

UPPER POPPLETON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting of UPPER POPPLETON PARISH COUNCIL held on Monday 12 October 1998 at 7.45pm in All Saints Church Hall, Upper Poppleton, York.

PRESENT

Councillors: Mrs N E Fowler (Chairman), Mr K Smith, Mrs J M Bushby, Mr Q J A Macdonald, Mrs E A Parker, Mr A J Peck, Mrs K Richardson and Mrs R Watters.
Mr B J W Mackman (Clerk)
Three members of the public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Mr R Walker, Mr N G M Fellows and Councillor Mr G Moore (City of York)

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Accepted and signed as a true record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Bus shelters

It was reported that the new light in the bus shelter on Poppleton Green did not appear to be working every night.

Work had started on the renewal of the guttering.

(b) Satellite dish in conservation area

The Clerk read a reply from Fiona Derbyshire stating that it was the view of the new Area Development Control Officer, Jonathan Carr, that the decision to allow the satellite dish could not be revoked. The Parish Councillors were not satisfied that the Council had acted properly and the Clerk was asked to write a strong letter stating the points the Councillors had raised and reminding the Council that Parish Councillors have a statutory right to be consulted on all planning matters.

(c) Highway and footway repairs

The sign in Orchard Road/Easthorpe Drive has been erected.

The 'Ebor Way' sign at the junction of Ebor Way and Dikelands Lane has still to be replaced.

(d) Station Road/A59 Junction

The Clerk reported writing a letter to the City of York Council asking if there were plans to alter this junction but had not yet received a reply.

(e) Community Centre litter

Councillor Smith reported that users of the Community Centre are reminded to move their litter. He also reported that the Trust is unable to fund someone to collect litter but are looking for volunteers.

(f) Cyclists

The Clerk read the letter from Mr R P Smith, the Headmaster of Manor School who, in response to the Clerk's letter, said he was going to mention the danger of cycling without lights and riding on the pavement at a forthcoming assembly. Mr Smith observed that adults do not always set a good example. Councillor Smith said he had raised the subject of cyclists at a meeting of the Governors of the Junior School and reported that the Headteacher had mentioned the matter at a School assembly.

4. FINANCE

a) Financial Report

The Clerk presented the Councillors with a detailed report showing the expected income and expenditure for the current financial year. The report showed that current balances were:

Current Account	£200.00
High Interest Account	£9,002.26

The Clerk reported that, in accordance with the Auditors' wishes, he had paid the £12.00 petty cash float into the bank.

b) Accounts to pay - cheques signed at the Meeting

Clerk's remuneration	£610.20
Northern Electricity for the bus shelter light	£18.11

c) Accounts paid

None.

5. PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

a) Plans pending (as per the weekly list posted on the All Saints Hall notice board)

- (a) Ref: 97/02578/OUT Outline application for erection of buildings for B1, B2 and B8 use at Northminster Business Park, Northfield Lane.
- (b) Ref: 98/00634/TCA Felling of poplar tree at Maypole House, The Green for A M Castle.
- (c) Ref: 98/00673/OUT Erection of building at Northminster Business Park for Business and Storage & Distribution for Northminster Properties Ltd.
- (d) Ref: 98/01273/TPO Crown lift and thin A2 chestnut covered by a Tree Preservation Order at 22 Bankside Close for Mr R Partington.
- (e) Ref: 98/01801/FUL Two storey extension to front at 16 Dikelands Close for D McLaughlin and S Hainsworth.
- (f) Ref: 98/01752/FUL Erection of pitched roof first floor extension to rear at York House, Hodgson Lane for Simon Morgan.
- (g) Ref: 98/01752/FUL (amended) Two storey pitched roof extension to rear, together with demolition of part of boundary wall and outbuildings (Retrospective) at York House, Hodgson Lane for Simon Morgan.
- (h) Ref: 97/00257/FUL Erection of dwelling at The Croft, Hodgson Lane for Mrs C Graham.
- (i) Ref: 98/02271/TPO Crown thinning of two sycamore trees in rear garden at 4 Bankside Close for Bryan Lay.

Plans accepted by the City of York Council

- (a) Ref: 98/00946/LBC Erection of detached pitched roof garage at Beechwood House, The Green for Mr & Mrs A A Scruton
- (b) Ref: 98/00948/FUL Erection of a single storey pitched roof garage at Beechwood House, The Green for Mr & Mrs A A Scruton.
- (c) Ref: 98/01160/FUL Erection of two storey pitched roof side extension at 25 Station Road for Mr & Mrs Gallimore.
- (d) Ref: 98/01980/FUL Single storey pitched roof front extension at 70 Station Road for Mr & Mrs Walpole.
- (e) Ref: 98/02015/FUL Single storey pitched roof conservatory at Orchard End, Main Street for Mr I M Prior.
- (f) There were no objections to Ref: 98/01912/TCA Raising crown of two copper beech trees at The Olde Forge Surgery for Upper Poppleton Parish Council

b) Plan refused by the City of York Council

Ref: 98/00951/FUL Erection of a storey pitched roof extension to front, rear, side and detached garage at 11 Brackenhill for Mr J V Collings.

c) Plans withdrawn

- (a) Ref: 98/00297/LBC Erection of 6 x 1 square metre solar collectors in inner roof valley at Manor Farm, The Green for Mr & Mrs Conyers.
- (b) Ref: 98/01279/OUT Outline application for the erection of B1 Office at Northminster Business Park by Northminster Properties Ltd.

Councillor Macdonald said that Council Officers in the Planning Department were overworked especially in the North West Area which is the area in which Upper Poppleton lies. Councillor Macdonald said that he regretted the departure of Zoe Hill, one of the Planning Officers in the Department. He said that 'benchmark' local authorities were quicker in approving planning applications but that they were not as thorough as York was.

There was a discussion about the fact that the recent plans for York House in Hodgson Lane had been refused by the Council. It was a fact that a full application for this development had not been received by the Parish Council; only an outline planning application. Given that the York House development had caused great concern amongst some residents in the village the Councillors agreed that they would be more watchful on future outline planning applications.

6. HIGHWAYS FOOTPATHS & LAMPPOSTS

(a) Horse manure

The Councillors expressed concern that footpaths in the village are being fouled by horse manure and the Clerk was asked to write to the Environmental Health Department of the City of York Council to advise them of their concern.

(b) Vandalism

It was noted that two lampposts near the Community Centre had been cut off at their bases. Subsequently the lampposts had been replaced.

(c) Lampposts

The problem experienced in getting the City of York Council to install lampposts of a set design was discussed. The design of lampposts being replaced is in direct correlation to the amount of money in the Council's budget. Councillor Smith suggested that, to ensure that new and replacement lampposts of a standard design be installed, the Parish Council made up the difference between what the City of York Council could afford and the cost of the new lampposts.

Councillor Smith agreed that he would make a schedule of the design of lampposts in the village.

7. POPPLETON COMMUNITY CENTRE VILLAGE TRUST

(a) Report from Council Representative

- i. Councillor Smith reported that some kerbstones have been donated to the Centre.
- ii. Anchor Security has been engaged to tend to the security at the Centre. Their charge is £25.00 per annum with a call-out fee of £12.50 per time.

(b) Litter

See 3e above.

8. VILLAGE GREENS

(a) Trees

Councillors Fowler and Parker had looked at the trees on Upper Poppleton Green with Mr Gregory from Ryland Horticulture Tree & Garden Service. Subsequently, Mr Gregory submitted a quotation for £975.00 plus VAT for crown cleaning or formatively pruning selected trees. The Parish Councillors agreed to accept the quotation.

(b) Parking

- i. Councillor Smith reported the contents of a letter received from Police Sergeant Andy Payne with regards to illegal parking on the village Greens. Sergeant Payne suggested that when an offence was committed a letter should be sent to the offender quoting the licence number of the vehicle, the date, time, location and, if possible, the duration of the offence. In addition the letter would state that details would be forwarded to Sergeant Payne at Acomb Police Station should a further offence be committed. A further offence would mean a stronger letter advising that the matter had been reported to the police and warning that a prosecution would entail a claim for costs. Sergeant Payne suggested that the penalty should be increased. Councillor Smith said he would contact the DETR (Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions) to establish the required procedures for arranging this.
- ii. Councillor Parker suggested that two more bollards be placed outside the Dentist's Surgery. The Councillors agreed to look at the site.

(c) Signs

When the person who had put the posters put on the lampposts and trees on the Green was approached she said that her enthusiasm had run away with her.

Maintenance

Nothing to report.

9. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The Clerk was asked to provide a wreath for Remembrance Sunday which will be paid for by the Councillors.

A working party of Councillors to tidy up the Memorial garden on the Green is to be arranged.

10. CITY OF YORK NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME

Councillor Peck said that the Ringmaster System was not working well as it relies on the quality of the messages received and these have been of poor quality. Recent information on the burgling of garden sheds had been good.

Councillor Fowler reported that she had raised the subject of the Ringmaster System at the last Community and Police Meeting. The Police agreed that the system wasn't the best system and that they were considering replacing it.

11. CITY OF YORK COUNCIL'S ATTITUDE TO RURAL AREAS

Councillor Smith said that, in his opinion, the City of York Council is City orientated and that it does not fully understand either Parish Council Local Government or Rural needs. To support his idea he gave the following examples:

- i. The Leader of the Labour Group's response to the Government's publication on Rural England was "The subsidising of shops and Post Offices in Rural Areas is unacceptable unless the same applies to businesses in the City".
- ii. The Council replaced a street lamp in Chantry Green with two lamps under the apparent misapprehension that they were doing the village a favour suggesting that they were unable to understand the difference between a rural village and a densely populated suburb of the city.
- iii. Community Centres in the City such as Foxwood and Oaklands are run by the Council who pay for staff and do not charge rent. The Community Centre in the village relies on volunteers, receives a small service grant and has to pay nearly £2000 a year for ground rent.
- iv. Whilst the Parish Council has a statutory right to be consulted on Planning Matters not all planning applications are passed to the Parish Council.
- v. The City of York Council appears to think of Parish Councils as Neighbourhood Forums.

Councillor Macdonald suggested that the Poppletons could be considered to be a suburban area rather than a rural area.

Councillor Macdonald said that in his opinion Parish Councils could be modernised and allow members of the public to have a say at meetings.

12. BUS SERVICE TO ACOMB

Councillor Richardson said that several elderly people had asked her if a bus service could be provided to take them from Poppleton to Acomb so that they could go shopping there. The Clerk was asked to write to local bus companies to ask if a regular service could be provided

13. CYCLE RACKS OUTSIDE THE POST OFFICE

The Clerk provided Councillor Parker with a copy of a price list taken from a catalogue showing the cost of various types of cycle racks as recommended by the City of York Council's Cycling Officer. Councillor Parker agreed to seek the postmaster's opinion about a cycle rack.

14. MILLENNIUM FUND

Details of the ideas brought up at the Village Meeting in the Community Centre on 24 September were presented to the Councillors.

15. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Details of the following correspondence were read to the Councillors:

- a) A letter from Leslie Richardson about the oak tree by the Library.
- b) A note of the meeting of the British Sugar Liaison Committee meeting. The Councillors suggested that Councillor John Woodall of Nether Poppleton Parish Council could be asked to attend on behalf of Upper Poppleton and report back. The Clerk is to advise Councillor Parker when the next BSLC meeting is to be held.
- c) A letter from the Junior and Infant Schools Governing Body appealing for financial assistance towards the cost of the new cover for the School swimming pool. The Councillors agreed in principle to make a donation of £625. The proposal to be put on the agenda for the November meeting.
- d) A letter from Peter Semmens suggesting how to reduce the congestion at the A59 and A19 roundabouts by making the circulation wider. The Clerk was asked to write to the City of York Council to ask for current plans for these roundabouts and to write to Mr Semmens with the Council's reply.
- e) A letter from Mrs Thompson of Scagglethorpe House asking the Councillors to be more vigilant over applications for outline planning permissions. The Clerk was asked to reply to confirm the Councillors' determination to be more vigilant in future.

Various documents to be circulated to the Councillors:

- a) Minutes of Nether Poppleton Parish Council's meeting of 20 July 1998.
- b) Residents Association of the Parishes in the Poppleton Ward minutes of 26 August.
- c) Rural Development Commission's details on Rural Transport.
- d) York Health Services Trust Annual Report
- e) City of York Neighbourhood Watch Associations Guardian Issue No. 5.
- f) Ainsty Parish Councils' Working Group minutes of 14 May 1998.
- g) City of York Economic Bulletin, September 1998.
- h) An appeal for money from the World Development Movement

16. COUNCILLORS' COMMENTS

(a) Councillor Smith

- i. Presented the Meeting with the minutes of the Poppleton Moat Fields Management Group meeting of 28 July 1998.
- ii. Asked that the sum of £750, as provided in this year's budget, be contributed to the Moat Fields Group. This item is to be put on the agenda for the November meeting.
- iii. There was a possibility that the cost of a new gate for the Moat Field would be borne by the National Grid.

(b) Councillor Richardson

Mentioned that she had received complaints about the smell from the turkey farm and that the complainants were wondering if illnesses were linked to the smell.

(c) Councillor Watters

Suggested that there should be drop stone kerbs by Chantry Gap and the School to give easier access for wheelchairs and pushchairs. This item is to be put on the agenda for the November meeting.

(d) Councillor Peck

Mentioned that the disc with the arrow on the pillar in the traffic island at the junction of Station Road and the A59 obscures oncoming traffic for vehicles turning right into Station Road. This item is to be put on the agenda for the November meeting.

(e) Councillor Bushby

- i. Reported that the seat opposite the Library is in poor condition.
- ii. Suggested that solicitors should inform clients of the fact that they are moving into a Conservation Area.

(f) Councillor Parker

- i. Raised the question of a Village Sign.
- ii. Suggested that the 30mph sign in Hodgson Lane should be moved.
- iii. Suggested that the grass on the bend in Hodgson Lane should be cut on a regular basis.

These three items are to be included on the agenda for the November meeting

17. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

9 November 1998 at 7.30pm.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.55pm.