

Minutes of a meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee of the Town Council held in the Town Meeting Room Old Courthouse, George Street, Pocklington on Wednesday 25th November 2009 commencing at 7pm

Present: Cllr Sykes (Chairman), Bryon, Cooper, Perry, Scaife, Petrie, Blake-James, Wilkinson and Dexter

In attendance: Mrs Knill (note-taker) and one member of the public.

1. The notice of the meeting was accepted.
2. Apologies: Cllr Marron (business)
3. Declarations of Interest : Cllr Scaife declared a personal interest in items 6 (Wolds Wonders and Gateway Partnership) & 8, Cllr Shepherd declared a personal interest in item 6 (Wolds Wonders), Cllr Blake-James declared an interest in item 6 (Gateway Partnership and Cllr Cooper declared an interest in items 6 (Gateway Partnership) and 16 (personal cheque)
4. Consider the precept requirements for the forthcoming year

Cllr Perry commented on the cost of the churchyard and cemetery compared with the income. It was agreed that the income was affected by the number of people now being cremated and that the cost of burials should be reviewed at the next meeting of the Land and Property committee. In the meantime the precept should remain unaltered. Cllr Cooper said that the repairs to the wall at the back of the churchyard need addressing as a matter of urgency and it was agreed that a quote for the cost of the work be obtained before the next meeting of the Land and Property committee.

A discussion took place on the future costs of the CCTV cameras now that the Town Council had taken over responsibility for them. Cllr Bryon said that he was not in favour of putting any more money to this at the present time and this was agreed. It was also agreed that the CCTV system needs looking at generally as the residents and traders have recently lost confidence in it. It was decided that a small committee be formed to monitor it and the members of that committee be trained in its use.

Cllr Cooper said that the flood committee had fought hard with the Environment Agency over funding for future work and that a feasibility study was required for the benefit of the town. The Environment Agency has put in a bid for Pocklington to have funding but in view of the recent flooding in Cumbria it is unlikely that there will be funds available for Pocklington. Cllr Cooper said he had contacted Richard Alderson at ERYC who said there some funds but not a lot so the shortfall needs to be made up through the precept. A discussion took place about the feasibility study for the Oak House. Cllr Perry felt that there was enough expertise within the Council for them to be able to do a business study to decide on the best use of the Oak House in the interests of the people of the town. Cllr Blake-James proposed that the precept should not be increased in respect of this but that the £10,000 put aside for the Oak House feasibility study be redesignated for a likely feasibility study for flooding. 2nd Cllr Perry and agreed.

Cllr Petrie asked if the base rate figure for the town could be obtained from ERYC for the next full Council meeting.

5. Consider the quarterly figures from Pocklington Arts Centre

It was generally felt that although the Arts Centre had had a slow quarter the results overall were better than expected. Cllr Petrie said that tickets for the live shows were selling well. Cllr Perry asked for clarification of the accounts in respect of the income from the Town Council as he was concerned that the Arts Centre could not stand alone. Cllr Petrie explained that there remit was not to loose money trading and they were fulfilling this which was very commendable considering that the large cinemas are struggling. The Town Council pay for

anything connected with the upkeep of the building, which is owned by the Town Council, and the Manager's salary. It was felt that this was justified in view of the wider benefits to the town.

6. Consider the applications for small grants: Wolds Wonders, Round Table & Citizens Advice plus any further applications received

Several additional applications had been received and as some were from outside the parish it was clarified that donations were for organisations that benefitted the people of Pocklington. Cllr Scaife confirmed that there was about £1600 left to distribute.

The following donations were agreed:-

Pocklington Womens Institute	£130
Proposed Cllr Bryon, 2 nd Cllr Wilkinson and agreed	
Ebor Vale Riding for the Disabled	£100
Proposed Cllr Blake-James, 2 nd Cllr Scaife and agreed	
Pocklington and Wolds Gateway Partnership	£200
Proposed Cllr Wilkinson, 2 nd Cllr Bryon and agreed (except by those abstaining)	
Pocklington Chrysanthemum Society	£100
Proposed Cllr Shepherd, 2 nd Cllr Bryon and agreed	
Barmby Moor Playing Fields Association	£200
Proposed Cllr Perry, 2 nd Cllr Dexter and agreed	
Barmby Moor Pre School	£100
Proposed Cllr Shepherd, 2 nd Cllr Blake-James and agreed	
Wolds Wonders	£500
Proposed Cllr Cooper, 2 nd Cllr Shepherd and agreed	

The Council agreed that the Wolds Wonders were worthy beneficiaries of the grant as they are a great benefit to the town and rely and donations.

7. Consider the method of setting up a Youth Council

It was agreed that in order to move forward on this there needed to be consultation with the schools to find out where the schools stood on this issue and if they had anything similar within the school. If the feedback is favourable then the setting up of a Youth Council could be taken to the next stage. Cllr Shepherd said he would speak to his contact at Pocklington School and Cllr Elliott is to be informed as he is a governor of this school. Cllr Perry agreed to raise the matter at the next governors meeting at Woldgate College but said that he had received resistance from the staff on a similar matter recently. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the headmaster in support of Cllr Perry. Cllr Cooper said that a Youth Council would be for the Pocklington children generally and not to do with the schools although he accepted that the schools were a starting point. Cllr Dexter said that it needed to be made clear to the children that this is a separate issue to the skate park and that it would not detract from that.

8. Consider 'Walkers are Welcome' status – Cllr Scaife

Cllr Scaife explained that this request had come from the disabled transport group who didn't know how to take it forward. £20 was needed to apply for the status. Attaining the status would benefit the traders. The Ramblers Association had offered to help with setting circular routes and maps. Cllr Wilkinson proposed applying for the status, 2nd Cllr Blake-James and agreed.

9. Note the details of the work placement from York College

Cllr Cooper proposed that the work placement should be accepted, 2nd Cllr Blake-James and agreed.

10. Consider the offer from BT to purchase the telephone kiosk in Barmby Road for £1

It was agreed that clarification is needed on what will happen to the phone box if the Council do not adopt it at which time it will be considered again. Cllr Bryon said that he had been surprised at the number of calls from this phone box and could only assume that it was people at or leaving the surgery that were using it. Cllr Cooper suggested that if the telephony is removed the Council should approach the Surgery to see if they would consider installing a public telephone in their premises. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the Surgery to this effect.

11. Next action to take in relation to the brown signs

Cllr Blake-James said that although there is now a definite figure for the cost of the signs it would probably be advisable to wait for the result of the ERYC meeting in December regarding the proposed roundabout on the A1079 before approaching the large organisations and/or shops for contributions to the funding. This was agreed. Cllr Perry said that the Promote Pocklington committee were likely to contribute £300. There was a discussion about the fact that the signs did not depict the shopping centre in Pocklington. Cllr Cooper proposed that the matter be moved to the next Development and Marketing meeting for further discussion.

12. Update on the proposal of ERYC to impose parking charges in the town

In view of the absence of Cllr Marron there was no further update on the parking charges.

13. Update on the 1st floor development of Oak House

Cllr Perry said that he and some of the other Councillors needed to get together to form a proposal to put to the Council together with costings. This will be discussed further in due course.

14. Consider paying two annual subscriptions for Pocklington Town Crier

Cllr Bryon praised the Town Crier for the contribution he made to the town. He has entered 2 competitions – the World Championship in June at Chester and the Champoinships at Beverley and Bridlington in August. Cllr Bryon proposed that the Town Council pay the Town Criers subscriptions:-

Royal Company of Town Criers – Annual fee of £30 due on 31st December 2009

Ancient and Honourable Guild of Town Criers – Annual fee of £29 due in September 2010 although this could be increased to £30-£35 following the AGM in February 2010

2nd Cllr Blake-James and agreed.

It was agreed that a letter be sent to Mr Sheasby informing him of the decision.

15. Consider our financial position at the mid-year stage and establish priorities

Noted and accepted

16. Authorise any payments

Cllr Shepherd proposed the payment of the accounts listed below. 2nd Cllr Bryon and agreed.

PTC

2332	Friends of PAC	Donation - refreshments	50.00
2333	R Wood	Reimbursement - CILCA	115.00
2334	M Cooper	1911 Census for Fallen Heroes	39.95
BP	Audit Commission	Audit fees	2,265.50
	Round Table	Pocktoberfest	85.00
	GT Graphics	Printing - Newsletters	83.25

K J Falkingham	Paint brushes etc	12.94
Mason Clark Assoc	Fees - Oak House	1,206.06
Parkers Dutch Bulbs	Bulbs	13.23
Kompan	Playground equipment	4,048.00
Travis Perkins	Seats	204.79
ERYC	Street Lighting Agreement	2,139.77
Getyerink	Cartridges	53.94
HMRC	Tax & NIC	1,665.24
R Wood	November Salary	
J Farmer	November Salary	
E Moore	November Salary	
S Knill	November Salary	
A Woodcock	November Salary	
		16,120.06

PAC

104870	Petty Cash		150.00
104871	Wold Toppers Ltd	Beer	144.33
104872	Sony Pictures	Film Rental	77.42
104873	KJ Falkingham	Hardware	21.66
104874	Premier Business Supplies	Cleaning Products	173.96
104875	Johnston Publishing	Advertising	80.00
104876	PJ Biggins	Book Keeping	379.50
104877	PPAC	Advertising	30.00
104878	Alan Bearman Music	Performance Fee	2,070.00
104879	GT Graphics	Printing	376.00
104880	Newsquest	Advertising	244.95
104881	JSS Audio	PA Hire	287.50
104882	Mirth Control Comedy Club	Performance Fee	500.00
104883	Petty Cash	Cash	250.00
BP	M Derbyshire	Technician Services	32.00
	JT Management	Performance Fee	2,012.50
	Clive Conway Celebrity P	Performance Fee	2,415.00
	13 Artists	Performance Fee	625.00
	Phil McIntyre	Performance Fee	1,174.40
			11,044.22

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Signed as a true record of the meetingTown Mayor