

**WARMFIELD – CUM – HEATH PARISH COUNCIL
EXTRACTS FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 16 MAY 2012**

Public Participation – There were a number of Parishioners present, and the main cause for concern was the invasion of Heath Common by Travellers over the previous weekend. Cllr Fisher & District Cllr Dagger explained that an event at Pugneys was cancelled at the last minute by WMDC, because of waterlogged ground, and the Travellers involved moved onto Heath Common on Friday evening. They were not given permission by WMDC, and when asked to move by WMDC Officers they refused. The Police were called but declined to use Sect 61 of the Crime & Disorder Act. Accordingly, therefore, WMDC applied for a Court Order, but following a strong Police presence on Sunday, they finally moved off on Monday morning. Initially the presence was limited to the Life and Light Mission contingent from Pugneys, but this was soon augmented by numerous other Travellers who had been made aware of the invasion.

As a result, there were numerous problems caused including noise, litter, drivers doing wheel spins & doughnuts which have ruined this area of the Common, dangerous driving and use of the hedges etc as toilets.

Andrew Balchin, who is Corporate Director of Communities at WMDC, was present and agreed to follow up the issues raised, and to work with the Parish Council and Residents Association to look at making it more difficult to access the Common illegally, and more importantly to develop a strict protocol which will come into operation to prevent anything similar ever happening again.

Mr Bobby Price, from the local travelling community, was present and agreed that matters had got out of hand. He agreed to take up the issues raised from his side.

Cllr Dagger also raised the issue of the Planning Application for use of land at Hell Lane, Heath for outdoor sporting activity. He confirmed that this Application would now be heard by the Planning Committee and urged attendance at the meeting.

He also confirmed that retrospective Planning Applications had been lodged for both of the illegal Travellers residential sites in Warmfield.

Election of Chair/Deputy Chair – The Clerk announced that he had received a number of nomination forms, all in the name of Cllr Fisher. Accordingly, after being formally proposed and seconded, Cllr Fisher was unanimously elected as Chair of the Parish Council for 2012/2013. For the post of Deputy Chair, Cllr Smith was proposed and seconded and was unanimously elected. Subsequently, the Chair signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was witnessed by the Clerk.

Community Centre – The Clerk confirmed that the Community Centre bank account would now be closed and a suitable Parish Council account opened.

The Clerk also confirmed that the Post Office in the Community Centre was now open every Tuesday between 12.00 & 4.00 pm. It was agreed to look at the provision of a suitable banner to fix to the fence.

The meeting between Parish Councillors, WMDC Officers and interested parents to look at improving the Children's Play Area, would be held as soon as possible.

Clerk's Progress Report – A number of issues were reported as follows:

- The additional litter bin in Kirkthorpe Lane, Kirkthorpe, to assist in the dog fouling problem, has now been provided.
- Responses from both WMDC and WY Police, in terms of the dog nuisance issue at the Marshall Hill Travellers site, have been received.
- An Email has been sent to WY Police asking for a presence at the forthcoming Heath transport Rally to be held on 27 May 2012.

- The WMDC Countryside Service have confirmed that the post which appeared on Heath Common, opposite Heath Hall, has been removed, and the one outside the 'Horse & Groom' is being investigated.
- An Email has been sent to WMDC Highways complaining about the state of the Carriageway in Croft Edge.

Finance – The Clerk provided a statement on the current financial position of the Parish Council, and presented cheques for payment.

The Annual Accounts for y/e 31 March 2012, and the updated Financial Risk Assessment, were approved by Members, and signed where necessary by the Chair and Clerk.

Planning Matters – The following Applications were discussed:

Highcroft, Heath – New PP to replace Existing – Replacement Dwelling & Garage – Approved by WMDC.

The Metre House, Elsicker Lane, Warmfield – Use of Common Land to provide access to Dwelling – Approved by WMDC.

Kings Arms Cottages, Heath – COU Residential to Residential and Ground Floor Tea Room – Approved by WMDC.

'Kings Arms', Heath – Alterations to Front Façade of Building, including Signage – Approved by WMDC.

Kings Arms Cottages, Heath – Non-Illuminated Signage Scheme – Decision Pending.

Holly Farm, Warmfield Lane, Warmfield – Use of Land as Garden & Boundary Treatment – Split Decision.

'Kings Arms', Heath – Illuminated Signage – Approved by WMDC.

Hell Lane, Heath – Use of Land for Outdoor Sports – Decision Pending. To be presented to Planning Committee – Clerk to attend if possible.

7 Pineapple Cottages, Warmfield – Porch to Front – Approved by WMDC.

NEW APPLICATIONS

5 Goosehill Lane, Warmfield – Construction of 1st and 2 Storey Extensions – No Objections from Parish Council.

Boundary Lane (Land Off), Warmfield – Use of land for Stationary Caravan for residential purposes, Hardstanding & Dayroom etc. – Clerk to send Letter of Objection.

COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

Commons Liaison Committee – Meeting held on 1 May 2012. Progress made on Peg System for Horses and Wildlife Areas. Heath Common Action Day (Litter Picking etc) to be held on 29 June 2012.

Road Safety Committee – Meeting held on 24 April 2012. Reports of blocked Gullies throughout the Parish. Parish Council to send Email in support.

Welbeck Liaison Committee – Next meeting scheduled for 14 June 2012.

Kirkthorpe Playing Fields – The Clerk reported on his weekly inspections, and confirmed that there was nothing adverse to report.

Town & Parish Councils Liaison Group. – Neither the Chair nor Clerk were able to attend the last meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for 25 July 2012 at 6.00 pm in the Kingswood Suite, Town Hall, Wakefield.

Future Speakers – Officers from the WMDC 'Street Scene' Department are to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council on 20 June 2012.

Correspondence – The following items of Correspondence were reported upon:

- WMDC – Wakefield Energy Savers Scheme.
- YLCA – Jubilee Celebrations Advice.
- Rural Action – Yorkshire – Country Air Magazine.

Additional Matters/Items for Next Agenda

- Kite Festival 2012 – It was agreed to organise this event again – The date chosen is 23 September 2012. It was also agreed that the Clerk should approach Cllr Blezard in terms of possible Grant sources.

Date/Time of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Wednesday 20 June 2012**, in the Community Centre, Kirkthorpe.