

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 7 November 2019

1 Attendance and Apologies

In attendance: Cllr John Edge (Acting Chair), Cllr Gordon Wordsworth, Cllr Tracey Elliott, Cllr Cynthia Ransome, Cllr Jean Dickinson and two village residents.

Apologies: Cllr Christine Jackson

2 Declaration of Personal Interest

None.

3 Adjournment

i No adjournment was required.

4 Approval of Minutes

i. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 18 July 2019 had been circulated and were proposed by Cllr Wordsworth and seconded by Cllr Elliott.

5 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

- i. 5.1 Damage to monument on Lidget Lane: repairs have been carried out and paid for by Halifax Estates CW
- ii. 5.2 Grant application for defibrillator carried forward. GW
- iii. 5.3 The proposed grit bin for Lady Mary View: a request has been put to DMBC but refused as we are considered to have sufficient within the village. JD
- iv. 5.4 Repairs at the crossroads: this will be dealt with within the meeting.
- v. 5.5 Honours board: to be discussed later in the meeting.

6 Report from Hickleton Bypass Action Group

i. A scoping exercise for a possible relief road/bypass, commissioned by DMBC, has been put out to tender. The cost of the feasibility study is £270,000. Barnsley MBC are pushing the proposal.

7 Finance

(a) New Declaration of Interest Forms Request

i. In April DMBC wrote to the Chair regarding Declarations of Interest which need to be updated and placed on the website. The National Association of Local Councils have a new code directing what needs to be disclosed. Cllr Wordsworth is to email Parish Councillors with details. The Parish Council, meanwhile, agreed to adopt the NALC Code of Conduct template, proposed by Cllr Wordsworth and seconded by Cllr Edge.

(b) To Approve Accounts

- i. Accounts circulated by Cllr Wordsworth show an opening balance of £5,820.96 at the start of the year, receipts of £6,728.35 (precepts and VAT refund) and payments of £5,361.43, leaving an account balance of £7,187.88.
- ii. The expenditure of £5,361.43 represents 64% of the planned annual budget total of £8,427.

(c) To Approve Invoice Payments

- i. G Simpson (Gardener) £240 Proposed GW Seconded TE
- ii. Room hire £18 Proposed TE Seconded GW
- iii. Lease of field £100 Proposed GW Seconded TE
- iv. Rent for WCMG £75 Proposed TE Seconded GW
- v. Christmas Party donation £200 Proposed JE Seconded TE
- vi. G Simpson £580 Proposed GW Seconded TE
- vii. Armistice Day wreath £25.95 Proposed GW Seconded JE

8 Open Spaces

- i. The Gardener has cleared the path to the Church, neatened the willow and has been asked to include Lady Mary Walk in his remit, particularly to keep clear of leaves.
- ii. A resident gave details of the Rights of Way application, which was now subject to an order confirmed on 14 August. The order has passed the High Court challenge period unopposed and DMBC has ordered a sign to be erected and is also speaking to the landowner about the need to keep it open. There cannot be a gate across the entrance but entrance is for foot traffic only, not vehicles. The resident was thanked for his work on this.

9 Highways

- i. Cllr Edge reported that an accident involving two deaths occurred on 20 September 2019 at the crossroads. DMBC have been out to investigate sight lines etc in the wake of the accident. The two people were from Askern and a petition has been put forward to DMBC for traffic lights at the crossroads but this is not thought to be viable. DMBC are planning on measures like extra trees and wall but Police are still investigating the incident.
- ii. On the evening of 28 September 2019 a central bollard was damaged and the directional sign demolished.
- iii. A wall was demolished by a van at around lunchtime on 2 November 2019.
- iv. A three-vehicle accident has been reported in Marr but we have no further details.
- v. With regard to the previous accident at the crossroads which had resulted in damage to the stones and rail, Cllr Wordsworth had asked the Police for details but had been refused and advised to approach the insurance company. The Parish Council's own insurance does not cover the crossroads and the insurers refuse to pay. Cllr Jackson has received quotations to replace the stones, one of £4,000 and one of £2,000. Subject to Police response, it was agreed to pay for the repair and look at insuring that area. There was a further suggestion that we complain to the Police about the damage.
- vi. Further to the fatal accident at the crossroads, the roadside tributes were discussed and Cllr Elliott agreed to approach DMBC for advice.

10 Neighbourhood Watch

- i. Cllr Dickinson reported that there had still been no Doncaster North NW meetings.
- ii. Notice has been received of a "Cyberhood Watch Campaign" to be launched in November. Further details will be passed on when received.
- iii. Lady Mary View was to be resurfaced week beginning 18 November and letters would be delivered to residents with details of the proposed works.

11 Village Hall Report

- i. "Sitting Pretty" has now left the upstairs room and, consequently, the room has been refurbished at a cost of around £4,000, as industrial-grade flooring had been recommended.
- ii. Organisation, including of the paperwork kept in the storage cupboard, was due to take place on Sunday 10 November.
- iii. A new fridge/freezer and microwave have been bought for the kitchen.
- iv. A flyer of events has been distributed around the village.
- v. The "Oktoberfest" event was a huge success.
- vi. Forthcoming events include a Drinks Festival, a Flower Arranging class (sold out), Carols around the tree on Christmas Eve and an Afternoon Tea on 1 December.
- vii. The Christmas tree has been ordered.
- viii. Trade is generally good but depends on the support of special events. The Pie Nights are very successful, taking place on the third Thursday of each month.
- ix. The next evening meal is planned as a Burns Night on 25 January 2020.

12 Village Honours Board

- i. Keith Moore has agreed to make two honours boards to include the names of past recipients.

13 Any Other Business

No other matters were raised.

14 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 23 January 2020 at 8.15 pm in the Village Hall.