7.30 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.