

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Ampleforth Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 4 October 2012 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors M Raynar (Chairman), R Lane, T Pite and C Smith.

Also Present: Ms Sue Shepherd (Broadband Champion) and V Ellis (Clerk).

1. Apologies

Councillor F Toynbee.

2. Code of Conduct and the Ethical Framework

There were no declarations under the code of conduct.

3. Minutes

The council resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 6 September 2012 be agreed and signed.

4. Public Participation

None.

5. Reports for information only

a) Chairman's Report: Most of potholes repaired on Old Station Road.

b) Broadband Champion's Report. Ms Sue Shepherd gave a verbal report and offered to send a written report for the website.

c) Clerk's Report.

Documents and Correspondence (circulated): Safer Neighbourhood Statistics-August; NYM Leader Small Scale Enhancements Scheme: Additional Funding; Grant to St Benedict's Church – thank you from Father Bede; Letter from Ampleforth College – streetlights and new policies re empty properties in the parish.

Other: RDC Ryedale News online only now; NYCC will not provide additional dropped kerbs-starting cost £2,000 from NYCC; Charity No.1087665 Ampleforth Millennium Sportsfield – no response to request for volunteers made in council's Annual Report; Queries re Spring Cottage raised with RDC; NYCC footpath ranger looking at paths reported; RDC Council Tax Benefit Scheme Consultation online till 29 October; Farming Flashback signage complaint forwarded to district and county councillors; Letter about lighting between St Benedict's Close and Birdforth Way; Stones washed down during heavy rainfall at West End.

6. Planning

a) **The council considered the following planning applications.**

i) **Application No: 12/00618/MFUL**

Applicant: David Wilson Homes Yorkshire East Division (Mr Paul Butler)

Proposal: Erection of 7 no. five bedroom dwellings, 9 no. four bedroom dwellings, 6 no. three bedroom dwellings, 7 no. two bedroom dwellings and 1 no. one bedroom dwelling, associated garaging, parking and amenity space and formation of vehicular access.

Location: Land At OS Field No 4848 Station Road Ampleforth

Amendments to be considered:

Revised planning statement and alternative site assessment (3/9/12)

Additional section plans showing site levels and adjacent properties (20/9/12)

Comment: Objection to each of the amendments.

The council considers that its original objections stand, nothing has changed, that the amendments do not add to the applicant's case, that much of the information given is irrelevant, and in some cases inaccurate.

The applicants are incorrect about the long-distance views and existing houses.

The application is not inline with the Ryedale Local Plan and in particular the beauty of the landscape sections.

This housing estate does not 'assimilate' with the landscape as stated.

The council would like to draw attention in particular to the Alternative Residential Sites document paragraphs 1.2 which incorrectly describes Station Road as the oldest part of the village, and 1.6 which states that the assessment is 'based on a desktop survey'.

The council would like the profiles and heights of the houses on this sloping site to be checked properly.

ii) Application No: 12/00761/HOUSE (amendment)

Applicant: Mr and Mrs Jones

Proposal: Erection of single storey detached home office building within the domestic curtilage

Location: Spring Cottage Main Street Ampleforth Helmsley YO62 4DA

Comment: Objection. The council's previous objection stands. All this amendment has done is move the building nearer the house.

7. Ampleforth Parish Poll

- a) The council noted that the Ampleforth Parish Poll was held on 13 September, the turnout was 32% and the result was 228 voted Yes, 35 voted No.
- b) The council received with thanks a donation of £100 towards the cost of the Poll from J Evans Priestman.
- c) The council considered the suggestions of J Evans Priestman about fundraising to pay for the poll but took the view that it can precept.
- d) The council noted that the clerk wrote to RDC for a comment on the Poll result. RDC issued a press release and do not wish to comment further.

8. NYCC Traffic Regulation Order (TRO)

The council had no objection to the TRO proposed for outside St Hilda's School on Station Road.

9. Streetlights

- a) The council resolved to suspend the standing order on contracts and gave the clerk delegated authority to assess and sign up to the NYCC Streetlights 'step into/out of' contract for the maintenance of streetlights and to and to have a clean and change/electrical check undertaken.
- b) The council agreed to the removal of the easternmost streetlight on East Lane, in the grounds of Ampleforth College, Number 30, on a telegraph pole.

10. Mapping

The council resolved to use Parish Online mapping at a cost of a set up fee of £20 and £20 per annum, plus VAT.

11. Meetings and Training

- a) The council agreed that the clerk could attend the YLCA training on lawful agendas and minutes.
Meeting/training reports:
- b) Millennium Green. Cllrs Pite and Smith met Mr Goodman and agreed the siting of the crab apple tree in memory of Mr Farquhar.
- c) SLCC IT Training 27 September. The clerk circulated a written report.
- d) YLCA Conference 29 September. The clerk gave a verbal report.
- e) NYMNP Neighbourhood Plan Training. Cllrs Raynar and Pite gave a verbal report.

12. Finance

- a) Year end accounts 2011-2012: the Annual Return and the External Auditor's Report.
 - i) The council noted that copies of the Notice of conclusion of Audit and right to inspect the Annual Return have been posted on the noticeboard.

- ii) The council noted that the External Auditor has issued their certificate and opinion, and stated that the audit of the annual return for the year ended 31 March 2012 was complete, and that “on the basis of our review, in our opinion, the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.”
- iii) The council noted “other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the council: Assets belonging to the trust fund should not be included in Section 1 Box 9 of the Annual Return. In future years, please ensure these are removed. (But should still be recorded in the asset register, for completeness)”.
- b) The council noted that Littlejohn LLP have been appointed by the Audit Commission as the council’s External Auditors for five years from 2012/2013 at a fee of £100 per annum.
- c) The council resolved to appoint Mr A Husband for a fee of £70 as Internal Auditor for 2012-2013.
- d) The council received a bank reconciliation and a budget update to the 31 August 2012.
- e) The council resolved to agree the following payments and the cheques were signed.

100903	Mazars	External Audit Fee	£162.00
100904	J Dawson	Grass Cutting	£216.00
100905	V Ellis	Salary + Expenses Sept	£580.36
100906	G Thompson	Cemetery Gate tidy up	£15.00
			£973.36

Chairman

Date