

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF
POTTO PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 20 APRIL 2009 IN THE VILLAGE HALL
FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL MEETING OF ELECTORS**

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

County Councillor Mr T Swales
District Councillor Mrs B Fortune

4 members of the public

Meeting open to the public

Mr Howard said he farmed the land adjoining the footpath and the unclassified road. He has had grave concerns over a number of years and has expressed his view about how the lane should be used. For the first 200 metres over 100 metres is a blind bend and Mr Howard was concerned about the speed of motor bikes, the safety of children and horses and that one day there will be a serious accident. Yesterday morning 10 off road motor bikes came through the village at a speed of about 50-60 mph and the top of the lane has been ripped clean off. Motor bikes also come through at night. He was concerned that the lane could not have a barrier across it. He thought the work on the lane had created a faster and faster surface. He knew that the subject of the hedge had been raised. The hedge is entered into an environmental scheme and only cut once every 3 years but adjacent to a right of way they can be trimmed. Last year somebody unknown tried to cut the hedge. Hedges should not be cut after 1 March. Mr Howard said he will document his views. The Chairman asked Mr Howard what he would like to see happen. Mr Howard would like the lane to be left the way it was. It can now be used by any vehicle which wants to get through. The Chairman said the road is open for people to use. Councillor Walters said the major issue is the motor bikes. We need to think about how we inform people that children and horses are using the lane. We have been told that we are not allowed to put signs up. County Councillor Mr Swales asked if gates could be put up. They would get the speed down but not restrict access. The Chairman said we can take this up with the County Council. Councillor Hardy said the motor bike clubs have done work on the lane and when she had encountered them they do slow down.

Mr Whitfield asked had happened about the request for a pavement from Potto to Prestons depot. The County Council said the estimated cost would be £84,000 and details had been passed to County Hall for a full assessment to determine its priority for future funding. Councillor Woodhouse said comments were noted during the compiling of the Parish Plan but it did not make the final Plan as an action.

County Councillor Mr Swales suggested that the Parish Council ask Mr Lewis from the County Council to look at the green lane and the pavement.

The Chairman closed the meeting to the public.

1. There were no apologies for absence.
2. The minutes of last month's meeting had been circulated and were signed by the Chairman after being agreed as a correct record.
3. **Police Report and Neighbourhood Watch.** No statistics were received from NY Police this month. District Councillor Mrs Fortune reported on an incident in Potto on Sunday which had been brought to her attention by Councillor Hardy. She had reported it to the Police but

had not heard back from them. Councillor Hardy said the Police had contacted her for information. Councillor Woodhouse had a note from Mr Procter about an e mail he had received from NY Police about the Annual Safer Neighbourhoods Award Scheme which recognized the work of local officers. The Council felt unable to nominate anyone as an officer is very rarely present at meetings.

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

5. **Planning Applications**

- a. Single storey extension to The Bungalow, 12 Cooper Lane for Mr Wyatt 09/00788/FUL. The Council voted three for refusal and one for approval. The grounds for refusal are that it contravenes the Supplementary Planning Guidance for Extending Your Home in terms of design; the overdevelopment of the site and the visual impact. There were also concerns about it being extended into agricultural land.
- b. First floor extension and installation of a roof light and a window at 20 Cooper Lane for Mr L Bailey. 09/007978/FUL. The Chairman opened the meeting to the public. Mr Bailey explained his plan. Mr Whitfield commented that the proposal would alter the terrace and would affect the light considerably. The Chairman closed the meeting to the public. Councillor Hardy recommended approval, Councillor Woodhouse seconded and all agreed.
- c. Installation of 2 windows and porch extension. Change of use of land from agricultural to domestic. Construction of domestic garage, stable and store for Mr T Foley 09/00663/FUL. The Chairman opened the meeting to the public. Mr Foley explained his plan. Mr Foley said his neighbour had commented that he was concerned that his view would be compromised. The Chairman closed the meeting to the public. The Council unanimously recommended approval.

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

- a. **Footpaths.** It was agreed to carry forward the provision of footpath guides to next month's meeting. The Chairman said volunteers have been working at the weekend filling in holes with road planings provided by Highways. The huge amount of work was organized by Mr Hardy and our thanks go to him and some friends who provided heavy moving gear. The Council agreed to pay for the hire of the dumper. The Chairman said he sympathized with Mr Howard about the motor bikes but a number of people have commented on what a good job has been done. A second footpath by Mainland to the old railway line has also been improved.
- b. **Traffic in Parsons Back Lane.** Councillor Woodhouse said the Lane has been patched. It was closed to through traffic for 5 days. It is an improvement. Bring forward next month.
- c. **No Cold Calling Zone.** Information from the County Council was read out by the Chairman. A letter drop will be taking place soon.
- d. **Pride in Potto.** A note had been delivered to everyone in Potto about flower tubs for the parish. The Dog & Gun and the Swainbees Nursery will each be sponsoring one. The Chairman will bring it up at the Village Hall Committee meeting. Councillor Woodhouse said the Church had a green bin which seems to have disappeared. Another one will be requested.
- e. **Seat.** The Chairman congratulated Councillor Woodhouse for his work on installing the new seat which looks very good.

- f. Sandbags. Carry forward to next month.
- g. YLCA Branch Meeting. No-one had been able to attend the meeting held on 25 March.
- h. Grass Cutting. Councillor Woodhouse has spoken to Mr Kitching who will cut the verges twice during the season. The cost will be about £150/60.
- i. Gifts and Hospitality. A note on gifts and hospitality from Hambleton District Council had been circulated to Councillors. Councillors decided against having their own code.
- j. Spinal Injuries Association. A letter and leaflet had been received asking people to hold a Fish & Chip Supper on 15 May and give proceeds to the Association. The poster will be put on the notice board.

County Councillor Swales left the meeting.

7. Finance

The accounts for the year ended 31 March 2009 had been circulated. Councillor Hardy proposed, seconded by Councillor Woodhouse that the accounts be accepted. This was agreed unanimously. Councillors were given a copy of the Annual Return. The figures for Section 1 were agreed and the Return signed by the Chairman and the Clerk. The questions on Section 2, the Annual Governance Statement, were then answered and the section signed by the Chairman and the Clerk. The Annual Return and all the accompanying papers will be given to Mrs Roberts for the internal audit. The Chairman will look at the NALC/SLCC Practitioners Guide for information on Risk Assessments. The Clerk gave the balances in the Council's accounts:

Community Account	£263.94 (9 April 2009)
Business Premium Account	£1,698.32 (March 2009)

An invoice had been received from YLCA for renewal of membership for £99.00. It was agreed for payment.

8. Report from District Councillor Mrs Fortune.

District Councillor Mrs Fortune said she will look into grants for gates with the Community Safety Partnership and Mr Cole from the District Council who deals with community projects. The project may not be eligible. Stokesley and Villages Regeneration Group may also be an avenue to try.

9. **Matters Arising from Annual Meeting.** The Council agreed to write to Mr Lewis of the County Council asking him to do a site visit at the green lane and pavement from Potto to Prestons.

10. **Village Hall.** The Chairman said the Committee will discuss at their meeting whether to complain to Northumbrian Water about the flooding of the Village Hall.

11. **Access Lane to Village Hall.** Councillor Woodhouse said he had spoken to the Land Registry about the unsurfaced part of Cooper Lane. Forms are available on their website but we may wish to have legal input. Councillor Woodhouse proposed that the forms be filled in, Councillor Walters seconded, and all agreed. They will be brought to the next meeting of the Council.

12. **Village Design Statement Parish Plan Action 2 and 4.** The Chairman will put a note in the next newsletter asking for volunteers who would be interested in working on a Village Design Statement.

13. **Encourage broader use of Village Hall Car Park. Parish Plan Action 19.** The Council thought that this was the responsibility of the Village Hall Management Committee.

14. Correspondence

- a. Weekly Information Bulletin from YLCA had been e mailed to Councillors
- b. News from North Yorkshire from CPRE had been e mailed to Councillors. Countryside Voice magazine will be circulated.
- c. Fieldwork magazine from CPRE had been e mailed to Councillors.
- d. Newsletter from NYCC on Putting People First in North Yorkshire had been e mailed to Councillors.
- e. A Training and Development programme and the White Rose Update had been e mailed to Councillors.
- f. Councillors had been notified by e mail of the County Committee for Hambleton meeting held on 8 April. A poster had also been displayed on the noticeboard.
- g. Rural Focus Digest from the Rural Services Community had been sent by e mail to Councillors.
- h. Councillors had been notified by e mail of the Stokesley and Villages Community Regeneration Group meeting held on 8 April.
- i. E mail from O2 about mobile phone coverage in the parish. The Chairman would put a note in the newsletter asking residents to let the Council know of black spots.
- j. Funding Newsletter e mailed from YLCA and forwarded to Councillors.
- k. Note and CD from Information Commissioner's Office on the Freedom of Information Act. Circulate to Councillors.
- l. Performance Matters magazine from York & N Yorkshire Waste Partnership. Circulate to Councillors.
- m. Letter from Rt. Hon. William Hague MP enclosing letter from BT about the removal of the public payphone from Potto. There are inaccuracies in the letter from BT which will be pointed out.
- n. Information from YLCA about a training event on finance for small/medium councils to be held on 1 June. No-one will be able to attend.
- o. Joint newsletter from County and District Councils. Circulate to Councillors.
- p. Letter from Equality and Human Rights Commission on Public Sector Duties. Circulate to Councillors.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.40 pm.