

TREETON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15th DECEMBER 2008 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor: J.F. Swift (Chairman)
Councillors: R.J. Baker, D.A. Goy, G.E. Payne, M. Scott, Miss J Swift and D. Whysall.
In attendance: C.J. Brown and M.J. Fellowes.

2009/095 Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors G. Boyes and G. Nightingale.

2009/096 Minutes of Meeting.

Minutes of the meeting held on 24th November 2008 were taken as read, copies having been circulated to all members of the council.

Resolved: That the minutes be approved.

Proposed: Councillor D. Whysall.
Seconded: Councillor Miss J. Swift.

2009/097 Matters Arising.

- 2009/084 d) Following the meeting of councillors on 1st December to discuss the issue of sandbags, councillor J.F. Swift had been in contact with the Borough Council concerning the issue and storage of the sandbags. It was calculated that there were 18 properties in Mill Lane and 12 properties in Flatts Lane that may be affected by flooding. At an estimate of 12 bags per property the council would require 360 sandbags. These could be delivered and stored in the containers on Washfield Lane playing area. Keys for access to the store would be kept in a key safe in the Reading Rooms. Councillor J.F. Swift was to be the first contact, but details of all councillors and responsible employees were contained in the emergency plan submitted to the Borough.
- 2009/092 b) Michael Fellowes advised that he had spoken with a representative from the TVA and advised them of the process of contacting the Parish Council should they wish to request any assistance. There had still been no contact from the TVA. Councillors had mixed views as to what assistance should be offered as against that which they could provide themselves.
- 2009/093 d) The clerk advised that the document was almost complete and would be available by the due date. This would be circulated to those on email when complete.

2009/098 Correspondence Received.

- a) Streetpride Champions – booklet containing information about the initiative and how members of the public can make a difference on environmental issues in their village.
- b) NALC – Policy and Parliamentary Consultation on the publication of candidates' addresses at UK Parliamentary elections. Paper on the subject with website details for the consultation.
- c) Department for children, schools and families – Information on the latest funding available for children's play as announced in the Children's Plan announced on the 10th December by Ed Balls – Playing for the future.
- d) South Yorkshire Forrest – latest edition of their newsletter.
- e) Email form Amy Parkes – She was organising a 'Hospice ho-down' in aid of the Rotherham Hospice. Details of the event were supplied with also a request for donations.

Resolved: A grant of £50 is made.

Proposed: Councillor D.A. Goy.
Seconded: Councillor D. Whysall.

- f) M.S. Therapy Centre, Catcliffe – Notification of a 7 week course on Healthy Eating and Living. The course was to commence on 28th January 2009.

- g) Rotherham NHS – Notification of their strategy for the next five years – Better Health – Better Lives. Leaflets on the strategy were also received.
- h) Rotherham MBC – Notification of an Emergency Planning Awareness event which was to take place on 28th January 2009 at the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall, Thurcroft.

2009/099 Allotment, Environment and Cemeteries.

2009/099 a) Councillor Scott again raised the issue of the water problem in the Wood Lane Burial Ground. The matter had been looked at by several persons and it concluded that the problem was as it was a soak away. Michael Fellowes was to deal with the matter.

2009/099 b) Councillor Goy raised the issue of pot holes on Long Lane some of which appeared to have been filled in, others appeared to have been left. Councillor J.F. Swift was to monitor the situation and if they remain unfilled he would raise the matter with the Borough.

2009/099 c) Councillor Baker raised Station Road also as a problem area; the area would again be monitored.

2009/099 d) Councillor Whysall enquired if it would be possible for the Village Handyman to cut back the overhanging branches on again on Station Road. Councillor J.F. Swift had already raised the matter with the Borough who were ultimately responsible.

2009/100 Recreation Grounds and Play Areas.

Councillor J.F. Swift reported that the items of equipment on Well Lane that were reported as broken had now been repaired.

2009/101 Youth Club.

Michael Fellowes advised that the Youth Club floor had now been repaired, albeit temporarily. Following intervention from Borough Councillors the floor was concreted and the Youth Club was open again within a few days. Full repairs will take place in January/February 2009 when the building will be closed for 10 days. The condition of the chimney was also being investigated and a report would be sent to the Parish Council on its condition. Attendance at the sessions was also discussed, Tuesday was very poor, the intermediate Section was at full capacity and the Thursday session was also well attended.

2009/102 Area Assembly Report.

Councillor J.F. Swift advised council that additional funding was available to the local assembly and this was to be used to fund additional outreach workers and a further bus. A cyber café was also to be installed in the Youth Club building which would give free internet access to residents who wished to learn about the internet during the daytime.

2009/103 Community Capacity Workers Report.

Michael Fellowes gave his report on matters since the last council meeting.

He had arranged to meet with Paul Griffiths regarding the website the following Monday if any councillor wished to attend. It was hoped that the website would be up and running in February 2009. There had been complaints regarding the traffic on High Hazels. Councillor J.F. Swift had reported the matter to the Police and the traffic section would be visiting the area within the next two weeks. He also advised that the section from Well Lane to the first roundabout had been adopted by the Borough Council but the second as yet had not, however, as it was a bus route they were to grit the whole of the road. Michael was also asked to speak with the PCSO's and SNT regarding possible tickets for those parking on the roundabout. Councillor Scott expressed his concerns over this as there were no markings on the road. A burnt out bike at the bottom of Treetown Crescent had been reported, the Police were aware of it and it would be removed shortly.

2009/104 Planning Applications.

A reply was received from David Temple advising that the Jones application would be going to the January board. This being the case the clerk requested guidance as to the final objections which the council wished to submit.

Resolved: That the original objections submitted be reiterated.

Proposed: Councillor D. Whysall.
Seconded: Councillor M. Scott.

Councillor G.E. Payne declared a personal interest in this item.

2009/105 Any Other Urgent Business.

2009/105 (a) Councillor Whysall raised the issue of the free letting to the History Group. He felt that following significant fuel cost rises to the Parish Council and with the group now having sufficient finances they should be able to be able to pay for their room hire.

Resolved: That normal letting charges be applied from the 1st January 2009 and they be advised accordingly.

Proposed: Councillor D. Whysall.
Seconded: Councillor M. Scott.

Councillors Payne and J.F. Swift declared an interest in this item.

2009/105 (b) Councillor Scott raised the issue of complaints that residents were unaware of the TV Licence grant date. It was replied that the final number of grants issued was only slightly down on previous years. Advice was by word of mouth and over 100 forms had been issued so people were aware. Michael Fellowes did advise that no notice had been placed in the Reading Room Window.

2009/106 Finance and General Purposes Committee.

2009/106 (a) The clerk outlined the accounts to date, and produced a copy of the cashbook and an up to date financial statement of the council's affairs.

2009/106 (b) The following accounts were approved for payment.

	£
First Direct - Visa - Direct Debit	575.50
C.J. Brown	991.36
M. Brumfield	139.67
R. Bolton	317.68
D. Wilson	212.30
B. Baynham	95.98
G. Walker	47.99
L. Gregory	159.57
J. Gregory	151.37
M.J. Fellowes	1,429.54
I.G. Mason	73.48
Inland Revenue	3,136.83
Npower Limited	105.38
Rotherham MBC	2,000.00
Yorkshire Water	29.75
M.J. Fellowes – Petty Cash	13.75
Busy Bees Childcare Vouchers - Direct Debit	267.28
Rotherham MBC - Direct Debit	90.00

2009/106 (c) The clerk asked council for guidelines for Precepting for the following year. He also advised that over the previous two years reserves had been used to help with the precept contribution to the salary of the Community Capacity Worker. Those reserves were not now available.

Resolved: That the precept for next year is on the same basis as for the current year and this was to include the T.V. Licence scheme.

Proposed: Councillor D. Whysall.
Seconded: Councillor D.A. Goy.

2009/106 (d) Annual Reviews.

The following Annual Reviews were carried out to be applicable from the 1st April 2009.

2009/106 (d) i Allotment Rents.

Resolved: That Allotment Rents remain at the current rate of £5 per plot.

Proposed: Councillor M. Scott.
Seconded: Councillor D. Whysall.

2009/106 (d) ii Burial Fees.

Resolved: These continue to be charged in line with those of the Borough Council plus 15% for administration charges.

Proposed: Councillor D. Whysall.
Seconded: Councillor R. Baker.

2009/106 (d) iii Caretakers Salary.

Resolved: Continue to pay at 25 hours at the National Minimum Wage. An increase had recently been implemented with the increase in the N.M.W. The same applies for the forthcoming year. Lettings and Windows allowances are increased in line with inflation.

Proposed: Councillor D.A. Goy.
Seconded: Councillor Miss J Swift.

2009/106 (d) iv Clerks Salary and Expenses.

Resolved: That the payment of the clerks' salary continues to be paid in line with the rates paid at national level for the agreed hours worked. An Ex-gratia payment of £50 is made for additional works carried out, travel paid at National Mileage Rates and clerical expenses be reimbursed.

Proposed: Councillor D.A. Goy.
Seconded: Councillor R. Baker.

2009/106 (d) v Youth Club Workers Salary.

Resolved: This is increased in line with the rates paid by Rotherham MBC, as agreed with their union, at the next review date.

Proposed: Councillor D. Whysall.
Seconded: Councillor G.E. Payne.

2009/106 (d) vi Community Capacity Worker.

Resolved: This is increased in line with increases paid nationally for local council employees.

Proposed: Councillor D.A. Goy.
Seconded: Councillor D. Whysall.

2009/106 (d) vii Village Handyman.

Resolved: That payment continues in line with previous years. 16 hours per week paid at the National Minimum Wage having just been increased in line with the N.M.W. The same applies for the forthcoming year.

Proposed: Councillor G.E. Payne.
Seconded: Councillor D.A. Goy.

The additional current handyman employee Ian Mason, employed under the PROW funding received from Rotherham MBC, continues to be employed until funding runs out, this was expected to be at the end of January 2009. As and when additional funding was advised and received in the new financial year he is offered a contract on the same basis as currently. A letter of appreciation also is sent with his last payslip for the current agreement.

2009/106 (d) viii Reading Room Lettings – General.

Resolved: Those lettings are increased to £3.50 per hour.

Proposed: Councillor D. Whysall.

Seconded: Councillor D.A. Goy.

It was also felt that a meeting of the Employment sub-committee should be held before the next monthly council meeting. Councillors D.A. Goy and Miss J Swift were to organise this.

2009/107 Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting was arranged for Monday 19th January 2009 at 7.00 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.

Chairman:

Date: