

Oswaldkirk Parish Annual General Meeting and Parish Meeting

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 29th April 2008

PRESENT: 30

APOLOGIES: Sandy and Philippa McKenzie Smith, Eric Dunstone, Beryl Lee, Pauline Henley, Pat Alexander, Pat and Dave Thompson, Jane Dexter-Smith.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

The Minutes of the last meeting were not available and therefore the 2007 minutes were compiled from previous notes.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This has been my third year as Chairman to the Parish Meeting and compared with previous years has been relatively quiet!

I must first thank Mark and Andy for their efforts on our behalf as Secretary and Treasurer to the Parish and to thank Ian who is standing down as Vice Chairman due to his innumerable other commitments. Ian worked very hard on behalf of the Parish during his time as Chairman and has been a great help to myself over the last three years. So thanks to you all.

I did highlight in my last years report that nuisance caused by dogs was becoming a more significant problem and that we had to address the issue. Over the year I have spoken to a number of residents about their dogs and have been told that some residents feel persecuted. If so I am very sorry. I do believe however that things are somewhat improved as folk have taken notice of what has been said and I thank them for that. Some have moved on elsewhere and I also thank them!!

On a much more positive note I am pleased to report that the Village Hall and Playground committees continue to do a sterling job and we all benefit from that. The Thursday club, keep fit and Scottish dancing all continue and fund raising and local events have been very well supported. So thanks to everyone who was involved in any way.

A lot of our work this year is actually work in progress – in hand but not complete: -

Chestnut Bank is being well maintained thanks to a hard core team and to Rhona's efforts in organising. We await further funding from RDC and NYCC to enable the final gravel layer to be applied. We hope that additional planting will take place in the autumn and then the group might move on to the next project – any suggestions?

Speed limits in the village are not just a figment of our imagination. We now have a revised revision to the original proposals which Mark and I will try to get improved before we present them to the Parish for comment.

The NYMNP conservation area appraisal took place during the year and we expect the report to be issued in June, to be followed by further consultation. The final document will enable NYMNP and RDC to adopt a common approach to planning issues which to date has not been the case – an anomaly arising due to the Park boundary running through the village!

OSGEN has been updated thanks to Sarah & Michael. It is being proof read and will be available for limited hard copy distribution and I hope posting on the web site thereafter. You will recall that we agreed to restrict the issue of hard copies to new residents and to those who specifically requested one as web access would be available to others.

We are entering the Calor village of the year competition and had a very good meeting to discuss the entry. This did underline just how vibrant the Parish is - even those present were impressed by our own achievements!

There are many in the Parish who should be mentioned for their input and our thanks go to them for a superb job. I would ask all of you to review the Calor village application form when we post it on the notice board. I think and I certainly hope that you will be impressed by the strength of your own community! Thanks to everyone who contributes and for your support.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer presented the following:

Income	Nationwide Building Society	Yorkshire Bank
Brought forward	550.53	259.94
Parish precept		1005.00
National Park/NYCC Highways Grass cut		464.66
Interest	28.50	0.78
Compost Bin		425.00
Ryedale District Council C Bank		500.00
Total	579.03	2655.38

Expenditure	Nationwide Building Society	Yorkshire Bank
J Sutherland Bird Boxes		21.45
A Mennell		375.00
YLCA subs		35.00
Mazars		58.75
Oswaldkirk Playground		240.00
Simon Gospel – Chestnut Bank		1000.00
Oswaldkirk Village Hall		245.00
Sub-total		1975.20
Balance c/f		680.18
Total	579.03	2655.38

The accounts were accepted by the Meeting, subject to formal auditing.

PARISH MEETING ELECTIONS

The Chairman – Roger Dexter-Smith, the Parish Secretary – Mark Clook and the Treasurer – Andy Watt all stood for re-election and were accepted by the Meeting.

APPLICATION No 08/00261/FUL: ERECTION OF A THREE-BEDROOM DETACHED DWELLING, LAND ADJACENT TO EAST COTTAGE THE TERRACE OSWALDKIRK, YORK.

The Chairman introduced the above application outlining that it was a plan for a 3 bedroom house to be built between East Cottage and Keilway Cottage on The Terrace. Outlined below are the views of the Meeting.

Overall conclusion

The Meeting raised several concerns regarding the proposed development and recommended that Ryedale District Council **reject** the application (2 for the proposal, 12 against, with 12 abstentions).

Outlined below are the main concerns of the Meeting:

Change in appearance of The Terrace

The Terrace is in the Oswaldkirk Conservation Area and hence by definition is an area of natural beauty and architectural interest with many old cottage properties. The addition of a new property will

adversely affect the Conservation Area in that it will remove an open space and hence change the street scene from where the houses are broken by this open space to one of a continual row of houses. This change will mean that the street will become less bucolic and more suburban.

Style of house

It should be noted that when the village produced a Village Plan in 2005, villagers felt that should there be any developments in the village then it should be affordable family houses. Whilst the proposed development is for a three-bedroom house, it was noted that it is relatively small and hence will be of limited appeal to families. The Meeting, therefore, considered that the proposed development did not meet these criteria.

The proposed development is on the north side of The Terrace, the topography of the land means that whilst the plot size is relatively large, it is extremely steep and hence of limited use as a garden without major earth-workings. Due to this there was concern that the house will not appeal to families and hence become another holiday or second home.

Loss of garden

It was noted that the proposed development would be in the garden of East Cottage and as highlighted above this would be detrimental to the street scene, however it would also reduce the attractiveness of East Cottage in that it would in effect lose most of its usable garden. This could lead to the existing property being of limited attractiveness to families and hence could also become a holiday or second home.

Impact on traffic and car parking

The Terrace is a narrow country lane with a relatively high traffic flow and many parked cars. When the village carried out its Village Plan, car parking and traffic was highlighted as a major concern to residents. Whilst acknowledging that the problem regarding traffic and car parking already exists, the Meeting felt that the addition of an extra house would only exacerbate the situation.

It was acknowledged and appreciated that the proposed development would come with off-road car parking for two cars, however there was concern regarding the exit. It was considered to be in a potentially dangerous position in that it would be opposite two other exits. There was also concern as it appeared to have a narrow aspect and hence would be potentially difficult for cars exiting it safely.

Application for uPVC windows and a satellite dish at South View, Main Street Oswaldkirk (ref no NYM/2008/0235/F/NEW)

The Chairman introduced the above application that was related to the erection of a satellite dish and the installation of uPVC windows at South View. There was a brief discussion and members of the meeting expressed concern that uPVC windows would be permitted at all in the National Park. As it was unclear what the key questions were, it was agreed that the Chairman would contact North Yorks National Park Authority to seek clarification. The clarification is presented at the end of the minutes.

AoB

Buses – concern was raised as to whether there would a change in the bus route now that Stevenson's had taken over all routes. It was agreed that the Chairman would investigate.

Mirror at the end of the Terrace – there was a request for NYCC Highways to erect a mirror to aid exiting The Terrace, it was agreed that the Secretary would pursue this matter.

Speeding traffic – there was a concern regarding traffic speeding through the village and it was agreed that the Secretary would investigate whether it would be possible to have either a speed gun or suitable signs erected, temporarily to slow traffic down.

The Malt Shovel – concern was raised regarding the frequent turnover in Publicans at The Malt Shovel. It was agreed that Caroline O'Neill would draft a letter for the Chairman.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

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SOUTH VIEW PLANNING APPLICATION

The planning application to erect a satellite dish and to replace the glazing and doors within South View was discussed at the meeting. Unfortunately the application had been received just before the meeting and we did not have time to research the background. I therefore took it on myself to do the research and to liaise with the NYMNP over the relevant planning constraints.

In brief the situation is as follows: -

- Historically only work on “development” projects and listed properties required planning approval, small extensions and changes to properties such as replacement windows were considered as “permissive” and did not require planning approval.
- A year or so back Article 4 legislation came in to force which was geared towards stopping the drift of an area away from traditional construction e.g. replacement of cast iron rain ware with plastic, replacement of traditional glazing with uPVC, demolition of walls etc. became unacceptable and the NYMNP planners now have powers to make house owners reinstate traditional materials
- The current Conservation Area Appraisal will be issued in draft form in June and will ultimately produce a consistent planning approach from both RDC and NYMNP within the whole village
- The result of these changes is that the planners currently have extensive powers of control over all properties within the Park and this control will probably extend to the whole of the village in due course. They do however review every application on its own merit and decisions are building specific. Without pre-empting their final decision therefore, it would seem that the application to replace windows and doors in the above property with uPVC would be compatible with the age and style of the property.

The consensus of the meeting was that if there were no specific planning issues, the Parish would accept the proposal and I intend to respond to the NYMNP along those lines. If anyone has any specific objections they should therefore write independently to the Park planning officers to express their views