

Minutes of the Borrowby Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 18th October at 8.00 pm in the village hall at 8.00 pm

1. Apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He said County Cllr G Dadd would try and get to the meeting later but sends his apologies if not. Present: the Chairman (Cllr F Wachsberger), the Vice Chairman (Cllr D Frith), Cllr D Craig, Cllr D Bell, Cllr E Town, the Clerk, Amanda Madden (HDC Rural Housing Enabler) and five members of the public.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes from the meeting held on Thursday 20th September, which were previously circulated, were agreed and signed.

3. Matters arising

3.1 The gullies in the village were cleared yesterday.

3.2 Grass cutting – Clerk to contact CE & CM Walker and ask them to do one more cut of the verges and to cut up to the 30 mph sign on Gate Lane, past the intersection with Back Lane.

3.3 Streetlight out – Clerk reported that the streetlight is not working on Park Lane but it hasn't been fixed yet. Clerk to chase up and also to report that the light on the footpath to Knayton School isn't working.

4. Update from NYCC and HDC Councillors (if present)

Councillors not present.

5. Update from Parish Councillors

5.1 It was reported that the hedge at Fern Lea had been cut before the letter was delivered; Cllr D Bell had seen the resident and spoken about the hedge.

5.2 The Chairman described how he had seen the litter bin in the centre of the village demolished and the noticeboard damaged by a large lorry. He had taken some photographs of the incident and the damage. The Clerk discussed the matter with the hauliers and the HDC street scene manager. The haulage company admitted responsibility and is now liaising with HDC about a replacement litter bin. Cllr Town had suggested having a dog waste bin facility there too – the street scene manager said they may be able to do this. As for the noticeboard, since there was only partial damage (to the wood on the front and damage to one of the legs) the haulage company have not agreed to a replacement but they may contribute to repairs – Cllr Bell to cost out repair.

6. Tree planting

The Chairman said that over the last year or so there have been about 10 trees taken out in the village and there should be some new trees planted. The Parish Council have still not received any information about the yew tree which a resident had applied to have removed; HDC had put a Tree Preservation Order on it while the report was being done. Clerk to contact HDC for an update. The Chairman said he had ordered some trees from the Tree Conservation Trust and has asked people for ideas where they could be planted. Cllr Town suggested planting some trees on the verge on the exit slip road to the A19. Cllr D Craig said that they would need to know what types of trees were in the pack as the suitability of the area for planting may depend on the variety. Cllr E Town said that there is a village hall committee meeting next week and she will ask the committee if the suggestion of areas for tree planting can be put in their next newsletter. The Chairman said that there may be up to 60 trees in the pack – Cllr Town said that any extra trees could be offered to Knayton. Cllr Frith said that the Parish Council should offer them to Borrowby residents first. Cllr Bell said he knows a farmer who may want a few trees.

7. Affordable Housing

The Chairman introduced Amanda Madden, HDC Rural Housing Enabler, who gave an update on the affordable housing project. She said a lot of investigations had been going on and four sites in Borrowby had been looked at: one site is too far out of the village; the second site on Back Lane would have access issues due to the road being so narrow. The third site is on land on the left as you turn down Bob Lane, but again has access problems. The fourth site is down the bottom of the village behind Lengham House. At this point Cllr Frith declared an interest as he part-owns the land and took a seat with the public. A Madden said that there was reduced funding but she had put in a three year bid for houses – she said that if slippages occur in other areas she may be able to get more funding. She said that Knayton had not yet responded to the affordable housing project. She said the Hillside parishes had shown a demand for affordable housing but sites looked at so far were unsuitable. Amanda Madden said that Broadacres was the estate agent for affordable housing and when any properties were ready they were advertised and applicants assessed to see who has the most need and must have a local connection (live in the village and have done so longer than a year or work in the village). Cllr D Craig said that if there is a change in Government there may be a change in the policy regarding eligibility for affordable housing. A Madden said that the local connection requirement would be hard to break. Cllr D Craig said that he understood Knayton had a surplus of housing and asked if it is therefore right to go ahead and build affordable housing in Borrowby. A Madden said that some people who want affordable housing only want a home in their actual village and there are cases of people who have not taken up the offer of affordable housing a few miles away in another village. She then talked about the first scheme in Osmotherley to build 12 houses. Cllr D Craig said that the people who have a need for affordable housing may have children who have a similar need and continual expansion will take place in the villages. A Madden said the new affordable homes are built to blend in with the other houses in the village, be environmentally 'green' and the authorities, e.g., Yorkshire Water, have to approve the applications. The Chairman asked what the next step would be with the site in Borrowby behind Lengham House. A Madden said that she would visit the site with the planners. A Madden said it usually takes from 18 months to 2 years from the survey to the completion of the affordable housing property. She said that she should be able to get the funding in the next 2 to 3 years. The Chairman said that he proposed that the affordable housing project should go ahead. This was seconded by Cllr Bell and Cllr Town. Cllr Craig was against the project. The Chairman asked the public at the meeting what they thought. One resident said they looked forward to hearing the outcome of the survey and consultation. A Madden said she would contact the Clerk when any progress was made. Cllr Frith returned to sit with the Parish Council. A resident asked if the sheds on the land would have to be moved and asked about the access. Cllr Frith said that the owners of the temporary sheds had been made aware of the proposals; the sheds would be removed if the affordable housing project goes ahead and he added that there would be a safe vehicular access. He said he owned the land jointly with his brother and that his Grandfather used to have a house on the land.

8. Correspondence

- 8.1 NYCC. Letter about salt bins – the bins on Back Lane and the Methodist Church will be filled subject to the annual replenishment charge being paid for by the Parish Council. The cost will be £75 per bin plus VAT; this covers filling the bin twice and also following any significant snow events. Salt fill could be restricted if exceptional circumstances prevail.
- 8.2 HDC. Police & Crime Commissioner Election, November 15th 2012. Notice to display.
- 8.3 HDC. Letter about cancellation of Thirsk Area Forum Meeting on Tuesday 16th October due to lack of business. Next meeting planned for Tuesday 22nd January 2013 at 6.30 pm.
- 8.4 Thirsk Community Care Association. Notice of AGM in Thirsk on 6th November at 10.00 am at the Friends Meeting House, Kirkgate.

9. Planning

9.1 HDC has granted permission for the felling of a birch tree at Tan House for Mr D Belshaw (912/01616/CAT).

The Parish Council have still not heard about the outcome about the tree at Mount Pleasant – a TPO was served on the tree following application to fell pending a report. Clerk to chase up.

10. Finance

<u>Received:</u> NYCC. Payment to Parish Council for the grass cutting of verges	£731.42
HDC. Payment of second precept instalment	£1000.00

Cheques written out:

CE & CM Walker Grass cutting of Green areas on 08/09/12 & 29/09/12	£23.00
	£23.00
VAT	<u>£9.20</u>
Total	<u>£55.20</u>

HDC for Clerk's PAYE	£225.00
Admin fee	£11.46
VAT	<u>£2.29</u>
Total	<u>£238.75</u>

11. Any Other Business

11.1 The Chairman spoke about the damage to the grass verge caused by big tractors passing through the village. The damage was done by the vehicles during the potato harvest. The Chairman said that County Cllr Gareth Dadd had said there were similar problems in other villages. He said agricultural vehicles were getting bigger but the roads in the villages were not getting wider. The Chairman said these vehicles were travelling through the village to avoid the A19 crossing – it was said that the tractors could use Cotcliffe Bank instead. It was suggested that if the cars did not park on the road when it was known the wagons would pass through there would be more room. Cllr E Town said they would not know for definite when the wagons/tractors would pass through the village, making it difficult to specify when people should avoid parking their cars on the road; this problem arises when the road sweeper visits as the day is not specified. Cllr D Bell said he thought that he didn't think the farmer would be growing potatoes next year. Cllr Frith asked if the damaged grass needed any work – Cllr D Craig said he thought it would recover and the roots should come back. To monitor the situation.

12. Open Forum

12.1 It was pointed out that there are several pot holes on Back Lane. Clerk to contact Highways.

12.2 A resident said that a car was still parking on the road near Ivy House, reducing visibility. The Chairman said he would speak to the residents again to try and improve the situation.

13. Date of next meeting

The date for the next meeting is Wednesday 21st November at 8.00 pm in Borrowby Village Hall. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.20 pm.