

MINUTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2013 AT 8.00 PM IN BORROWBY VILLAGE HALL

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Frith. Present: The Chairman (Cllr F Wachsberger), Cllr D Craig, Cllr D Bell, Cllr E Town, the Clerk, Hambleton District Council Rural Housing Enabler Amanda Madden, Broadacres Housing Officer Mrs Coleman with a colleague and six members of the public. County Cllr Dadd arrived later on.

2. Minutes from the previous meeting

The minutes from the previous meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2013, which were previously circulated, were agreed and signed.

3. Matters arising

3.1 Streetlights – They are all working now. The Chairman said that on Monday he saw a worker replacing the light opposite his house, where the bulb had recently been replaced, and he went to speak to him. The worker said that all the street lights in the village were being replaced. The Chairman has heard that it is part of a rolling programme to replace the streetlights. He said he didn't know why they hadn't replaced the streetlights of the faulty ones a few weeks ago instead of changing the bulbs then coming back a few weeks later to change the lights. He said it was a waste of money and said the Council should be contacted.

3.2 Litter Bin – This hasn't been put in place yet.

3.3 Tree Preservation Order proposal for oak tree – The Clerk has written to HDC Planning but no reply has yet been received.

3.4 Woundales – Cllr Town asked if Cllr Bell had checked the structure at the Woundales. He said there were just small foundations. To monitor.

3.5 Old Chestnut Tree – The Clerk has checked the minutes and, after the severe pollarding, the tree was to be given the chance to sprout new growth, but no timescale had been put in place and the tree has only had one growing season since the work. Cllr D Craig said it needs another season to see if it can recover. The Chairman said it will be monitored.

4. Update from HDC and NYCC Councillors if present

County Cllr Dadd had just arrived. He said there was a forthcoming election to replace former District Councillor N Clack and that there would also be the County Elections on the same day. The Chairman said he was pleased the white lining had been done and he had been pleased with the gritting in the village this winter. A resident said that they had done a poor job repairing the potholes near the school and it needed re-surfacing. Cllr Dadd said that there was not enough money to do resurfacing to all the pothole areas.

5. Affordable housing update

The Hambleton District Council Rural Housing Enabler, Amanda Madden, attended the meeting and Mrs Coleman and a colleague from Broadacres Housing Association. Amanda Madden said that she had now got the comments back from Highways regarding the access to land behind 'Lengham House' - the land was offered for affordable housing following the call for land after the survey was completed showing a need to build 3 houses (actual need registered as 6 – the policy is to build half this number). NYCC have now visited the site and have said that they would approve the access provided proper visibility splays and speeding restrictions are put in place. Amanda Madden then asked if the Parish Council would consider forming a 'cluster' with the Hillside villages: Boltby, Upsall, Kirby Knowles and Felixkirk (which have shown a housing need for 6 houses) and Kepwick and Siltons (which have shown a need for 6 houses) to develop a small rural exception scheme to give all an equal chance to live in Borrowby; following a call for land these villages have not got any suitable land to build on in their own villages. She said that the land behind 'Lengham House' could accommodate more than the 3 houses required for Borrowby low cost housing need and asked if Borrowby Parish Council would consider forming a 'cluster' with the Hillside villages and Kepwick with Siltons which would enable so that 8 to 10 houses (the area is large enough for 12) could be built to accommodate all the needs of these villages as well as

Borrowby. Funding was a bit limited but there may be funding available from other areas where funding hasn't been taken up. Mrs Coleman, from Broadacres housing association, said that affordable housing was funded through the homes and communities agency and they were coming to the end of the contract period and by March 2015 they needed to have to have all the buildings put up and occupied. She said Broadacres would not consider building only 3 houses as it was uneconomical for them and they would be looking into building 8 to 12 houses. She talked about the 12 low cost houses they had built at Osmotherley. She said they built houses to be in keeping with the village. The Chairman said that the information needs to be put in a newsletter and it is up to the people of Borrowby to decide- he said the Parish Council were being asked to accept a much bigger development than the 3 houses originally proposed for the needs of Borrowby and they were being asked to satisfy the needs of the other villages. A resident asked if a bus service would be put on if the houses were built and said that Osmotherley has a bus service. A Madden said no as the potential residents would be local or already live in the village. It was asked if the people who would occupy the potential affordable homes would definitely be local. A Madden said that they have to live or work in the village or have a local connection. Cllr Craig asked what would happen if the local tenants did not take up the housing and would they stand empty or be offered to someone from Thirsk? A Madden said that if a cluster was formed the applicants from the cluster villages would be invited to apply for the housing. The properties would not be left empty and if not taken up would be offered to the Thirsk hinterland. Cllr Craig asked what would happen if nobody from here took up the housing. A Madden said if the housing was not taken up it could be offered to the whole of Hambleton but said it was very rare for this to happen. A resident asked what rent is paid in affordable homes. A Madden said £80 to £85 per week for a 2 bedroom property and about £100 for a 3 bedroom property. A resident said that by building at the back of peoples' properties the values of their houses could be reduced. Mrs Coleman and A Madden suggested doing a presentation on the proposals. Cllr Craig said there should be some form of Democratic referendum for the people of Borrowby on whether they want the houses/how many. Cllr Bell said that the original plan was for 3 houses and things had really changed and the Parish Council are now being asked if it can be raised to 8 or 10. The Parish Council agreed to put the facts in a newsletter to be sent to all the Borrowby residents.

## 6. Correspondence

6.1 'The Clerk' magazine.

6.2 'Clerk's & Councils Direct magazine.

6.3 North Yorkshire & York Forum. Literature to help publicise a new initiative for helping people found to be sleeping rough. If a member of the public sees someone sleeping rough they can contact a national helpline who will then contact the District advising team who will try and help the rough sleeper access the help available. Two posters about the scheme to be put up.

6.4 Justin Ives, Director of Resources, HDC. Letter about the tax base being reduced, resulting in the amount the tax payers pay in relation to the precept increasing by 1.15%. This means that, although the precept is still £2000, the same as last year, more is charged to the tax payers.

6.5 York Potash. Document summarising the proposed pipeline from Whitby to Teesside.

6.6 NYCC. Poster about a local and family history day on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2013 at The Pavilions, Harrogate from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

6.7 Email about Notice of Election of County Councillors.

## 7. Planning

An application was received for the felling of a pear tree at Briar House for Mrs C Gott (13/00366/CAT). The report said the pear tree did not produce any fruit last summer and one side appeared to be dead and that fungi was growing at the bottom. It was said that the tree was very old. The resident has put in four new fruit trees over the years. The Parish Council had no objections. Clerk to reply to HDC.

## 8. Finance

Grass Cutting The Clerk has written to CE & CM Walkers LTD accepting the grass cutting quotation and has forwarded their insurance certificate to NYCC who have stated that Borrowby Parish Council will receive a grass cutting contribution of £792.96 for cutting the verges.

Cheques written out

	£
Salt Bins	150.00
VAT	<u>30.00</u>
Total	<u>180.00</u>
Stationery	14.07
Wall repair by Mr D Bell	120.00

9. Road maintenance and street lighting

The street lights are now all working (see 3.1).

10. Tree planting

The Chairman asked about locations for the trees received from the National Trust. It is proposed to put the oak tree at the bottom of the village. Cllr Craig could take some of the trees. Cllr Bell knows a few people who could plant some. The Chairman asked County Cllr G Dadd about planting trees on verges and he said that permission would be needed from the authority. There was some interest from the book club.

11. Any Other Business

- Cllr Town said that the village hall AGM had taken place. The Chairman is Sam Walker and Sheila Dennis is the Treasurer. She said one major issue was raised - someone had fallen down on the car park surface which is made up of 'honeycomb' concrete/flags with spaces in. She asked if Borrowby Parish Council would be willing to share the cost for filling in the gaps. Cllr D Craig asked what they would be filled with and said it shouldn't be concrete. Former Parish Council Chairman, Cllr Rachel Craig, has suggested asking Alan Delamore, a former Chairman of the village hall committee. Cllr Town will check this with Alan Delamore. Cllr Town said that the village hall committee are looking into the possibility of putting up a flagpole and are enquiring about planning permission. She asked the Parish Council what they thought. When asked what flag would be put up Cllr Town said it may be the Union Jack. The committee are considering organising a hog roast in the middle of June.

12. Open Forum

- Dog Fouling – A resident said that there had been dog mess left between the Woundales junction and Back Lane. He has been down to HDC and reported this. The Clerk had received an email from the resident asking if the Parish Council have any anti dog fouling signs which could be put up. The Clerk said that HDC put up the signs themselves last time and has also informed HDC about the matter.
- Stiles – The third stile needs to be put in place by the landowner. The Chairman said that if it is a Right of Way it should be kept that way. Cllr Bell is to look into this.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting which was closed at 9.42 pm.

13. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be a double meeting on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2013, starting with the Annual Open Parish Meeting at 7.30 pm, followed immediately by the April Parish Council Meeting.