

MINUTES FROM THE BORROWBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 16TH FEBRUARY 2012 IN
BORROWBY VILLAGE HALL AT 8 PM

1. Apologies

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from District Cllr N Clack. Present: Cllr R Craig (Chairman), Cllr D Frith (Vice Chairman), Cllr D Craig, Cllr F Wachsberger, the Clerk, County Councillor Gareth Dadd and five members of the public.

2. Minutes

The minutes from the meeting held Thursday 19th January 2012, which were previously circulated and read, were agreed and signed after a few amendments.

3. Matters arising

- 3.1 County Councillor Gareth Dadd said the County Council had pencilled in a 3.5% increase in Council tax for next year (they were not allowed to increase it this year). Regarding the threatened cuts to the Paediatric and Maternity Units at the Friarage, he said we need to leave no stone unturned to get the services we need locally. He said the problem is that there is an increase in the consultants sub-specialising and specialisation is becoming more centralised. He said it is a case of balancing the distance of travel against the medical expertise at York and James Cook, for example. He said nobody wants to see the Friarage Hospital downgraded but a system is needed that is safe. There is the added fear that if the Friarage is downgraded, the A & E department could be threatened in the future. He said there may be another way to deal with these issues in North Yorkshire. He said the issue could go to the Secretary of State, who would take advice from the Clinical Advisory Team, but he hoped they would find a solution before it would come to this. Cllr Frith asked if the Parish Council should forward their views yet. County Cllr Dadd said that if it goes to a formal consultation that would be the time to write. He believes Mr Hague will fight to retain services for the Friarage. Cllr Wachsberger said that we need basic services locally and specialisations more centrally.
- Highways gritting - Cllr Dadd said that there is plenty of salt left for the roads and is being used as needed, but less has been used because of the milder winter.
- 3.2 District Cllr Nigel Clack had forwarded some information for the meeting: he said that Hambleton District Council has firm plans to save a further £500 thousand by cutting five senior management posts in order to protect frontline services. Plans are also underway to halve the number of District Councillors to make further savings; this will take longer as the boundary commission is involved.
- 3.3 Rural Housing Enabler – Still no news re affordable homes.
- 3.4 Charity field fencing – Cllr Frith to contact Mr Weir again.
- 3.5 Footpaths – The signpost should be fixed before the end of March. No progress with stiles.

4. Correspondence

- 4.1 NALC (National Association of Local Councils). Booklet entitled: 'A guide to neighbourhood planning.'
- 4.2 HDC. Martyn Richards, Head of Legal Services. There is a briefing to be held on Friday 10th February at 3.30 pm at the Civic Centre, Northallerton, by the Local Government Boundary Commission. They wish to brief as many Parish Councils as possible on their role further to the recent consultation on the review of district council electoral arrangements.
- 4.3 NHS. Information about the forthcoming public and clinical discussions about the future of the Children's and Maternity services at the Friarage hospital, Northallerton. The information was put at the back of the room at the meeting for people to view.
- 4.4 'Glasdon'. Street furniture catalogue.
- 4.5 RAY (Rural Action Yorkshire). Magazine: 'Country Air.'
- 4.6 Alzheimer's Society. Leaflet about local activities for people in the Hambleton and Richmondshire area living with dementia. There are sessions: 'let's sing together' to be held at the Mencap Centre, Goosecroft Lane, Northallerton, and the first one is to be held on Monday 27th February from 2.00 pm till 3.30 pm. They are to be held regularly on the last Monday of each month and there is no charge.
- 4.7 Richmondshire District Council is asking if Parish Councils are planning to light a beacon for the Diamond Jubilee and enclose registration form – this is to be forwarded to the RAP.
- 4.8 York & North Yorkshire Waste Partnership - Poster and letter. There is a one day sale of home composters which will be £8. The bins are to be pre-ordered and paid for and collected on Monday 19th March, between 2pm and 7pm at Thirsk library (proof of address to be taken). The bins are 3.30 litres (H 1000mm, W 800mm). Only two per household allowed.
- 4.9 NYCC. Local and family history fair poster about the event to be held on Saturday 10th March at the Pavilions, Harrogate. £1 entry and talks £3.

- 4.10 HDC Area Forum Meetings. Dates of local meetings – Thirsk, Tuesday March 20th at 6.30 pm, Old Courthouse; Northallerton, Wednesday 21st March at 7.00 pm at the Civic Centre. Letter and poster. T
- 4.11 Mental Health Support – Posters and leaflet.
- 4.12 SOLC – Conferences. Leaflet about insurance for Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.
- 4.13 Rev Ian Houghton, Chairman of Leake PCC. Request for financial assistance from the Parish Council to help in the upkeep of the churchyard. He said it had cost £1300 to repair the mower last year and £800 this year. He said the average congregation is 24. Cllr Wachsberger said the church is a community asset. Cllr D Craig said the church was a private building and it is not in the remit of the Parish Council as it is taxpayer's money. Cllr D Frith said the community used the facility so it was not strictly private. A resident said that there are too many churches in a small area. Another resident pointed out that money in the Participatory Budgeting could not be used on churches. The letter has also been sent to Knayton Parish Council so to look at their response and the Clerk to research the legal side.
- 4.14 NALC. Information about Local Development Plans. Cllr Frith said a village plan was done 10 to 12 years ago which covered the Hillside Villages and this could be used as a place to start from if it was decided to go ahead. Rural Action Yorkshire can assist if a Development Plan is undertaken. Cllr D Craig said it was probably better not to go ahead with a Development Plan to ensure applications can be assessed on their own merits.

5. Planning Applications

- 5.1 Invitation to attend the Hambleton Planning Committee Meeting on Thursday 2nd February at 1.30 pm at the Civic Centre where the application for Pinfold Cottage will be heard – proposed alterations and single storey extension to existing dwelling (11/02778/FUL). The Chairman said we have yet to hear the outcome.
- 5.2 Proposed extension to existing dwelling at Cockstride House for Mr and Mrs J Taylor (12/00218/FUL). In the plans there is a proposed sun lounge extension to the front elevation. The plans were put at the back of the room for everyone to view. Clerk to reply with no objections.
- 5.3 A letter was sent to the Parish Council by the residents of the farm at the Woundales who are considering a change of use of two fields, which are out of sight from other properties and out of the village, to agriculture and leisure. They are looking at putting up to six years on an environmentally friendly site and may be even considering having a shop. The Chairman said they are floating the idea. The Parish Council have no objections to the idea and Cllr Frith to draft a reply.

6. Finance

The Clerk has sent a letter accepting the grass cutting quotation from CE & CM Walker for the Green areas of £23 per cut & 20% VAT.

The Clerk has asked for the figure that would be given to the Parish Council from the County Council if they were to undertake the verge grass cutting themselves.

Cheques written out:

Borrowby Village Hall (hire of hall for meetings on 22/09/11, 20/10/11 & 17/11/11)	£21.00
Stationery (Stamps, ink, paper, folders)	£21.00

7. Any Other Business

- Cllr Wachsberger asked if the Parish Council should do a newsletter yet. Cllr D Frith said that there was not much news at the moment, although there is the need for a call for more Parish Councillors as Cllr R Craig wishes to step down shortly and there is already a vacancy.
- Cllr Frith said he would talk to Linda Gibbon to see if the caretaker could do some of the path clearing near the school, but he only works 2 hours a week and is has other work on at the moment.

8. Open Forum

Chestnut Trees - The Chairman said that Les Crooks is dealing with the matter at the moment. The electricity board have now done the trimming near the wires and the old chestnut tree will now undergo the pollarding work. The residents of Grey House have done some trimming of the newer chestnut tree so no further work planned but will check it again.

9. Date of next Meeting

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting and said the next meeting is on 15th March at 8.00 pm. The meeting was closed at 9.26 pm.