

## **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 22 November 2018**

### **1 Attendance and Apologies**

In attendance: Cllr Christine Jackson (Chair), Cllr Gordon Wordsworth, Cllr John Edge, Cllr Tracey Elliott, Cllr Jean Dickinson, Cllr Cynthia Ransome and three residents of the village.

Apologies: None

### **2 Declaration of Personal Interest**

None.

### **3 Adjournment**

#### **i Update from the Bypass Action Group**

- a. Members of the Group have had a meeting with DMBC's full council who state that they recognise that the work they have done with regard to air pollution in the village is insufficient and have a Working Group looking at other measures.
- b. DEFRA have declared Doncaster acceptable for pollution but this was based on pollution measurements in Scawsby.
- c. The Action Group have asked if DMBC would nominate a Councillor for liaising with them on traffic pollution. They agreed. Lisa Croft of the Environmental Department is already liaising with the Action Group.
- d. Information found suggests that there will be a 54% increase in traffic by 2050.
- e. DMBC have said that they may look into the subject of a bypass by 2027 but Transport for the North have expressed concerns about the traffic volume and wish to be kept up-to-date.
- f. It was suggested and discussed that it may be better to refer to a relief road, rather than a bypass, as this could better attract funding. Cllr Ransome further suggested an approach to Sir Steve Houghton.
- g. There will be a further meeting of the Relief Road Action Group week commencing 25 November.
- h. The Chair congratulated the Group on their efforts.

#### **ii Lidget Lane**

- a. A resident has asked if we can request a no right turn for lorries at the top of Lidget Lane because there is insufficient room to do so, illustrated by the fact that they are constantly going over the grass verge.
- b. Cllr Ransome suggested speaking to David Haig at Road Safety (736000).

#### **iii HS2 Environmental Consultation**

- a. As responses to the consultation need to be sent by 21 December, it was agreed to call a village meeting on Monday 3 December. A flyer will be prepared to inform villagers (Cllr Jackson and Cllr Dickinson).

### **4 Approval of Minutes**

- i. The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 20 September 2018 were approved and proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Wordsworth.

### **5 Matters Arising from previous Meetings**

- i. Item 5.i.i: Cllr Wordsworth has look at the rules for setting up a sub-committee and established that the Bypass Action Group has been rightly adopted as a sub-committee of the PC.
- ii. Item 6.i.b: The memorial at the top of Lidget Lane which has been damaged by a vehicle has been brought to the attention of Halifax Estates by Cllr Jackson. This was further discussed later in the meeting.
- iii. Item 7.i: A further quotation for tree work has been received and will be discussed later in the meeting.
- iv. Item 11.iii: With regard to the burning of horse manure, DMBC have sent a form to be filled in to monitor the problem. However, since it was reported, there have been no further instances. Should it restart, the process will be monitored and reported to DMBC.

## **6 Trees**

- i. Two quotations have been received to carry out remedial tree work in the village. When comparing both, it was agreed that the one submitted by Gloaming Tree Surgery provided better value for money and would therefore be used. However, as there are three sites under consideration (Winston Churchill Memorial Garden, the memorial site adjacent to the Club and the crossroads memorial site), it was agreed to first authorise work on the site next to the Club at a cost of £500 plus VAT, including chipping and removal of all waste. The other sites would be considered as funds become available at a cost of £1,250 plus VAT for the crossroads site and £850 plus VAT for the Winston Churchill Memorial Garden.
- ii. A villager has approached DMBC about removal of a tree adjoining her property. Daniel Atkinson has proposed that the tree can be removed but that she should replace it with four new ones around the village at a cost of £250 each. This has caused a lot of anguish and a request has been put to DMBC for rules governing replacement of trees. The Chair is to send details to Cllr Ransome who agreed to follow this up with DMBC.

## **7 Finance**

There is £8529.94 in the bank after all transactions except the latest invoice for gardening. All is within budget and £4,906 has been spent against £7574.10.

- i. Still to be paid for are an amount on tree maintenance, the war memorial restoration (wash and repaint), the Remembrance Day wreath and gardening. Other costs were the Christmas Party (proposed by Cllr Jackson, seconded by Cllr Edge) and the Christmas Tree to purchase, erect and decorate (proposed by Cllr Jackson, seconded by Cllr Wordsworth).
- ii. Cllr Edge asked if the area at the crossroads could be included in the immediate tree maintenance schedule. Cllr Wordsworth agreed to look at the budget to see if savings can be made to finance that area.
- iii. Cllr Wordsworth asked for next year's budget to be considered in order to see if the Parish Precept needs to be increased by 3%.

## **8 Open Spaces**

Cllr Elliott reported that a mini-litter pick has been carried out around the village.

## **9 Highways**

A minor accident occurred at the crossroads at 7.30 am on 22 November when a car ran into the back of another vehicle.

## **10 Village Hall Report**

- i. The refurbishment is complete and the reaction has been very good. The Club is doing well and the first two days of opening were particularly good. Events are coming up to bolster funds, although numbers for the Tuesday Quiz Nights are dropping off. It was suggested that the quiz should start earlier at 9 pm.
- ii. The VHMC are constantly looking at new ways to attract customers and to renew events to prevent them becoming stale.
- iii. A new caterer will be trialled in January when a Burns Night meal is on offer.

## **11 Neighbourhood Watch**

- i. Cllr Dickinson had attended a meeting of the Doncaster North NW on 18 October at Clayton:
  - a. Superintendent Neil Thomas is having regular meetings with NW Chairs and has brought together The Police, Councils and community groups into a Neighbourhood Network to deal with issues like modern day slavery and CSE. A Neighbourhood Board has been launched in the Mexborough area.
  - b. A further Police Sergeant is to be recruited along with more Constables for neighbourhood policing.
  - c. With regard to crime in the area, the Pickburn Arms has been broken into several times and the owners have now boarded it up. Number plates have been stolen from a van in Brodsworth and a set from Hooton Pagnell. A new forklift was stolen from Clayton and taken to a traveller site in Bentley where the farmer had to retrieve it himself as the Police would not do so.

- d. Samples of safety devices have been purchased and these will be brought to the next meeting.

**12 Defibrillator**

- i. Cllr Wordsworth offered to submit a bid to the Wind Farm Fund to purchase a defibrillator. It was agreed that, in order for it to be fully accessible, it needs to be a lockable, weatherproof model, the cost of which is £1145 plus VAT.

**13 Any Other Business**

- i. As the matter of a further grit bin for Lady Mary View had been previously discussed, it was agreed to make a request via David Snell at DMBC (Cllr Dickinson to action).
- ii. Cllr Dickinson updated the PC on enquiries regarding the memorial wall at the top of Lidget Lane in which DMBC state “the memorial is not within the Adopted Highway, is not listed or a scheduled monument, so does not have any special designation beyond being located in a conservation area. DMBC believe it is the responsibility of either the PC or Halifax Estates. “ Cllr Jackson has approached Halifax Estates regarding the wall and they are to carry out an inspection on Friday 23 November with a view to carrying out repairs.
- iii. Cllr Dickinson also advised on an enquiry to David Snell of DMBC about the state of the roads within the village, to which she had received the following reply:  
“I had a look at the condition of the carriageway on both Lady Mary View and Castle Hill Fold and, whilst they were both considered to be in a safe condition at the present time with not actionable defects observed. However, I have put both roads forward for consideration to be included on a future specialist surfacing scheme (either surface dressing or microasphalt). These will be assessed during late Spring/early Summer next year along with other potential sites across the Doncaster Borough.”
- iv. An update on the right of way request was given. The owner of Hickleton Hall now allows people to walk up to the Church but not to park their cars. In this way, it will become a right of way. We await a formal reply to this effect from DMBC.

**14 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 17 January 2019 at 8.15 pm in the Village Hall.