# A MEETING OF COPMANTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL was held on TUESDAY 14 JUNE 2011 in the HOWELL HALL, SCHOOL LANE at 7.30 pm

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR P WHITFIELD Chairman

**COUNCILLOR MRS J AUTON** 

COUNCILOR B BELL
COUNCILLOR D BOWEN
COUNCILLOR D CARR
COUNCILLOR D F PARKER
COUNCILLOR G SIMPSON
COUNCILLOR MRS M TAYLOR
COUNCILLOR MRS F THOMPSON
COUNCILLOR MRS C TOWNSEND

Mrs P D Greenwell Clerk

Councillor P Healey City of York Council
Andrew Copmanthorpe library

Approx 20 members of the public and

**Members of Copmanthorpe Windfarm Action Group** 

Before the Meeting commenced Andrew from Copmanthorpe library, spoke on behalf of the Carnival Committee about a proposal which plans to recognise people who volunteer in the community. This has been done in Bishopthorpe and South Bank. There was general agreement that this would be a good thing to do in Copmanthorpe. Whilst there is insufficient time to organise this in time for this year's Carnival, it was suggested that it could be organised in time for early next year, and a suggested name is the Copmanthorpe New Year's Honours List. The Events Group will discuss with a view to the Parish Council possibly organising and running the project annually.

Mr David Woodward has obtained from Askham Bryan College, under the Freedom of Information Act, a letter from Cllr Rev Mumford dated February in support of the proposed Wind Farm, and called for the resignation of Cllr the Reverend Geoff Mumford from the Parish Council. The Chairman explained that, since Mr Mumford was writing in his capacity as Vicar of Copmanthorpe and Green Dean of South Ainsty, and speaking neither as a Parish Councillor nor on behalf of the Parish Council, there was no necessity for him to resign. Cllr Rev Mumford was not present, having given apologies for this evening's meeting some time ago, due to a Diocesan commitment.

Other members of the public expressed their concern that the Parish Council had not yet stated its position on the Wind Farm proposals, but the Chairman explained that the Parish Council is constrained by legislation. We have thus far only seen, and objected to, an application for a monitoring mast. We cannot comment upon an application for a wind farm which we have not yet seen. Before coming to a decision, we have been listening to the views of as many residents as possible, and carrying out a ballot to ascertain their views, as well as noting the results of straw polls taken by Banks (during the exhibition) by the Windfarm Action Group (after the exhibition) and by the Action Group (after the public meeting). There were some concerns raised over the Poll Slip and its location in the Village

Sheet 2 Folio 935 ACTION

Newsletter. A request was made that the views of 1700 people, who had signed a petition opposing the wind farm, also be taken into account.

#### 1. APOLOGIES

Cllr Rev G Mumford

# 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

# **3. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held 10 May 2011** were PROPOSED by Cllr Simpson, with the addition of Rev Geoff Mumford as present as a Member of the Public prior to his co-option. SECONDED by Cllr Mrs Taylor. ALL IN FAVOUR.

#### 4. WIND FARM

The results of the ballot up to today's date (14 June) show 170 residents against the proposed wind farm and 13 in favour. This is a similar percentage to the straw poll taken after the Public Meeting. Cllr Carr believes that if the wind farm is built it will put a blight on Copmanthorpe for years to come and this agricultural site will be lost, probably forever. He also has concerns about the lack of experience of the developer in wind farm construction.

Cllr Bowen stated that the Council, as a statutory consultee, has objected to application 11/00289/FUL, erection of a cable stayed wind monitoring mast, made by Banks Renewables Limited. The opinions of Copmanthorpe residents have been expressed at every opportunity: during the presentation made by the applicants; in the exit poll taken from people leaving the presentation, at an open meeting; and in a confidential voting slip from the Village Newsletter delivered to every household. The combined results indicate that 93% are against the application being granted with 6% for and a very small number with no view for or against.

In view of the overwhelming majority view opposing the application it is RESOLVED:- that Council oppose the application and any subsequent application to erect a number of wind turbines, as declared in the application. Within the powers granted by Parliament, to strongly support the lawful aim and strategy of the Copmanthorpe Wind Farm Action Group to achieve the refusal of the application 11/00289/FUL and any subsequent application for the erection of wind turbines on green belt land adjacent to the village.

SECONDED by Cllr Simpson. ALL IN FAVOUR.

Cllr Whitfield PROPOSED that Cllr Bowen speak on behalf of the Parish

Council at the CYC Planning Committee meeting on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June. Cllr SECONDED by Cllr Mrs Taylor. ALL IN FAVOUR. Bowen

Cllr Mrs Taylor PROPOSED a vote of thanks to Cllr Bowen for all his hard work on this matter to date, and this was supported by all Councillors.

It is noted that Terms of Reference for the Wind Farm Liaison Group are Contained within the wording of the Resolution passed, the Group consisting of Cllrs Bowen and Carr from the Roads and Footpaths Committee, and Cllrs Simpson and Mrs Taylor from the Planning Committee.

### 5. CLERK'S REPORT

Cllrs Simpson and Mrs Thompson, having been absent from last month's Meeting, signed their Declarations of Acceptance of Office and Register of Interests forms, which were counter-signed by the Clerk. Copies of all Councillors' forms will now be sent to the Monitoring Officer at CYC.

A duty rota form for the Parish Council stall at the Carnival was circulated.

The Clerk will type this up and circulate.

Clerk

The Clerk had last week attended the Regional Conference of the SLCC in Harrogate, where there were some interesting presentations, most notably one on the Localism Bill currently going through Parliament. There will be much in this which will concern Parish Councils, but amendments are still being made. It is anticipated that the Bill will receive Royal Assent by the end of the year.

# 6. AUDIT 2010-2011

The Annual Governance Statement, which forms part of the Annual Return, was read by the Clerk, agreed by Councillors, and signed by the Clerk and Chariman.

#### 7. NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE MATTERS

Although there is quite a large number of incidents reported this month, quite a large proportion are not of a particularly serious nature. It was AGREED that the dates of police surgeries in Copmanthorpe should go in the Nerwsletter and on the Parish Council website. The Clerk has already put up a list on the Cllr notice board.

Whitfield

### 8. ACTION REVIEW

Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and the Risk Assessment need to be reviewed.

The hole in the ground in Low Green has been rectified.

Cllr Whitfield has spoken with David Whiteman of the Horticultural Society on the subject of a Gardening Club. It appears that most keen gardeners in Copmanthorpe are members of the Askham Bryan College Gardening Club, which gets better speakers etc. than any village Club could attract. The plan for flower baskets has now been put on hold until next year.

# 9. RURAL WEST WARD

No news yet on the Charter.

A retrospective planning application is still awaited for the dentist's sign at the end of St Giles Way. Cllr Healey warns that this could take some time.

### 10. CORONATION CUP

A meeting of the Committee had been held on 2 June. A total of 22 entries over all categories has been received, and a timetable for judging drawn up by the Clerk, who has ordered trophies for the children's prizes and will purchase the gardening vouchers for the adults.

Clerk

### 11. TASK FORCE

The names of 4 individuals who have contacted the Clerk have been passed to Cllr Bowen, who now has 6 or 7 volunteers, plus members of the Methodist Church congregation. Cllr Bowen will prepare packs for these volunteers, to Cllr include litter pickers, high visibility vests etc. The first job will be to tidy the Bowen path between Loriners Way and Farmers Way. Cllrs Carr, Mrs Taylor, Simpson and Whitfield offered to help if they are available on the chosen date.

# 12. CORRESPONDENCE

Cllr Mrs Taylor had met with Cllr Frank Paterson of Askham Bryan Parish Council to discuss having a joint Askham Bryan/Copmanthorpe Parish Council stand at the College Open Day on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>June, the aim being to further the involvement of the students in life in Copmanthorpe and Askham Bryan. Volunteers were requested to assist in manning the stand, none were forthcoming. Cllr Whitfield to man the stand with members of Askham Bryan Parish Council.

Sheet 5 Folio 938 ACTION

The Rural West Ward Update has been circulated.

Letters of thanks for grant aid from the Parish Council are received from the

WI, Good Companions, Horticultural Society, Yorkshire Countrywomen and the Occasion Choir.

Information on Data Protection is received from NALC. The Clerk advised that we are already registered under the Data Protection Act.

An invitation to the Chairman, inviting him to be guest of honour at the Horticultural Show and to officially open the Show, is received from Mr David Whiteman of the Horticultural Society. Councillors are happy for Cllr Cllr Whitfield to accept this invitation.

Whitfield

#### 13. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

# a) Planning

The monthly Planning Report has already been circulated.

Cllr Bowen has written to all members of the CYC Planning Committee on the subject of the wind monitoring mast.

# b) Roads and Footpaths

A meeting had been held on 17 May, and minutes already circulated. Members are asked to report back to the next meeting in July any matters in their own All particular areas which require action from either CYC or our own Task Force. R&F

The acquisition of additional Vehicle Activated Speed Signs to provide one on each side of the road at all three entrances to the village. Costs to be discussed Fin with the Finance Committee.

Cttee

It had been agreed that Councillors would construct two notice boards, at a cost of approx £125 in materials (marine ply). If these are deemed to be adequate All further boards can be made in future.

R&F

The provision of Christmas lights on the trees in Low Green was discussed, and it was agreed to remove the lights from the tree on Horseman Lane which stands on its own and use these, together with the ones we have in stock, to illuminate Low Green. Cllr Whitfield to obtain a quote from Branches Out for the Cllr necessary work, but the total cost will probably be less than £1,000. Whitfield

A maximum budget for the purchase of snow clearing equipment needs to be agreed, possibly in partnership with the Recreation Centre.

City Fibre Networks have been contacted in connection with Low Green.

The next meeting will be in August, on a date to be advised.

# c) Finance

No meeting had been held. No report.

# 14. RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

A request has been received for a pedestrian crossing of some kind on Horseman Lane, from the doctors' surgery to the shops. Julie Hood, CYC, thinks this could be funded by the Ward Committee. Cllr Bowen PROPOSED that we ask the Highways Department to consider this. SECONDED by Cllr Mrs Taylor. ALL IN FAVOUR.

Cllr Mrs Auton is to do a walk round the village with Rachel Stewart, CYC, in September, to ascertain if there is anything further of this kind Cllr Mrs needed.

### 15. EVENTS AND YOUTH LIAISON GROUP

It was agreed that more up to date information is needed for our stall at the Carnival, and we also need to purchase more tent pegs and guy ropes Cllr to secure the gazebo Whitfield

In view of apparently increasing youth disturbance in the village, Cllr Mrs Auton PROPOSED that we ask the Youth Club Committee if they would consider opening for more than one night a week to provide some kind of drop-in facility for the young people. It was AGREED that she should set up a meeting, also to be attended by Cllr Simpson, to discuss Cllr Mrs this idea with them.

Auton

# 16. RECREATION CENTRE

Cllr Mrs Townsend had attended the most recent meeting, in place of Cllr Mrs Taylor.

New and improved CCTV is planned.

There have been problems with footballers playing on the cricket pitch and members of the Bowls Club are being distracted by youngsters using the Playbuilder equipment which, furthermore, is being abused. The Committee has requested a Meeting with the Parish Council to discuss these problems, but no arrangements have yet been made.

Under-age drinking is still occurring on Friday and Saturday evenings. The next Meeting will be on 23 June.

# 17. ACCOUNTS

Community Account Business Money Manager Account	£	18,830.05 21,794.78
	£	40,624.83
Credits to the Account this Month		
Allotment Receipts 72-82 Re: Forbes Wilson and Williamina Mackie Re: Roy and Jill Blackburn	£	261.25 80.00 50.00
	£	391.25
Accounts to be Paid this Month		
Ware and Kay LLP – land registration SLCC Enterprises – Regional Conference Caroline Anderson – PC News Yorkshire Water – allotments Yorkshire Water – burial ground P D Greenwell – expenses P D Greenwell – salary Petty Cash	£	150.00 78.00 60.00 31.78 16.79 27.50 478.69 30.00
	£	872.76

The adoption of these Accounts was PROPOSED by Cllr Mrs Townsend. SECONDED by Cllr Mrs Taylor. ALL IN FAVOUR.

It was noted that a new Bank Mandate is needed.

# 18. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Wind Farm Liaison Group Jubilee events

# 19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 12 July 2011 at 7.30 pm in the Howell Hall, to be preceded by a Meeting of the Planning Committee at 7.00 pm.

An interim Meeting of the Planning Committee will be held on 29 June 2011 in the Methodist Church Hall at 7.15 pm.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 10.10 pm.