

Rudston Parish Council

Page 683

Minutes of a Meeting held in the Village Hall on

Wednesday, 25th January, 2012

1. Present: Mr. A.S. Ezard (Chairman)
 - Mr. N. Watson
 - Mr. S. Rhodes
 - Mr. R.D. Corner
 - Mr. T. Smallwood
 - Mr. P. Wood
 - Mr. B. Warcup
 - Mr. R. Overfield
 - Mr. J. Moorfoot
 - Mrs. A. Starkey
 - Mrs. F. Turner
 - Mr. P. Crossland (Clerk)Also: 4 visitors representing Earthmill company

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 30th November, 2011, and the special meeting held on 10th January, 2012, were agreed and signed as a true record.

3. There were no declarations of interest.

4. Public Representations took the form of a presentation by one of the visitors from the Wind Turbine company involved in plans for Tuft Hill Farm and Denby House Farm, both of which had passed through Parish Council hands over the Christmas/New Year period. The company had e-mailed a "last minute" request to speak to members on both. They were apparently unaware that the Parish Council had already submitted a response to E.R.Y.C. on the two plans, but the spokesman was eager to put forward the company's case, for future reference. Photographic reproductions were passed around and he emphasised a desire to site the turbines as inconspicuously as possible at the rear of farms, and that those for Denby House had been reduced in size. He went on to speak about the need for farm turbines in general, the difference between those and large installations, and the quieter running of the new type. Questions had been invited, both during and after the talk, and were dealt with satisfactorily. The Chairman thanked the gentlemen for the presentation, and they left the meeting shortly afterwards.

5. Matters Arising:
 - (i) North Wolds parish council meeting (item 5 ii)

A report on the last meeting had been circulated with Agendas, and Mr. Watson expanded on the content. The meeting had been poorly attended, but this type of

joint effort was considered a good idea by community councils, and Mr. Hirschfield of the Humber & Wolds Council would speak at the next, to be held at Boynton on 5th March. As much communication between meetings as possible was to be done by e-mail and actions taken accordingly. In answer to a query from Mr. Overfield, members were reassured that no monetary funding was required and participation was entirely of a voluntary nature. Nominations for positions of Chairman and Secretary were required by end of January. Mr. Ezard then proposed Mr. Watson as Chairman, seconded by Mr. Rhodes. All agreed, and Mr. Watson accepted, having been in the equivalent position thus far. However, it was agreed that a Secretary should be appointed from one of the other parishes in the group.

(ii) Register of Electors (item 8)

On receiving the new Register of Electors and requesting an extra copy, the Clerk had been offered one for each member. These had duly arrived, and were passed around at the meeting, Mrs. Turner having received one earlier. The total of 334 was surprisingly down by 15 on the last Register.

(iii) Bowls Club Insurance (item 10)

The Clerk had obtained a separate figure for the Bowls Club mower, which was £2 less than the last (estimated) figure. After some discussion, it was agreed that the Bowls Club should be asked to continue their insurance contribution, regardless of the Playing Field mowers situation, and the Clerk to request the sum of £60.46 for last year.

(Clerk's note: letter 28/1/12)

(iv) Land Registry Plans (item 14)

The Clerk had discovered that Land Registry would require a map of the village with queried areas marked, together with a fee of £5, which would cover up to 5 sites. It was agreed to go ahead, and Clerk to obtain a map of Ordnance Survey or similar scale.

(v) Severe Weather Grant (item 8)

Extra item raised. Mr. Watson enquired of Mr. Moorfoot whether there had been any progress with this application. There had been no reply to date, so to persue.

6. Springdale Farm Wind Turbine (special meeting)

There was much discussion on this item, particularly regarding the "Stakeholder" share question. Mr. Rhodes had done a little research and reported that it was tied in with a current government idea of more responsibility for local councils. He remarked that it would appear the proposed partnership with the Parish Council in this way would be something of a "test case". A key point appeared to concern occupancy of the offices at Springdale. Mr. Watson then explained the payments system, a grant in the form of a loan, and an annual sum to the Parish Council of £25,000. He had also been in contact with E.R.Y.C. regarding parish council use of this level of money. It would not be possible to channel "spare cash" directly to residents, and it would be subject to a large number of restrictions. Mr. Overfield remarked that rumours about this turbine proposal were already circulating, and it was debated whether a report should be made in the next village newsletter. It was too late for the February edition, but the Clerk had already mentioned in that the fact of the special meeting taking place. No decisions yet, with the official planning application awaited.

7. Planning Applications(i) Tuft Hill Farm Wind Turbines

Application for 2 Wind Turbines (34.2m. to blade tip) at Tuft Hill Farm, Woldgate, Kilham. This had been delayed over the holiday period during circulation among members, and the Clerk had made a hurried response to meet the deadline. On receipt of members' remarks on the following Denby House plans, a corrective note had been included with that return. E.R.Y.C. had subsequently queried the apparent "change of mind", and on learning of this meeting, requested a clarifying letter. The Clerk had drafted one, which he read to the meeting. There was much discussion, firstly whether members could in principle refuse this and Denby House, while supporting (if that is eventually the case) the Springdale proposal. It was agreed that too many turbines would be detrimental to the landscape, and while some were inevitable, each case should be considered separately. There was then debate about the Clerk's use of the word "strongly" to refuse, though Mr. Watson warned that only with that word would the county council be obliged to pass it on to their full committee. The Chairman requested a show of hands, and a majority favoured retention.

(Clerk's note: unaltered letter to E.R.Y.C. 26/1/12. Obviously this is well after the original deadline, but was assured would be O.K. in this case)

(ii) Denby House Wind Turbines

Application for 2 Wind Turbines (46m. to tip) at land north west of Denby House, Burton Road, Kilham. Received a few days after the above, the deadline coincided with the date of the Springdale meeting, which was where members' responses were returned to the Clerk. As with the amended decision above, it was for refusal.

(Clerk's note: this may not be the reduced size referred to in item 4)

(iii) Low Caythorpe

Extra item. Application just received that day for: change of use of agricultural store (former foreman's cottage) to form holiday cottage, installation of additional windows and doors to all elevations, erection of porch to rear following demolition of existing, installation of 4 rooflights to rear and side, construction of chimney and change of use of grazing land to domestic garden.

Passed around members – no observations.

8. Committee Reports

Forthcoming meetings reported, but Clerk had received the Playground Inspection Report. Arrived via e-mail and totalling 17 pages, he had printed sections dealing with faults only. These were of "low" or "very low" priority. Passed to Mr. Rhodes for scrutiny and action. (Clerk's note: this was marked "invoice to follow", and depending on date of receipt may need to be paid before next meeting)

9. Members' Village Issues Reports

Mr. Warcup was reporting a Highways issue, but was informed that it had been dealt with that day.

Mr. Corner reported that the Water Lane street light had still not been dealt with.

(Clerk's note: reported again to E.R.Y.C 26/1/12)

Mr. Watson remarked that the drainage problem on Eastgate extension had still not been properly sorted out.

10. Payment of Accounts

Payment was authorised and cheques signed for:

Clerk's Salary (quarter to 31/12/11)	£100.00
H.M. Revenue & Customs (PAYE re: above)	£ 25.00
Autela Payroll Services (re: above)	£ 12.00
Clerk's Expenses	£ 10.00
Village Hall (hire)	£ 7.50
A. Moore (Parish Paths)	£ 40.00

The invoice for the last was handed over at the meeting and cheque then prepared.

The Clerk also reported a Recycling receipt of £326.44 for period July to September.

11. Correspondence

- (i) Request for funding by Citizens Advice Bureau. Declined.
- (ii) News from Age UK of drop-in advice & coffee mornings at Bridlington Library.
- (iii) Two editions of Parish News. One contained news of annual Chairmans Awards for which there was separate literature, and one passed to Mr. Moorfoot for contact information regarding Severe Weather Grant (item 5 v)
- (iv) Rollitts Solicitors – update on Localism Act. Passed to Mr. Watson.
- (v) Two booklets from N.A.L.C. regarding planning. Passed to Mr. Watson.
- (vi) The Clerk had received a pre-Christmas message from Police to convey to residents, and being too late for newsletter, he had re-printed and posted on notice board.
- (vii) Anti-social behaviour news – graph therein difficult to follow, but appeared to be nothing against Rudston.
- (viii) Two local business optimistically advertising snow clearance services, there having been none so far this winter. Both known by Mr. Rhodes and one passed to him for interest.
- (ix) "Humbrella" – nothing to report.
- (x) News of a Speed Training in emergencies programme. Passed to Mrs. Turner.
- (xi) Latest news on Hull Core Strategy. No interest.
- (xii) Lissett Wind Farm Grants literature. Passed to Mrs. Turner.

12. Any Other Business

- (i) Mrs. Starkey brought members' attention to a letter from E.R.Y.C. to parents of Boynton School children, regarding bus travel to Bridlington or Driffield. Being the further in distance, travel to Driffield was currently not free, but many from Rudston prefer that town. The Parish Council was being asked to support a move by parents to extend the free travel area to Driffield, by responding to the letter itself. Agreed.
(Clerk's note: approved letter 28/1/12)
- (ii) Mr. Watson reported on imminent meetings regarding Broadband. Rudston was in a poor reception area, and improvement would probably entail an aerial on the church tower. This would be of modest size, and the vicar had already indicated agreement.

13. Date, Time & Place of Next Meeting

To be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 21st March, 2012, at 7.30 p.m., but members to be prepared for the possibility of another interim Special Meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.