

Minutes from the Borrowby Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at 8.00 pm in Borrowby Village Hall

1. Apologies

Apologies in advance for late arrival of Mrs Cowell, Ivy House, who wanted to speak at the meeting. 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 7 members of the public.

2. Minutes

The minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February, which were previously circulated, were agreed and signed.

3. Matters arising

3.1 Oak Tree – Cllr Bell said that the tree surgeon had still not done the tree report and he will chase this up. District Cllr Watson has the photos but needs the tree report to try and further the application for a Tree Preservation Order.

3.2 Gulley Cleaning – The Chairman said that the gullies had been cleaned. County Cllr G Dadd said that the gullies reported as being blocked have to be inspected then the order for clearing has to be raised.

3.3 Reflector Posts – The reflector posts have now been put in place on the bend near Crosby Farm.

3.4 Hillcrest, soak-away – Await reply from Clerk's letter asking Mr Scully to accept full responsibility for any future issues relating to the soak-away which has just been installed. The Parish Council have been asked to confirm that they are satisfied with the location, a requirement for the final sign-off from building control, but they want Mr Scully to agree to full responsibility first.

4. Road Maintenance

A resident said that the patched-up potholes are not sufficient for the area outside the RAP and the road needs properly re-surfacing. County Cllr G Dadd said he understood this section was on the maintenance programme but there is a backlog. He said there was not very much funding compared to motorways. He said he was trying to get the slip road re-surfacing and the area near the school prioritised. He also said that North Yorkshire County is the largest rural county in the UK and that roads within the county have to compete against each other for funding/priority. He said there is a Government 'challenge pot' for funding which local authorities can bid into. A resident said that the drainage needs attending to on Oaktree Bank – County Cllr G Dadd said that he would arrange for this to be checked out.

5. Grass Cutting

Parish Councils are to lose the funding next year for verge grass cutting (contribution from NYCC to be confirmed but approx. £800 this year). Cllr D Bell said this will give time to allow for this in next year's precept.

6. Update from County and District Councillors if present

County Cllr G Dadd - He said that it was not sustainable to maintain the consultant-led maternity services at the Friarage Hospital that it was likely to change to being a

maternity-led unit. Cllr D Bell asked if the A and E Department is secure? County Cllr G Dadd said he had not heard anything to suggest otherwise. Very specialised/acute cases are transferred to James Cook or Leeds.

District Cllr J Watson – TPO on Oak tree – this was discussed earlier on 3.1. She has followed up the caravan in the field issue but Cllr D Frith will have a word with the owner first before involving the Enforcement Officer about the problem.

#### 7. Update from Borrowby Parish Councillors

Cllr D Craig and Cllr E Town had nothing further to add.

Cllr D Bell – He asked County Cllr G Dadd why the rates had gone up when the precept had stayed the same. County Cllr G Dadd said that there had been a Government grant to District Councils to offset precepts but this had not been passed onto Parish Councils – in effect the precepts had not been subsidised.

The Chairman – He said that the first 200m of St Helens lane has been re-surfaced by the resident who lives down there. The Clerk had checked and it is a bridleway. Cllr Bell said it looked alright. Cllr Frith said the Parish Council/authorities should have been consulted but it has been done now and asked if anything can be done to encourage consultation in the future. It was suggested a note could be put in the newsletter. Cllr Craig said that it wasn't really the Parish Council's problem.

Cllr D Frith – He suggested the addition of a seat for the lower Green.

#### 8. Correspondence

8.1 'The Clerk' magazine.

8.2 'Clerk & Councils Direct' magazine.

8.3 Alan Soulsby, land registry, Durham Office. Reply to Clerk's letter about registering strips of land to the Parish Council. A form, FR1, must be filled in with a fee based on the value of the land to make an application for first registration of an unregistered title. To research.

8.4 'Wickstead Playscapes' brochure.

8.5 NYCC Committee Meeting, Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March at County Hall.

#### 9. Planning applications

Revised detailed proposals for the erection of a replacement dwellinghouse at Riverside View, Woundales Lane, Knayton, for Mr Jared Clark. (Ref 14/00505/FUL).

The Parish Council would like to see the application refused for the following reasons:

- Area regularly floods. The position of the new property is actually lower than the existing property.
- Plans for size of building suggest new building rather than replacement and there appears to be an increased size of the building each time plans submitted.
- Location of building – even more prone to flooding and suggests separate building rather than replacement.
- The area is of special ecological importance.

10. Finance

Cheques written out:

Clerk's Quarterly salary Jan – March	£237.50
Admin Fee for Payroll April 2013 – March 2014 12 months @ £15.75 per quarter	£63.00
Stationery	£9.78

11. Any Other Business

There have been complaints over the parking on the bend of Park Lane during the building works at Ivy House. Mrs Cowell, from Ivy House, attended the meeting to talk about the issue. The Parish Council had said that parking should be on Ivy House land off the road on their land at the rear of the property when the application was put in. The parking request made by the Parish Council to this phase of building was made in response to many complaints received during the first phase of construction. Mrs Cowell said that the field has been restored into a natural orchard with a grant and she didn't want vehicles parking on it. She said she had an English Heritage and an English Nature grant to restore the barn and they are going to open it on a Heritage Day in October. One resident said they had no objection to the restoration but it is the constant blocking of the road. The Chairman said that the vehicles are parked on the corner all day long, every day. Mrs Cowell said people should talk to her directly about the issue, but she is not always in and said that only two people had spoken to her about the problem. Residents opposite Ivy House had reported damage to their verges/drives as vehicles pass the parked vehicles outside Ivy House as the road is made narrower. One resident said it was really difficult to get the tractor and trailer past this section of road. It was suggested that more vehicles could park on the drive/yard area. The Chairman read out the conditions from HDC Planning: 'Please note that you should take every opportunity to encourage vehicles associated with the development to park appropriately and avoid obstruction that would endanger road safety'.

The Chairman said that the neighbours had spoken to Mrs Cowell many times and it shouldn't have come to this.

12. Open Forum

- Cllr Town said the filling in of the honeycomb pavings is still being looked at. Another suggestion is to use gravel – to report at next village hall meeting. She said there is an Open Gardens day on 15<sup>th</sup> June. General clean- up suggested.
- Cllr Frith said he would like to step down from the Parish Council in April.
- Await reply re A19 re-surfacing

13. Date of next meeting: Thursday April 17<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm in Borrowby Village Hall, starting with the Open Annual Parish Meeting and followed by the April Parish Council Meeting. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting which was closed at 9.13 pm.