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Skerne and Wansford Parish Council

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Minutes of a meeting of the Skerne and Wansford Parish Council, which took place on Tuesday July 18 2017 in Wansford Village Hall at 7.30pm.

1. **Present:** Councillors Jackie Dobson, Ian Lamble, Lynn Stockwell, Catherine Bristow, Sue Waites, Ann Kitching, Neil Robson, Gill Grassam and ERY councillor Paul Lisseter.
2. **Apologies:** Coun Caroline Harrison, ERY councillors Jane Evison and Jonathan Owen.
3. **Public session**: Clive Lester of Skerne pointed out the speeding problems in Skerne and requested that the council request another speed survey. Coun Lisseter said that was a common problem around all the villages but more police resources might be a way forward. It had been raised at the parish council cluster meeting the previous evening and he recommended that the parish council continue to highlight the problem. David Hamilton, of the Driffield Canal Partnership spoke on item 9i. He explained that if the parish council accepted the DCP offer of residual funds it would only be for the ongoing upkeep, enhancement and maintenance of the garden area near the Wansford Lock and not the lock itself. DCP would expect the money to be ring-fenced for that purpose only and the parish council could perhaps use some of it as match funding for a special project.
4. **Declarations of interest:** Coun Dobson in 7iii and Coun Waites in 7iv.
5. **To confirm the minutes of the meeting on May 9 as a true and correct record**:Confirmed and signed. Proposed Coun Dobson, seconded Coun Bristow.

1. **To dispose of any business remaining from the previous meeting and, if necessary, decide on a course of action:**
2. **Henry Parker memorial service, etc**: The chairman remarked on the success of the whole weekend and the council’s first civic visit of a foreign mayor. He congratulated everyone involved and thought that they had done the village and Pte Parker well. The clerk would keep the council updated re the flag which had dressed Pte Parker’s coffin and had been given to the village in the safe keeping of the church. The York diocesan church buildings officer was being consulted on how best the flag could be displayed.
3. **Streetscene walkabout on July 3:** The contents of the resulting schedule had been circulated and were noted. The clerk, Coun Dobson and Coun Waites had attended.
4. **Update re abandoned car:** Nothing could be done about this until, at the very earliest, when the tax runs out in October.
5. **Finance:**
6. **Resolved:** to grant the chairman an allowance to cover the entertainment of French dignitaries during the weekend of the Henry Parker memorial service ie £40 for meal for two at The Trout for M Lucien Guise and his partner Isabel Manbon, maire of Warlencourt-Eaucourt, the Somme and consort). Proposed Coun Stockwell, seconded Coun Dobson.
7. **Resolved:** to pay clerk’s extraordinary expenses during the Henry Parker saga ie broadband penalties March/April/May £18; Calls to France, May/June; £1.37; card for Henry Parker display, £3.99; other expenses March to July, three 2nd class stamps, large letter stamp, ream of paper and envelopes, £14.43: Total £37.79. Proposed Coun Waites, seconded Coun Bristow.
8. **Resolved**: to pay Wansford Village Hall £60 for hall hire and £19.50 for electricity used by Wansford defibrillator. Proposed Coun Kitching and seconded Coun Waites.
9. **Resolved:** to pay electricity bill of £19.14 to Sue and Billy Waites for Skerne defibrillator. Proposed Coun Bristow, seconded Coun Dobson.
10. **Resolved:** to reimburse clerk £79.99 for set of Epson No 33 ink cartridges. Proposed Coun Stockwell, seconded Coun Dobson.
11. **Noted**: Bank balances to month ended June 30 2017: Current a/c £4,411,87; savings account (same interest rate), £473.44
12. **Noted:** Information Commissioner – that direct debit of £35 would be taken on July 21

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1. **Administration and training:**
2. Feedback from chairman and Coun Bristow re new councillors’ training from ERNLLCA: The course was going well and informative. Alan Barker was very good.
3. **Noted:** Emergency Plan has been updated to include Neighbourhood Watch contact
4. **Correspondence:**
5. Driffield Canal Partnership – offer re winding up the organisation and dispersal of funds**. Resolved**: to accept the donation with the proviso that the parish council was only responsible for the garden area, tables, benches and other furniture, and bus shelter environs, between the former disabled car park and the immediate top of Wansford Lock. Proposed Coun Stockwell, seconded Coun Dobson.
6. **Noted:** Friends of the Earth Freedom of Information request – complied with
7. **Noted:** ERYC – Adoption of Community Statement Involvement. Paper copies available to view at Driffield Library.
8. ERYC – Parish Councils cluster meeting at Rickaby Hall on July 17. Details circulated. The council had requested that speeding in Skerne be brought up at this meeting as well as moving the street sign and finger post in Main Street. Speaking in the public session, Coun Lisseter said speeding in villages had formed a greater part of the debate. **Agreed:** clerk to write to highways requesting another speed survey, even though this would be within the three-year limitation.
9. **Declined:** Humber & Wolds Rural Community Council – invitation to become a member
10. **Noted**: ERYC – Safe & Sound grants for the over-60s with less than a cumulative £5,000 in the bank. Article to go in newsletter.
11. Healthwatch East Riding – request to speak to parish council or at a coffee morning. Councillors declined the offer to speak, feeling that it was more appropriate for the village hall committee to deal with.
12. ERYC – Parish Transport champions, nomination, workshop, etc. **Noted**: the clerk was willing to continue to disseminate information re parish transport affairs.
13. **Noted:** Hull & East Riding Catchment Plan – circulated by e-mail.
14. **Agreed:** that the clerk write to NALC expressing an interest in Battle’s Over – a national commemoration in November 2018 re end of First World War
15. **Agreed:** that the parish council register as Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator for Skerne. Councillors would put up any notices and clerk would disseminate information to all interested villagers – article to go in newsletter
16. **Noted:** ERYC Crime reduction fund
17. **Matters requested by councillors:**
18. Speeding in Skerne: dealt with in items 3 and 9iv
19. Possibility of calling a meeting with a view to set up a committee of interested people to look at providing play facilities in Skerne subject to successful applications for grants. Coun Bristow had approached JSR Farms to find out if they were willing to sell any of the land up for sale in Skerne, subject to sufficient interest from the village and successfully applying for grants.
20. **Highways:** Lorries continued to use Back Lane. Clerk to write to Rob Brown, of ERYC Highways, to ask if he could true up the Unsuitable For HGVs sign at the junction of West End and Main Street as councillors felt it was not particularly visible.
21. **To receive reports from representatives: None**
22. **Items for next agenda:** Budget considerations: provision of litter bins; provision of parish grit bin in Back Lane, Skerne.
23. **Date of next meeting:** September 19 2017 at 7.30pm, preceded by a Personnel Committee meeting at 7pm.