

Rudston Parish Council

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Minutes of a Meeting held in the Village Hall on
Wednesday, 27th June, 2012.

1. Present: Mr. A.S. Ezard (Chairman)
Mr. N. Watson
Mr. S. Rhodes
Mr. R.D. Corner
Mr. T. Smallwood
Mr. R. Overfield
Mrs. A. Starkey
Mrs. F. Turner
Mr. P. Wood
Mr. J. Moorfoot
Mr. B. Warcup (arrived later)
Mr. P. Crossland (Clerk)
2. Apologies: (Mr. Warcup had relayed a message regarding his late arrival)
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting
Amendments were agreed as follows: Item 7 (ii) – substitution of “councillor” for “planning officer Mr.” (Fraser); first line, page 693 – substitution of “Community Partnership” for “E.R.V.A.S.” The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 2nd May, 2012, were then agreed and signed as a true record.
Mrs. Turner enquired about Minutes of the separate Annual Meeting, and Clerk to present those at the next parish council meeting.
4. There were no Declarations of interest.
5. There were no public representations.
6. Matters Arising:
 - (i) Rural Strategy (item 7 ii)
Mr. Watson had formulated and submitted Rudston’s response to the Rural Strategy initiative, and highlighted main points to the meeting. Approved.
 - (ii) Wind Turbines (Meeting & Survey) (item 7 ii)
A copy of a table of results of the survey following the Wind Turbine meeting

had been included with Agendas, but Mr. Watson realised this was not the one intended. He explained about the correct one, copies of which would be transmitted to those members on e-mail, and also for next newsletter.

(iii) Noisy Business (item 7 iii)

Activity appeared to have ceased at the Donna Fields property, without further action being necessary.

(iv) Payroll Work (item 7 iv)

The Clerk had been in touch with E.R.V.A.S. to confirm figures for the first quarter, having had no further correspondence since initial "signing up". He had been assured that required paperwork would be sent out within the next few days. It was not known whether this would include a request for their own first payment. (Clerk's note: Yes, invoice received next day)

(v) Accounts/Audit (item 8)

This year's accounts had duly been despatched to Audit Commission. A letter received separately explained that this was the final year under the present system. A number of external auditors had been proposed to take over from next year, and any objections to the one chosen for Rudston invited. This was a company named Littlejohn, who were not known to members. From a table enclosed with the letter it appeared that there would actually be no fee if the parish council's income/expenditure remained under £10,000.

(Clerk's note: Littlejohn is a "top 30 firm of chartered accountants based in London")

(vi) Neighbourhood Planning/Development Limits (item 9)

There was some discussion over Development Limits, with the map in the Chairman's possession dating back to 1997, but it was pointed out that was the last time these limits had been set by the county council. It was agreed to be a worthwhile exercise to examine these and recommend changes. The Chairman therefore asked for volunteers to form a sub-committee headed by himself. Mr. Smallwood, Mr. Rhodes, and Mr. Wood agreed to assist.

(vii) Litter Bin (item 13 i)

The Clerk had discovered that even litter bins were subject to E.R.Y.C. budgets, and that this years had already been allocated, but the Parish Council were welcome to purchase a new one at a cost of £252.07 + installation + VAT. There was some discussion, and delivery time was not known, but it was finally agreed to leave in abeyance.

(viii) Church Lane Footpath (item 13 iv)

An e-mail letter response from E.R.Y.C. to the Clerk's report was read to the meeting. Parish Council concerns were not altogether shared, but the Taskforce team were to be asked to give the path "a good sweep" before carrying out a Health & Safety assessment. Mrs. Turner doubted that this had taken place, but there was discussion over county council budget restraints having a bearing on such matters, and it was agreed not to pursue for now.

- (ix) Mowing Machine Service (item 15 ii)
This had duly taken place – see Payment of Accounts.
- (x) Cluster Meeting (item 15 iii)
A meeting had been set up to take place on 26th July, which Mr. Watson intended to attend. Mrs. Starkey expressed an interest and may accompany him. Topics suggested from Rudston had been relayed to Cllr. Evison and had been included for discussion with the relevant officers at the meeting.
- (xi) Lissett Wind Farm (related to item 6 ii)
A meeting had been held in Rudston the previous week to discuss the Lissett Wind Farm Community Fund. Mr. Watson had attended and briefly reported.

(Mr. Warcup arrived during the above item)

7. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

- (i) Tuft Hill Wind Turbines (item 6 vi, 21/3/12)
The plan for erection of a Single Wind Turbine had been refused by E.R.Y.C., but the Clerk had just received notice that an appeal had been made to the Planning Inspectorate. Parish Council comments already lodged with the county council would be forwarded in the usual way.
- (ii) Denby House Wind Turbines (item 6 vii, 21/3/12)
Plans for erection of 2 Wind Turbines had been refused. The overlying reason was that E.R.Y.C. considered in this instance that the “benefit of renewable energy was outweighed by harm to the landscape”. Some surprise was expressed that this was not yet also subject to appeal.
- (iii) School Transport (item 6 ix, 21/3/12)
A letter had been received following the E.R.Y.C. Consultation Exercise. It had been decided that Boynton School would remain in Bridlington’s catchment area. The Parish Council’s support for an alternative was acknowledged, but that view rejected. There was some discussion about this, but agreed nothing further could be done at present.

8. Planning Applications:

- (i) North of Westcroft
Application for: erection of dwelling following demolition of existing commercial buildings, seen by some members previously and by others during the meeting. The majority view was that this was acceptable, though it was noted that there was no mention of garages, which would surely be required for a residence. Also to point out that a ditch maintained by E.R.Y.C. was not shown on the plans, but is between the buildings and the public footpath (Water Lane).
- (ii) East of “The Teazels” (re-submission)
Outline application for: erection of single storey dwelling, access and layout to be considered. Received the previous week, this had not been circulated as it

appeared to be identical to a rejected application last year. The Clerk had brought that along to the meeting, and reminded members that there had been no objection from the Parish Council, although doubts even then expressed about its likely success. After further discussion the plans were again approved, but it was agreed this time to register “strong” approval.

(Clerk’s note: returns for both above with noted comments 28/6/12)

9. New Code of Conduct

A new Code of Conduct was being introduced, details of which had been circulated amongst members between meetings, with the Parish Council being invited to accept an E.R.Y.C. model. Since then, a complication had arisen involving a different interpretation than government over “pecuniary” and “non-pecuniary” interests. This would mean an amendment following a further county council meeting in July, but parish councils could still agree pending that. Of the two resolutions offered, it was then agreed that Rudston Parish Council hereby resolve: “That the Code of Conduct, as adopted by East Riding of Yorkshire Council on 4th April, 2012, be adopted to take effect as of 1st July, 2012, subject to review following the receipt of further information from the Monitoring Officer/ ERYC in relation to pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests”.

Parish councillors were also being required to complete a new Register of Interests, and the Clerk handed round copies along with a guide to completion. This excited much discussion, as it required more personal information than previously. There were threats of refusal to comply, and the Clerk observed that legal issues would become involved in that case. Copies of the completed forms were to be sent to the county council before 28th July, and the Clerk suggested deposit at the Chairman’s home (with his kind permission) by a week before that date. However, some members then completed their forms during the remainder of the meeting, and handed back to the Clerk.

(Clerk’s note: failure to complete the Register of Interests is deemed to be a “breach of the Code of Conduct and will be a criminal offence”)

10. Committee Reports

Nothing to report from Village Hall or Playing Field meetings.

11. Members’ Village Issues Reports

A problem with overhanging trees and foliage on School Lane was reported –
Highways to be informed. (Clerk’s note: e-mail 28/6/12)

12. Payment of Accounts

The Clerk’s action in paying the following accounts as a matter of urgency was approved:

Aon Insurance (annual premium to 31/5/13)	£1,571,86
Rodger Bentley (Mower service – re-paid, see below)	£ 279.48

Payment was authorised and cheques signed for:

N. Watson (Printing expenses)	£ 12.99
P. Crossland (Clerk's Salary to 30/6/12)	£100.00
H.M. Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	£ 25.00
P. Crossland (Clerk's expenses)	£ 10.00
Rudston Village Hall (Hire)	£ 7.50

The Clerk also reported Receipts of £279.48 from Playing Field (as above), £437.61 V.A.T. refund, £315.00 Parish Paths, and £86.18 for Recycling.

The comparatively small amount for Recycling was commented on, and the Clerk advised that it was for period January to March in which there had been a collection of Glass only.

13. Correspondence

- (i) Police News had been passed to Mr. Moorfoot previously – nothing to report.
- (ii) E.R. Parish News for May had been received in the usual way, but held nothing which was not covered elsewhere. June issue had then been received by computer, which included a Broadband Update. Mr. Watson was aware of that and would expand on it later. (see A.O.B.)
- (iii) Humber & Wolds Rural Community Council (producers of “Humbrella”) were inviting membership again. Their magazine would still be received, and there was thought to be little that wasn't know through other channels, so declined.
- (iv) Booklet of “Guide to Events” received, but many already held.
- (v) Emergencies Training Event to be held in Goole in August. No interest.
- (vi) Latest Anti-Social Behaviour news received. A difficult-to-follow graph appeared to indicate 3 warning letters, but no calls for service in Rudston for the period October, 2011, to March, 2012. That and other information included in Clerk's newsletter contribution.
- (vii) A general warning to motorists to be “aware” of school crossing patrols, as there was now £1,000 fine + penalty points for failure to stop when required.

14. Any Other Business

- (i) Mr. Watson reported a disappointing Broadband Survey completion level from the village, and he emphasised how important this was, with E.R.Y.C. funds at stake. There was some discussion regarding differing Broadband speeds.
- (ii) It was still not known if the Bosville Arms had been sold, and Mr. Watson had been investigating possible ways of a community interest takeover, should that prove a desirable. A strong business case would need to be made, with uses established for the outbuildings etc. There was much discussion, but it was agreed that no progress could be made until the present situation was known. Mr. Watson would try to discover that, initially through Land Registry.

- (iii) Mrs. Turner reported an on-going problem with bridle path gates, with one still being inaccessible. Mr. Overfield was aware of the gate in question and it was said to be simply awkward to manage. To try again.

15. Date, Time & Place of Next Meeting

To be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 22nd August, 2012, at 7.30 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.

