

MINUTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 16TH MAY AT 8.00 PM IN BORROWBY VILLAGE HALL

1. Apologies

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the new District Councillor, Janet Watson. Apologies were received from Cllr Town. Present: The Chairman (Cllr F Wachsberger), Vice Chairman (Cllr D Frith), Cllr D Craig, Cllr D Bell, County Cllr G Dadd, District Cllr J Watson, the Clerk and 9 members of the public.

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting

The minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 18th April, which were previously circulated, were agreed and signed.

3. Matters arising

3.1 Noticeboard – Cllr Craig said that he had now fixed new supports onto the noticeboard at the bottom of the village and put it back up again.

3.2 Oak tree – The Clerk has received a reply from Mr Cunningham from HDC planning who will review the tree with regard to the consideration of a Tree Preservation Order. He said that he needs to look at three key points:

- 1) That the tree is under threat.
- 2) That the tree makes a significant positive contribution to the visual amenity of the locality.
- 3) That the tree is in good health.

He will make a site visit on point 2 and an assessment on point 3, although he would appreciate an arborist's report on point 3 to back this up. Only then will he consider any decision on TPO status. The Chairman mentioned that a TPO had been recently served on a tree near the pub.

3.3 Litter bin – Cllr Bell said the bin had been moved slightly in from the side of the road but thinks it needs to go further in. He will speak to the hedge owner and see if more can be taken off the hedge to enable this.

4. Update from Councillors

Update from Parish Councillors

Cllr D Craig – He only had the noticeboard to mention and this was done in 3.1.

Cllr D Bell – He said that there was an occurrence of dog fouling now and again in Park Lane when a dog was out of its pen and he knew who the dog owner was. Cllr D Frith suggested that the Clerk writes a letter to the owner.

Cllr E Town – A report was sent in as Cllr Town was unable to attend the meeting. She said that she had looked at the housing in Osmotherley and it looked good and was all occupied by locals. She said that there was a village hall meeting on 9th May at which they discussed the filling in of the honeycomb pavings – it was decided that the best filling material would be limestone pieces/crush which was £30 a tonne. Simon is going to speak to the Chairman about it. It has been suggested to then put together a working party together made up of village hall representatives, the Parish Council and residents to fill in the gaps in the honeycomb pavings. She said that the village hall committee were planning an event on Sunday 14th July and would be putting up a marquee on the car park, having children's games, fancy dress, possibly a band and doing a barbecue (bring your own food, pooled salads and desserts). Any help the Parish Council could give on setting up on the Saturday would be appreciated. They are hoping to do open gardens next year and need residents to put their names forward by the end of this year. Other possible events being considered for this year are bingo and wine tasting.

County and District Councillor update

County Councillor Gareth Dadd - He said that the County Committee head held their AGM yesterday. He said that, as soon as the money becomes available, they will re-surface the section of road near the school. A resident asked about the works to the Woundales Bridge. County Councillor Gareth Dadd said that it was a specialised job (involving specialists from Cumbria).

District Councillor Janet Watson – Janet Watson introduced herself as the new District Councillor for the area. She said that there had been a Scrutiny Meeting on Tuesday and the next one was in a fortnight.

5. Affordable Housing Update

The Chairman has circulated photos of the affordable housing at Osmotherley which had been built by Broadacres. He said that the affordable housing survey in Borrowby had shown a need for 6 houses and, as standard procedure, HDC would propose to build half this amount, i.e. 3 houses. HDC affordable housing officer, Amanda Madden, had suggested forming a cluster with the Hillside parishes so that up to 12 houses could be built to accommodate their housing need also at the Borrowby site, since they had no suitable sites of their own and that Broadacres have said that just building 3 houses would be uneconomical for them. The Chairman said that Borrowby Parish Council had not made any decision to form a cluster. He said Broadacres had put some pressure on re timescales for grants, etc., at the meeting, but he said the Parish Council would not be railroaded into any decisions. Cllr Craig said the decision must involve the whole village. The Chairman said he is waiting for A Madden to get back to him regarding seeking alternative house builders to see if they would consider building only the 3 required for Borrowby. Cllr Bell said that when A Madden had responded the options should be put to the whole village. County Cllr G Dadd said that the only way to build outside the village limits is affordable housing and that private developers could not do this. He said that for areas of private developers the Council were insisting that 40% of the housing was affordable. A resident said that they had seen other places spoilt by affordable housing because of the unsocial behaviour of the people living there who had moved in from other towns. The resident asked what happens if people move out of affordable housing. The Chairman said the same restriction applies to applicants needing to have a local connection. A resident said that some people did not know about the affordable housing project and did not always look on boards. Cllr Craig said that it is a very divisive subject and the Parish Council can't rely on people looking at the noticeboards and people need to be properly informed. The Chairman said that a newsletter is being put together and sent to all households in the village. County Cllr G Dadd said that he has seen affordable housing projects divide and unsettle villages and he that recommended the project is followed through without unnecessary delays, whatever the outcome decided by the Parish Council/villagers.

6. Tree planting

The trees need pruning at the bottom of the village and the old ones taking out. It has been suggested planting the oak tree from the Woodland Trust in their place.

7. Correspondence

7.1 Clerks & Councils Direct magazine, May 2013.

7.2 Reply from HDC following Clerk's letter re lack of efficiency as to why an earlier separate visit had been made to fix a number of street light bulbs only for all the street lights to be changed few weeks later. HDC said that they were aware that they had placed orders for the renewal of all the pole brackets in Borrowby but this work, which was undertaken by Northern Power grid and programmed for March, would have meant that the bulbs not working could have been out for up to 6 weeks.

7.3 SLCC. 'The Clerk' magazine.

8. Planning applications

8.1 Planning application for the replacement of windows at the Grey House for Mrs K Smith (delegated decision). Ref 13/00871/LBC. The Parish Council have no objections.

8.2 Application for prior notification for the demolition of a barn at Ivy House Farm, Park Lane, for Mrs J Cowell. Ref 13/00935/DNP. The Parish Council have no objections – to reply.

9. Chairman's report

The Chairman said that a party had been held at the village hall to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee year and the Parish Council had distributed 72 commemorative mugs to the children of the village. He said he had ordered a free pack of trees from the Woodland Trust for planting in the village. Following complaints about the verge cutting by the County Council, the Parish Council had organised the grass cutting of the verges themselves and had been pleased with the results. He mentioned that a resident had undertaken a project to acquire a defibrillator for the village and that this was now located in the phone box; he said he understood that some training is to be organised. He said in July 2012 Elaine Town was co-opted onto the Parish Council. He said that there was a new tenant for the Charity Fields for the next 3 years. Leaflet holders had been put in the telephone box for tourist information. He spoke about the problems with the road surface at Oak Tree Bank which had been

patched up but needed surfacing. He said the problem of parking in the road in the village made the road narrower and the verges are getting churned up as larger vehicles travel through the village and the road is not wide enough - NYCC are to look at the verge on the main road near the village hall. He said the affordable housing project was underway after a survey showed a need for affordable housing for Borrowby. He said a number of street light bulbs had been replaced this year. He spoke about the problem of dog fouling, one section being Gate Lane and he hoped notices would help. The village verges had been cut well during the season and the bulbs looked very nice when they came out. He said that if anyone knew of anything needing doing in the village to let the Parish Council know. Cllr Frith read out a list of previously suggested projects.

10. Financial report

10.1 Approve Annual Accounts

The accounts summary 2012 -2013 was agreed and signed. The net balance is £8421.72 which is £472.71 less than last financial year, 2011- 2012, when the balance was £8893.93. A lower precept of £2000 had been applied for last year and again this year, compared to a precept of £2993 in 2011 and a number of years previously.

10.2 Approve Risk Assessment

The Risk Assessment, which had been previously circulated, was agreed and signed by the Parish Council.

10.3 Approve Fixed Assets Register

The Fixed Assets Register, which had been previously circulated, was agreed and signed by the Parish Council.

10.4 Approve Clerk's Honorarium

The Parish Council agreed to increase the Clerk's salary by £50 to £950p/a.

The Internal Audit is to be carried out shortly and the Annual Return will be checked before being sent to the External Auditor.

11. Election of Chairman

Cllr F Wachsberger was re-elected as Chairman, proposed by Cllr D Bell and seconded by Cllr D Frith.

12. Election of Vice Chairman and other officers

Cllr D Frith was re-elected as Vice Chairman, proposed by Cllr F Wachsberger and seconded by Cllr D Bell. Cllr D Craig, Cllr D Bell and Cllr E Town all agreed to continue as Parish Councillors.

13. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

14. Open forum

14.1 Parking problems – The parking in the village continues to be a problem. It was suggested asking the pub to put a polite notice in their window to try and alleviate the parking at the crossroads area. A resident asked County Cllr Dadd about 20 mph speeding restrictions who said black boxes were initially used to assess speeds to see if traffic calming measures needed. He said the police sometimes use mobile speed checks. Cllr D Frith suggested notices to drive carefully through the village.

14.2 It was mentioned that there was litter beside the slip road, left by drivers and possibly cyclists.

14.3 Chestnut Bank ROW application – NYCC will try and look into this. County Cllr Dadd said that the department have a lot of applications and low number of staff.

15. Date of next meeting

The meeting was closed at 9.12 pm. The next meeting will take place on Thursday June 20th at 8.00 pm.