

Minutes for the FIMBER PARISH COUNCIL Meeting
held on 24th July 2006 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall (draft)

The meeting was preceded by a 20-minute "overview" opportunity for the Council members to discuss the Agenda, raise topical issues, look at correspondence etc.

A short discussion took place re **PLANNING APPLICATIONS** (See with Agenda Item 6]) below, and some other general matters.

The first part of the meeting was designated as an open Question and Answer opportunity for the residents of the Parish. None was present, but the Council looked at the agenda informally and the meeting proper began at 7.40.

1] PRESENT: P. Leese (in the Chair), R. Lambert, I. Smith, M. Walker, M. Patterson, and E. Lovatt (Clerk – Minute-taker and non-voting member, present to assist with the administrative liaison with the East Riding of Yorkshire Council),

2] APOLOGIES: None were received, but it was understood that the harvest, now underway, had prevented G. Thompson and J. Megginson from attending.

3] PREVIOUS MINUTES: The Minutes of the meeting held on April 24th 2006 were now circulated to all members, and discussed.

Correction: I. Smith pointed out that he had not volunteered to organise and put up anti-speed posters in the Seaways Café. [See Item 4] a) below]; this correction in these present Minutes negates the statement in the original Minutes.

The Security of Church Building and Contents was discussed briefly here, and then left to the main Agenda item heading (Matters Arising e) below.

The Minutes of the last meeting were then signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4] MATTERS ARISING:

a) **Speed monitoring and traffic problems:** The E.Y.R.C. has raised no objections to the plans for signage, road markings and the implementation of a "buffer-zone" at each end of the village. The equipment has been ordered, and construction and installation is

expected to begin in 4 – 6 weeks. M. Walker reports that the Police have expressed their preparedness to follow-up on all this visual profile-raising with under-cover patrols in early August. Our local police constable has reported that the money is available to ensure that we are able to maximise the benefits. M. Walker will liaise and follow the progress, and invite the constable to our October meeting. Reports on the success of the speed-monitoring will then help to reassure villagers that all possible is being done.

b) **Streetscene Works and Highways safety:** The schedule from this (April) meeting was taken forward, and updated with additions and deletions, as a basis for the next 'walkabout' due in early August – or sooner. (It actually took place on 3rd July, before this meeting, so this report brings the matter up to date). A full complement of Council officials was on hand (on 3rd July), including Dave England of the Highways Dept., so the coverage and implementation is expected to be comprehensive.

- i) The private through road from the main road down to the green is to be stabilised and levelled up, now that the hard-standing parking area is in place.
- ii) R. Lambert raised the matter of the communal septic tank (located down the bridleway just below Cowslip Cottage). Some overflow / leakage has been reported. As 2 residents (at least) pay the Council a £60 annual sewage charge, it will be reported to the Council authorities, with a 2-week feedback time-scale due from them.
- iii) Problems have been reported about overhanging trees and other vegetation at various points on the footways around the village, and also along the main road. R. Lambert stated that the remits of the Single Farm Payment, as a financial issue, discourage farmers from taking this job on when cropping. It is up to the Parish Council to write to the landowner if a verbal reminder does not work. Clerk to get more copies of the official Council leaflet setting out rights and responsibilities in this area, and also to draft a relevant (diplomatic) standard letter.

c) **Village and Churchyard tidy-up:** All present agreed that the village was looking quite neat and tidy, overall, now.

- i) The Streetscene team has agreed to treat and stain the bench adjacent to the Hall.
- ii) Pond-drainage/weed and ducks etc. seem to be all in order. The road drainage gulleys need to be kept clear.

- iii) A new notice-board on the side of the Hall is badly needed. Money from the sponsored walk could contribute, with the (tacit?) agreement of all walk-participants and sponsors.
- iv) The "deep water" sign for the pond is ready to be installed. (R. Lambert and G. Thompson to officiate). The possibility of the sign disappearing, owing to natural or human intervention, was raised. Clerk to ask the Council whose legal responsibility any action to sue would be in this event. Any reports as to the usefulness and effectiveness (or otherwise) of the sign would be welcomed!

d) **Neighbourhood Watch:** M. Walker reported on her meetings and exchange of emails with the Police re the speeding problems, and the results of the speed-monitoring efforts. The initiatives outlined at the last meeting are still ongoing through our County authorities, despite the collapse of the nation-wide Regional Re-organisation plans at Parliamentary level. (ref. Humberside Police Authority letter of 4th August in notes from Clerk).

e) **Fund-raising and Community Spirit-raising:** The need for the Parish Council to maintain a "social and community spirit" and a fund-raising momentum, has been raised informally at a number of other Village clubs and groups. It was noted that planning for the annual Christmas Draw is already underway, that thinking for the Hallowe'en / Guy Fawkes party celebrations is warming up – and that the sponsored Wolds Way Walk did great things socially and personally, as well as financially. We would like to keep on striking while the iron's hot!! The way parish councillors see things at present, and some ideas put forward at the meeting in a brainstorming session, to think about include:

- i) Have an event within the parish, preferably for all the family, during an afternoon (walk? ad-hoc concert? treasure hunt? hide-and-seek? quiz/ puzzles/ jigsaws indoors etc.), followed by a barbecue outdoors, or a family-style barn meal-cum-dance. Prize draws, etc... to keep people there?! Have a (free?!) invited (semi-) professional show/ performer(s). Run competitions for best..... animals (Lucases excluded!); Cookery items,..... drawing/ painting etc. (children?...). Dressing-up /costume competition (all Wetwang-ers excluded).... Snail races, greasy pole... there's no end to it. The Vicar of Dibley could perhaps be invited to compere!!

- ii) Run more frequent (legal) prize-draws / raffles with prizes donated from unwanted Christmas presents etc.....
- iii) R. Lambert reminded the committee that events - and people - need to remain open and flexible to accommodate and make use of all the various gifts and talents there are among the villagers, and to provide something for all those liable to put in an appearance.
- iv) It is planned to hold a meeting, open to all villagers, shortly before the next Parish Council (24th October) to give everyone a chance to get involved in this. The various personalities and threads that link the P.C., the Village Hall committee, the church groups, the Walkers' Club etc. could be better drawn together in order to avoid duplication of effort and overlapping of resources, and to help pool facilities. Some discussion is called for as to how the Parish precept, received and controlled by the P.C., can be used for community development; how the church building and resources could be exploited more; and, perhaps, how the Hall's facilities could be enhanced if need be.

f) **Security of Church Building and Contents:** The Clerk has spoken with John Chapman about this and, subject to objection from the ordained clergy, there is a general agreement that the current practices strike a fair balance between the risk of theft or vandalism and the need for the building to fulfil its fundamental purpose of providing a place of peace and quiet for local people and visitors to sit and meditate in. Out of worship times, the vestry will be locked with the plate and other valuables locked inside the safe. Otherwise the display materials, including all those put up for the Sykes weekend on the windowsills and elsewhere, will remain as they are.

5] CORRESPONDENCE: E. Lovatt went through the 3 items titled on the Agenda:

- i) Overgrowing vegetation leaflet from the Council.
See Item 4] b 3) above.
- ii) Local Development Framework – Community Involvement documents available from E. Lovatt.
- iii) **A suggestion:**
During each Quarter, between our meetings, the Clerk receives quite a number of communications most of which wait a number of weeks to be seen, unless left in the Hall lobby. These could, in future, be put into 1 of 3 categories by myself as secretary (in conjunction with, and with the approval of the Chairman, of course):

- a) **Important** – to email, or pass printed-out copy to **all Council members**. Items needing response before next meeting, Sensitive items (e.g. planning applications that the Chair may wish to consult over before the next meeting).
- b) **Interesting** – some members may wish to know about items, attend meetings, offer opinions, give advice etc. Peter and I will distribute.
- c) **Informative only** – of general interest; intended for village notice-board, could be passed on or emailed to specific Council members with specialist interest.
e.g. website / email info. To Ian etc.

6] AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS: The Chairman is to ask whether Jane Austen knows anything about these documents.

7] PLANNING APPLICATIONS: With regard to the items brought down from the discussion at the Meeting's Introduction:

- i) 2 Lighthouse Cottages: The premises has been sold; the application is now cancelled.
- ii) 1 Towthorpe Cottages: (Re-submission dated 20/07/2006). Chairman to submit this Council's approval.

2 Towthorpe Cottages: – refused.

It has been pointed out that the development at Elm Tree Farm appears to be continuing. Chairman to make inquiries.

7] ANY OTHER BUSINESS: None was raised.

8] NEXT MEETING: 7.30 p.m. Tuesday 24th October – Refreshments: J. Megginson

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.10 p.m.

*Signed Peter Leen
Chairman Parish Council*