

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF POTTO PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY, 21 JULY 2008 AT 7.15 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Councillor Mr A Wilde (Chairman) Councillors Mrs D Hardy, Mr G Woodhouse and Mr N Walters

District Councillor Mrs B Fortune

2 members of the public

**Meeting open to the public**

Mr Longbotham of Keepers Cottage expressed his concerns about the traffic which will use Back Parsons Lane and Parsons Lane once the bridge at the Black Swan crossroads is open. Mr Longbotham has no objection to the bridge but he said the two roads will become feeder roads between many villages because it is a quicker route. It is also a single track road and all the way down there are blind spots. There have been accidents. He has asked the County Council to look at this matter and come up with a solution on how to deal with the traffic flow. Speed humps will not work. Mr Longbotham would prefer a one way system and asked for the Parish Council's support. The Chairman said safety is paramount. The Parish boundary is half way down the lane. He asked if Mr Longbotham would send copies of his letters to the Parish Council. The whole idea of the bridge was to reduce accidents on the A19 but we don't want to move them elsewhere. Councillor Woodhouse said Item 11 on the Parish Plan is the monitoring of traffic on this lane.

Mrs Cartwright complained about a stile that had been altered and was now very difficult to use and asked whether the householder was allowed to remove the gate. She thought quite a few stiles were not passable with dogs. The Chairman said he has investigated this and said there is a standard for stiles. The householder was given permission to change the stile. Footpaths and stiles by legislation only have to make provision for people, not dogs. The householder is having a lot of problems with dog fouling on his property. He has agreed to take the top rail off the stile to bring it back to regulation height. Some dog fouling signs will also be erected. The footpath arrow may be moved because it is misleading. Mrs Cartwright said some of the footpaths are not very easy and some of the stiles also. The Chairman said there are rules and regulations which cover them but it is something we can take into consideration when doing the footpath survey.

The Chairman closed the meeting to the public.

1. An apology for absence was received from County Councillor Mr T Swales.
2. The minutes of last month's meeting had been circulated and after being agreed as a correct record were signed by the Chairman.
3. **Police Report and Neighbourhood Watch**

No crime statistics were received from NY Police. Councillor Woodhouse had arranged a meeting with Mr Massie, Mr Hardy, Mr Richardson, the Chairman and PCSO Jason Lloyd. The purpose of the meeting was for Mr Massie to resign as Co-ordinator. Mr Hardy will now act as Co-ordinator with Mr Procter and Mr Richardson as deputies. The way forward was discussed with the Officer and Mr Hardy was left with a number of ideas and actions he would work on.

4. **Planning Decisions of Hambleton District Council.** None.

5. **Planning Applications**

- a. Conservatory extension to Chapel Cottage, 38 Cooper Lane for Mr Walters. 08/01958.  
Councillor Walters declared an interest and left the room.  
The Council unanimously agreed to approve the application.  
Councillor Walters had drafted a pro forma on planning applications which could be delivered to neighbouring properties when a planning application was received by the Council. Councillors gave their comments. Councillor Woodhouse proposed that the pro forma be adopted with the amendments discussed, Councillor Hardy seconded and this was agreed unanimously.

6. **Matters Arising from last month's meeting**

- a. **Footpaths.** Mrs Cartwright has agreed to put together some leaflets on footpath walks. The Clerk gave copies of the report previously done by Dr Hallett to Councillors. Councillor Walters will scan the footpaths map and send to Councillors.
- b. **Parish Plan.** The Chairman congratulated the Steering Group on the production of a very good and useful document. Councillor Woodhouse said the Steering Group has been disbanded. A summary of the results will be given to Councillors. The Clerk was asked to put the Action No. on the agenda when actions from the Plan were mentioned.
- c. **No Cold Calling Zone.** The Chairman had left messages for Mrs Fitzgerald, NYCC but has had no response.
- d. **Grass Cutting.** All the verges have been cut and the hedges trimmed. A letter of thanks will be sent to Mr Kitching for doing such a comprehensive job. Only the north side of Gold Hill Loop Road is our responsibility and it has been cut. Councillor Woodhouse proposed that the Council pay Mr Kitching his account of £90 for the work, Councillor Walters seconded and this was agreed unanimously. Councillor Woodhouse proposed that the cutting of the verges be carried out in May and August each year, Councillor Walters seconded and this was agreed unanimously. Councillor Walters said it had been mentioned that the cut would be about 3 feet wide and some places a lot more has been cut. It was agreed that Mr Kitching will be asked just to cut 3 feet wide on the verges and leave the rest if the verge is wider.
- e. **Water Trough.** The Chairman said it looks as though it has been cleaned out. Councillor Hardy said Mr Cook from Swainby thought it should be on the Council's insurance policy.
- f. **YRCC Workshop on improving your community newsletter.** No-one had attended the workshop held on 2 July in Hutton Rudby.
- g. **YLCA Councillor Training Programme and Joint Annual Training Conference.** No-one was available to attend.

7. **Finance**

A letter received from Mrs Roberts, the Internal Auditor, had been circulated to Councillors before the meeting. Councillor Walters proposed, seconded by Councillor Woodhouse that the contents of the letter be noted. This was agreed unanimously. Her account for carrying out the internal audit of the Council of £35.00 was agreed for payment. A copy of the financial regulations had been given to each Councillor and these will be discussed at the next meeting. The Standing Orders had been retyped with the amendments agreed with YLCA and will be copied for each Councillor. The balances in the Council's accounts are as follows:

Community Account	£574.32 (10 July 2008)
Business Premium Account	£1,691.97 (9 June 2008)

## **8. Village Hall**

Councillor Walters reported that he had obtained records from various sources regarding the access lane to the Village Hall. He had written again to the Land Registry and YLCA. He had also written to the 9 residents whose homes bordered the lane. Information from the Stokesley and Villages Regeneration Group meeting was that YRCC and the District Council could provide help with grant applications. Councillor Walters said the last Village Hall meeting concerned the Open Gardens and Barbecue. Thanks were expressed to the Village Hall Committee for organizing the Open Gardens Day.

## **9. Correspondence**

- a. Circular and map from Hanson Contracting concerning the temporary closure of the A19 between 7.00 pm on 19 July and 10.00 am on 20 July. The circular had been put on the notice board.
- b. Circular from Hambleton District Council advertising free loft and cavity wall insulation. This will be put on the notice board.
- c. Leaflet from Hambleton Strategic Partnership advertising a seminar to be held on Developing Children's Play Area on 23 July at East Thirsk. Received.
- d. Agenda for Joint Annual Conference of YLCA which had been held at Upper Poppleton on 19 July. No-one had attended.
- e. Circular from CE Electric on Building links within the community. They suggest a register of the people who may be vulnerable in case of power cuts. It was agreed to put this item on the agenda for next month for discussion. Councillor Woodhouse suggested a note on the notice board, web site or newsletter.
- f. Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report from NYCC. Circulate to Councillors.
- g. Clerks & Councils Direct magazine. Circulate to Councillors.
- h. Countryside Voice magazine from CPRE. Circulate to Councillors.
- i. Circular from Northallerton & District Voluntary Service Association enclosing a "Wheels 2 Work" poster and asking for it to be displayed in the Parish. It will be put on the notice board.
- j. Country Air magazine from YRCC. Circulate to Councillors.
- k. Newsletter from York & North Yorkshire Playing Fields Association. Circulate to Councillors.
- l. Letter from NYCC giving details of the Footway Slurry Sealing Programme 2008. Received.
- m. Circular from Mencap requesting a donation. The Council decided not to give a donation.

District Councillor Mrs Fortune joined the meeting.

- n. Brochure from Biker Contracts. Given to Councillor Walters.

## **10. Report from District Councillor Mrs Fortune**

District Councillor Mrs Fortune apologized for her late attendance but she had been to the Stokesley Area Forum meeting. 85 people were present. She said it was a useful meeting for Parish Councils to push their ideas, plans, etc. forward. She thought Parishes would gain a lot. She had, as requested, supplied a quantity of dog fouling signs. She was pleased to see the new trees were looking very healthy. The concerns that were raised about the Dog & Gun were almost resolved before it went to Committee.

The Chairman said he had contacted Northern Gas Network about the possibility of putting gas into the Village. If 80% of residents indicated that they were interested they would put gas in.

Councillor Woodhouse said a resident had raised the question of broadband speed. This will be put on next month's agenda for discussion. District Councillor Mrs Fortune will try to get information about the BT Exchange.

