

BORROWBY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 27 APRIL 2006

Present: Cllrs G Weir (Chairman), D Frith, and Mrs C Thornton
P Harrison (Clerk)

There was a public attendance of 8

1. **APOLOGIES** Apologies were received from Cllrs F Cowton and D Jackson

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 March 2006 were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

3. MATTERS ARISING (and not covered elsewhere in the agenda)

3.1 With reference to Minute 3.2, the Clerk reported that NYCC Highways say that they intend to defer the placing of the grit box in Back Lane until the autumn.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Various items of correspondence have been received including the following and some under specific headings below.

- 4.1 Letters dated 23 March and 19 April from NYCC about their Review of Contracted Bus services. A number of those services incurring a high subsidy are to be withdrawn. However, the demand responsive taxi bus service serving rural communities, including Borrowby, is to be retained. This requires a subsidy of over £8 per passenger and it is hoped to increase usage. In order to encourage more people in the village to use this service the Clerk was asked to arrange for some publicity of the times of the service to be posted on the notice boards.
- 4.2 Letter from HDC dated 24 March about communications. The Clerk was asked to respond, acknowledging that the Parish Council would find it useful to have (a) an information pack, (b) a parish newsletter and (c) topic papers. It was noted that Mr Rik Royal already runs the Hillside Villages web site which covers Borrowby Parish Council.
- 4.3 Letter dated 27 March from **Patient & Public Involvement Forum** inviting involvement, and inviting a representative to a meeting on Monday 22 May in Middleham. No one at the meeting could attend but the Clerk was asked to check with David Jackson.
- 4.4 Letter dated 5 April from HDC (Graham Banks) about **LDF Statement of Community Involvement**. The original letter and the document itself have been circulated to Councillors.
- 4.5 Letter dated 6 April from Mrs Ann and Mr Peter Johnson about the Three Chimneys planning application, expressing thanks to the Parish Council for its involvement in this. Particular thanks were offered to Cllr Mrs Thornton for her contribution to the meeting of the Development Control Committee.
- 4.6 Letter dated 19 April from HDC concerning "Flavours of Hambleton Awards". Two posters were handed over to Cllr Weir for the notice boards.

5. PLANNING

- 5.1 **Three Chimneys** – This application was considered at a site meeting of the Development Control Committee of HDC on Monday 3 April and a full meeting of the committee on Thursday 6 April. The outcome of this was the approval of the most recent amendments. Although this was against the wish expressed by the Parish Council, the Clerk pointed out that the eventual outcome was that the appearance of the building from the road should be only very little different from at present.
- 5.2 **Cockstride House** – HDC approved this application on 3 April. This was in line with the wish expressed by the Parish Council.
- 5.3 **Rye House** – The proposed felling of a Blue Fir tree was approved by HDC on 27 March. This was in line with the wish expressed by the Parish Council.
- 5.4 **Ings House** – This is a new application for extensions to the existing dwelling, and had been circulated to Councillors. The Parish Council unanimously agreed that they could see no objections to this, and the Clerk was asked to advise HDC.

6. GRASS CUTTING

The Clerk read out a letter dated 24 April from NYCC Highways. This gave the start dates for grass cutting in the Thirsk. Based on these dates it can be expected that grass cutting in Borrowby should be round about the following dates:- 18 April, 16 May, 12 June, 4 July, 31 July, 16 August, 11 September and 2 October. These dates are dependent on the weather at the time. The Clerk said that it would be useful if one of the Councillors, or a member of the public (volunteers would be very welcome) could keep a look out for the contractors, and report back to the Parish Council about visits by the contractors. He said that he had a copy of drawings of the areas to be cut, and also a copy of the specification for the information of anyone who wished to see them.

7. CHESTNUT BANK

The Clerk reported that he had sent letters to all the householders with frontages onto Chestnut Bank advising them of the intention to have the track included as a bridleway on the Definitive Map, and had served the official forms. Also he has submitted all the relevant paperwork to County Hall and we await progress. We have received a letter dated 12 April from NYCC Environmental Services to advise of an application to add a bridleway to the Definitive Map at Chestnut Bank, so presumably other interested parties will have received similar letters.

8. FINANCIAL MATTERS

- 8.1 It was agreed unanimously to continue membership of Yorkshire Local Councils Associations at a cost of £91.00 for this year. The Clerk was asked to arrange this. The Clerk also reported that the YLCA District Director had offered to carry out some training of the permanent Clerk, accompanied by the Chairman if he wishes, on his/her appointment.
- 8.2 The Clerk said he would issue draft copies of the Parish Council's annual accounts to Councillors in advance of the final accounts being audited. An internal auditor needs to be appointed as soon as possible, and the Clerk reported that he/she would need to be independent of the Parish Council. The Chairman has been trying to contact Mr Gareth Sykes who has performed this important function in recent years.
- 8.3 After the last Parish Council meeting an account in the sum of £65.00 was received from Borrowby Village Hall for the use of the hall on 10 occasions during the last financial year. This was paid by means of a cheque signed by the Chairman and Cllr Mrs Thornton. The expenditure of this £65.00 was unanimously approved.
- 8.4 Renewal documentation has been received from Allianz Cornhill advising that our Local Councils Insurance Policy premium for the year from 1 June 2006 will be £311.92

(compared with £301.48 last year). It was unanimously agreed that this insurance should be renewed, and the Clerk was asked to make the necessary arrangements.

9. ARRANGEMENTS FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS

After considerable discussion it was agreed that on Thursday 18 May two meetings would be held, one following on directly from the first. The first would be the annual Parish Meeting, called by the Chairman. The agenda would include items dealing with clubs and activities centred on the village; progress on the refurbishing of the village hall; and progress on the development of the Rural Activities Park. The second meeting would be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, called by the Clerk. The essential first item on the agenda of this meeting would be the election of the Chairman for the coming year. After that the normal business of the Parish Council would be conducted.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 10.1 Cllr Frith noted that the Council was just quorate this evening as two Councillors were absent. He asked if this could be prevented in future if the number of Councillors was increased to six. It was agreed that this should be returned to at a later meeting.
- 10.2 A query had been received from a resident about the need for Planning Permission if he demolished and replaced his garden shed. The Chairman said he would check into this.
- 10.3 It was reported that the notice board at the bottom of the village was in need of repair.
- 10.4 The road light outside Pear Tree Cottage is not working. The Clerk was asked to deal with this. Cllr Mrs Thornton said she would read the number on the light and report it to him.
- 10.5 Following from the receipt of information about NYCC's "Matrix" system, Cllr Frith asked about the speed limit in the vicinity of the school. The Clerk was asked to investigate.

11. OPEN FORUM

- 11.1 Dr Lowe referred to the Minutes of the meeting held on 22 March, copies of which had been distributed to members of the public at the meeting. He claimed that Items 10.1 and 10.2 were not a true record of what had happened. After some discussion he withdrew the allegation.
- 11.2 Mrs Gwyneth Caley asked if there could be some means by which the names of the Parish Councillors would be more available to residents in the village. The Chairman took the immediate step of introducing himself and the other Councillors and it was agreed that consideration would be given to more publicity.
- 11.3 Further to 10.3 above, Mr Alan Smith offered to carry out the repairs.
- 11.4 Mr Alan Smith asked if Parish Councillors visited each site for which a Planning Application is made. The Chairman replied that it would depend on a number of factors including the location, the sensitivity and the time scale.

12. NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 18 May 2006 immediately after the annual Parish Meeting – see Item 9 above.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10 pm.

Signed:

Dated