

Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 20th June 2013 at 8.00 pm in Borrowby Village Hall

1. Apologies

No apologies were received. Present: The Chairman (Cllr F Wachsberger), the Vice Chairman (Cllr D Frith), Cllr D Craig, Cllr D Bell, Cllr E Town, the Clerk, County Cllr G Dadd, District Cllr J Watson and eleven members of the public.

2. Minutes from previous meeting

The minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 16th May, which were previously circulated, were agreed and signed.

3. Matters arising

3.1 Cllr Craig said that the telephone box light is only working intermittently and he will fix this.

4. Update from County and District Councillors if present

County Cllr G Dadd – He said it was not a good picture with the NYCC budget. He said until now the frontline services have been protected but this cannot be guaranteed in the future but NYCC will do their best to protect the most vulnerable people and higher charges may be necessary to keep some services going. He said street lighting was on the agenda for illumination time reduction.

District Cllr J Watson – She said she went to a Cabinet meeting last week which was very interesting. Questions - A resident said that a Diversion sign was still up near Brawith and the works have been finished a while. County Cllr Dadd said he would chase this up.

5. Update from Borrowby Parish Councillors

Cllr Bell – He spoke about the trees needing pruning at the bottom of the village and suggested doing this in the autumn.

Cllr Town – Gaps in honeycomb pavings outside the village hall. A resident spoke about the history of the pavings: he said years ago the residents/village hall committee had wanted a car park and the 'old' District Council had suggested using the honeycomb pavings. He said there was plastic covering the holes which were supposed to have been broken to allow the grass to grow through. The plastic was hard and not cleared properly, hence the grass not filling up the gaps. A resident suggested trying to clear the gaps of plastic and giving the chance for the grass to grow through. Cllr Town said that there has been the suggestion to fill in the gaps with limestone crush. The Parish Council decided to get together with the village hall committee and look at the pavings and decide on the next course of action.

Cllr Frith – He said that the mower needed repairing and the spare parts have been ordered. In the interim he has cut the grass twice.

He said the Knayton/Borrowby information pack has been updated and Rick has emailed him a copy.

The Chairman – It has been reported that there are several old telegraph poles that have just appeared in Mr Clarke's field at the Woundales. The concern is about toxins leaching out from the poles – this area often floods and runs into the beck and is also an area of interest for wild plants. Cllr Craig said that since the telegraph poles were old the effect of leaching would be less than newer ones. The Clerk contacted the Building Control at HDC who said the Environment Agency would be the people to ask about this – telegraph poles are allowed for certain uses but not others. The Parish Council asked the Clerk to write to Mr Clarke asking about the intended use of the telegraph poles. District Cllr Watson will assist in taking up this matter with the Environment Agency.

Cllr Craig - He did not have anything else to report.

6. Parish Council Newsletter

CLlr Frith thanked the Chairman for producing the newsletter and to the Parish Councillors for distributing them. The Chairman said that, as stated in the newsletter, the defibrillator is in the phone box and he has been told that some training is to be organised in the near future.

7. Affordable Housing Update

The Chairman said he has asked Amanda Madden, HDC Rural Housing Enabler, to look at alternative housing providers to see if they would consider the building of 3 houses for Borrowby's need and are awaiting a response. The Chairman said he has asked the Hillside Parishes for a meeting to assess the situation there. A resident said that Borrowby should not have to provide houses for other villages. A Madden had asked at an earlier meeting if Borrowby Parish Council would consider forming a cluster with the Hillside Parishes which would mean that up to 12 houses could be built on the site at Borrowby to fulfil the needs of the Hillside Parishes too; this would also be more economical for the housing association, Broadacres. No decisions have been made by the Parish Council.

8. Correspondence

8.1 NYCC Business & Environmental Services. Highways capital programme 2013/14 & 2014/15. List of approved schemes for highways within the local district boundary relevant to Borrowby's electoral division. The scheme has been sub-divided into works programmes for: Integrated transport; structural highway maintenance; street lighting; bridges and structures. Includes work to Oak tree Bank.

8.2 Email reply re ROW application, Chestnut Bank. After discussing the matter with their legal team, NYCC are checking to see if the track is in fact part of the highway and will be in touch when they have a response. If this is not the case, it may be worth pursuing the ROW although, as there are objections, the matter would have to go before the County Council's Committee before any formal decisions were made.

8.3 Health Watch Scheme. Drop in sessions.

8.4 Rough Sleeper Awareness Campaign.

8.5 NYCC notification of road closure at front of village hall on 14th July for the village event.

8.6 NYCC County Committee Meeting - 17th June.

8.7 North Yorkshire Waste Development Plan.

8.8 David Harrison, Hillside Cottage. Letter of complaint that the grass cutters had cut the verge outside his house which is private land which he has always cut and wishes to continue to do so. He lets the wild flowers bloom before cutting it. Recently the contractors cut the grass here even though he objected beforehand. Clerk to write a letter about the matter and instruct to leave this section of grass. It was also pointed out that the grass cutters had not cut up to the 30 mph sign where Back Lane intersects Gate Lane and the Clerk will mention this too.

8.9 Reply from resident in Park Lane re letter sent to them about dog fouling. The owner of the dogs is very apologetic and will try and make sure the dogs don't escape from their pens.

A resident said that the dog fouling problem had improved in Gate Lane since the notices went up but a dog had recently fouled in his garden.

9. Planning applications

9.1 Permission granted for the change of use of agricultural land to camp site, construction of an amenity/reception building, parking area and the siting of a disabled caravan and six yurts with shepherd's huts at Woundales farm for Mr & Mrs Mortimer (13/00554/FUL).

10. Finance

The Internal Audit has been completed. The Annual Return has been completed, approved and sent off to the External Auditor.

Cheques written out:

CE & CM Walker Ltd (Cuts on 08/05/13, 29/05/13 and 29/05/13 verges)	£24.00
	£24.00
	£88.00
VAT	<u>£27.20</u>
Total	£163.20
Thirsk Copy Centre	£4.85
John Harron (internal Audit fee)	£60.00

11. Any Other Business

11.1 Regarding the stiles which had been sawn off, Cllr Bell said that he was told this had been done to stop the animals jumping over them, but he will speak to the landowner about re-instating them.

11.2 Street lighting – There is a street light reduction programme underway and lights will be turned off between midnight and 5 am; various areas will be exempt, such as areas of high activity, antisocial behaviour/crime, accident areas, speed restrictions/speed humps. A meeting was held firstly with Parish Councils to seek feedback before going to the public. He said street light illumination reduction time would result in good savings but there may possible be a rise in crime. The Chairman asked if Parish Councils can retain lighting themselves. County Cllr Dadd said that he would not encourage this and it would cost several thousand pounds a year. Cllr Craig said that cutting lighting times could be a good thing as it reduces light pollution. County Cllr Dadd said that the main roads will still have lighting.

12. Open Forum

12.1 A resident asked when the Parish Council are going to put the vote about affordable housing to the village. The Chairman said that nothing will go ahead without a vote. The Chairman said he has asked Amanda Madden to see if other housing associations would look at the possibility of building the 3 houses for Borrowby but as yet have had no response. He also said he wanted to meet up with the Hillside members and look at their affordable housing need; the aim would be to make it clear that Borrowby are not to take care of their affordable housing need as well. Cllr Bell said the village was divided on the subject of affordable housing. The resident said there should be a vote. Cllr Craig clarified that no decisions to progress going ahead with the affordable housing would be made without a vote.

13 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 25th July at 8.00 pm.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.20 pm.