

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 20th OCTOBER 2011

IN BORROWBY VILLAGE HALL AT 8.00 PM

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from District Cllr Nigel Clack. Present: Cllr Rachel Craig (Chairman), Cllr David Frith (Vice Chairman), Cllr Duncan Craig, Cllr Fred Wachsberger, the Clerk, County Councillor Gareth Dadd and one member of the public.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 22nd September, which were previously circulated, were agreed and signed.

3. Matters arising

- 3.1 Cross pointing – Cllr D Craig has inspected the cross and it is only superficial damage and not dangerous and he will try and do the pointing repairs when he can fit it into his schedule during dry weather.
- 3.2 Telephone Box – Cllr Wachsberger has some information on walks which he will read and circulate. He suggested updating the information to remove Mr Ford's name and seeking another contact to replace him. Cllr Frith suggested putting leaflets in the phone box.
- 3.3 Yorkshire Water – The information about the manholes rising during rainfall was passed on to Yorkshire Water – the information was transferred incorrectly to the sub-contractor team who turned up at the Clerk's house initially who directed them to Borrowby where Cllr Frith said he would meet them. They mistakenly thought the problem to be broken manhole covers rather than manholes rising during rainfall. However, Cllr Frith pointed out the manholes in question and explained the problem. They discussed where the blockages could be and studied some information. There are two lots of drainage through the system: rainwater and sewage. Resident, Mary Peckitt, said that only half an hour of rain is needed for the manhole covers to lift. The contractors said they would pass on the information to Yorkshire Water. To contact Yorkshire Water again if no response received in a few weeks.

The Chairman invited County Cllr Gareth Dadd to talk. He said the County Council are fully stocked up with salt for the winter. He said he noticed that Borrowby had not taken up the voluntary snow clearing scheme – he said it had worked well in Easingwold and other parishes. He said that there is a council tax freeze of 2.5% for the next 2 years. He said in order to stimulate the economy it is planned that the business rates will be kept by local authorities. He said N Yorks would not grow as much as the south and not get as much income from the business rates. He said there had been no requests to return to weekly bin collections. Cllr Wachsberger said that the path towards Knayton School is not wide enough and is getting narrower as the grass grows around it. Cllr D Craig said it is overgrown and needs the grass digging away from the edges. Cllr Wachsberger said he didn't know how wide the area of the path was. It was decided that the Parish Council would try and clear the growth of grass over the path and Cllr Frith said he would contact Knayton Parish Council about this. Cllr Wachsberger said that the sign at the bottom of the bank is now on the post. County Cllr Dadd said that there are a number of road works taking place in the County, including the A19 beyond Thirsk, but work was also being done at night and they were ahead of schedule.

The Chairman thanked County Cllr Gareth Dadd for speaking at the meeting.

#### 4. Affordable Housing Update

Three possible sites have been put forward for affordable housing: two have been ruled out - one as it is too far out of the village and the other because of insolvable access problems. The third site is still an option if the access can be sorted out. The Rural Housing Enabler has asked the Parish Council if they would be in favour of forming a 'cluster' with Knayton and the surrounding parishes. The Parish Council agreed to ask the Rural Housing Enabler to pursue the third site and to form a 'cluster' with Knayton and the surrounding parishes. If the 'cluster' is agreed by the other parishes another survey will need to be carried out. Clerk to write to the Rural Housing Enabler.

#### 5. Correspondence

- 5.1 HDC. Precept figure to be forwarded by 17<sup>th</sup> January 2012.
- 5.2 North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service. Summary of accounts for 2010/11.
- 5.3 The Boundary Commission for England published its initial proposals for new Parliamentary Constituencies in England on 13<sup>th</sup> September and is consulting until 5th December 2011 on the proposals. Views can be forwarded by email, post or at public meetings.
- 5.4 Hambleton & Richmondshire newsletter: 'Update.' Includes information about the Parliamentary Boundary Review and there is a hearing at The Golden Lion, Northallerton, on October 20<sup>th</sup>.
- 5.5 CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England). New guide enclosed entitled: 'How to Respond to Planning Applications'. The Chairman said the information was good but rather lengthy reading. Cllr Frith said the booklet is quite useful and contained good common sense information.
- 5.6 Anglican Church of South Africa. Information on the organisation. To be forwarded to Leake Church.
- 5.7 Poster about the 'Choose to Reuse' fairs. The Northallerton fair takes place on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November at Hambleton Forum.
- 5.8 'Wickstead Playscapes' brochure. To forward to the RAP.
- 5.9 SOLC. Information on reducing utility bills.
- 5.10 'The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons.' Encouraging groups to light beacons for the occasion. Information from 'Utility Insurance' for events. To forward the information with the Village Hall Committee.
- 5.11 NYCC. The Clerk has received a reply about the Highway issues: The footpath near West View has been inspected by NYCC and will be patched up with tarmac, aiming for the end of October; the two potholes on Back Lane have been filled; NYCC are unable to extend the gritting route up to Burtree Stables as all routes are reviewed annually and finalised in September – this will need to be looked at next year.
- 5.12 Thirsk Community Care Association. Notice and invitation to AGM on 7<sup>th</sup> November.

#### 6. Planning Applications

- Works to remove a silver birch at West End Farm (11/02172/CAT). The Parish Council had not objected. Cllr Wachsberger asked if it could be pruned and the Chairman had thought this too. However, there is no TPO on the tree. Cllr Wachsberger said there is another silver birch round the side which is much smaller.

## 7. Finance

AON have confirmed that the Borrowby Parish Council insurance has been renewed.

The second half-yearly precept of £1496.50 has been received.

Cheques written out:

CE & CM Walker Ltd	Grass cutting on 13.09.11	£21.00
	Grass cutting on 29.09.11	£21.00
	VAT	£8.40
	TOTAL	<span style="border: 1px solid black;">£50.40</span>

Mrs R Craig	Duplication cost for Oil Syndicate membership forms	<span style="border: 1px solid black;">£4.50</span>
-------------	--	---

## 8. Any Other Business

- Cllr Wachsberger said the re-cycling bin had not been emptied. Cllr Frith said this was Knayton Parish Council's area but he would speak to Linda Gibbon, Chairman of Knayton Parish Council, and mention at the same time the path clearing down to the school. Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October was suggested for clearing the path, but Cllr Craig said she could not do this day.
- The Clerk has looked through the Chestnut Tree files and, since the large tree had been adopted by Borrowby Parish Council in the past, suggested getting a tree report done by Whitehead Associates of Ripon who had done the tree surgery before to extend its life. The Parish Council agreed that a new tree survey should be done.
- The Chairman said that she does not want to be Chairman next year and would also rather not be on the Parish Council next year if there are sufficient Councillors. She would also like to hand over her role as village hall representative for the Parish Council. She said she wanted to say now to give plenty of notice and an opportunity to advertise the post. She also said she was not keen on the Parish Council taking over the verge cutting as this is another big responsibility and people may be less likely to join the Parish Council.

## 9. Open Forum

9.1 Streetlights – The light, which had been working intermittently, opposite 'Rose Villa', is now not working at all. Clerk had reported the light – to report again.

9.2 A resident said that it was difficult getting people to join the rota system to cut the church grass.

## 10. Date of Next Meeting

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for their contributions. The meeting was closed at 9.15 pm.

The next meeting has been booked for Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November.