

# Appleton Wiske Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Monday 03 July 2017 that commenced at 7.30pm.

## **Present**

Cllrs Derek Partington (Chair), Barry Pope, Paula Gudger, Ken Blackwood, Jane Strickland, Kim Smith, Leonie Smith (Clerk) Cllr David Hugill.

## **1. Public Comment**

9 members of the public present.

Election newsletter – Mark Dawes stated that he was the individual who canvassed for the 10 signatures required for a by-election to be called. He had done so as he believed that the vacancy had not been advertised. He also felt the whole situation could have been handled differently than by sending a newsletter to parishioners and the people whose names were on the request could have been contacted. **LS** informed the members of the public present that the PC had followed the process through as per the procedure set out regarding casual vacancies. The fact that a vacancy had arisen was recorded in the minutes of the annual general meeting of the Council held on 8 May 2017, which were published on the noticeboard and website. This had triggered the process whereby the vacancy notification produced by Hambleton DC had been posted on the village noticeboard for 28 days. **DP** added that with regard to the letter, this had been distributed for comment to all councillors prior to its publication and they had also been asked if they had any information as to who had instigated the process and why. No information had been forthcoming. **LS** added that advice had been sought from YLCA prior to publication of the newsletter and the names on the list had only been provided by HDC shortly before its publication.

Mr Dawes also suggested that the PC have money put aside for such events. All present were made aware that this money would have to be taken from the Precept and may amount to about 20% of the annual amount received. When asked if this meant that the PC would have less money to spend on other matters in the village the response was yes. Mr Dawes then reminded the PC members that they would all be up for re-election in two years' time and that there would be a cost involved in this. **LS** confirmed that as this is a process that is combined with HDC and NYCC elections the cost is nominal, in the region of £100.

Angela Carlin and Richard Hauserman have carried out a survey in relation to speeding in the village. Copies of the feedback were distributed to all PC members and will be on the village website and noticeboard. They had received 101 responses in favour of the introduction of a 20mph speed limit out of 107 forms distributed. They had received 60 comments on the forms. They asked for details from the PC of what they should do now with the information they have gathered. This will be addressed in point 4C.

## **2. Apologies and Declaration of interest for any agenda item**

Cllr Steve Watson

## **3. Minutes of the June 2017 meeting**

Minutes of the June 2017 meeting were agreed and signed off

## **4. Matters Arising**

- A. Parish Election – Parish By Election has been called for 03 August 2017. The “Notice of Election” was published on 29 June 2017. Anyone wishing to stand for election should collect a nomination pack from the Electoral Services team at HDC and submit the nomination form by 4:00 p.m. on Friday 07 July. HDC have informed the Parish Council that the cost of mailing polling cards to all residents will be of the order of £100. All agree that they should be posted out by HDC to

avoid accusations that individuals had not received them if hand posted. An email was received from Jon Taylor on 01 July regarding his thoughts on the election and was read to the members of the Parish Council and members of the public. His main points were that he felt all other avenues should have been explored before instigating the action of an election. He also asked if the 10 people who had signed requesting an election would make their names public and also were they prepared to cover the cost of the election. His final point was to ensure that new PC members understand the legal commitments they are taking on and the work involved both rewarding and otherwise and consideration be given the views of the people of Appleton Wiske and not personal ones.

- B. Additional Grass cutting areas – Briarstead, Briarstead Cottage and Lupton House – there would be an additional cost of £10 per cut – Agreed by all present.
- C. Action against speeding in village – follow up action. It was agreed that **AC & RH** need to send a covering letter along with the results of the survey to NY Police Traffic Bureau. The letter needs to state that a speed awareness survey has taken place throughout the village. Copies should be taken of anything that is sent and it should be sent recorded delivery. All agreed that this should be given the full support of the PC and this can be recorded in writing to NY Police. **LS** suggested that people sign up for the Community Speed Watch. It seems that we need an incident to occur before action will be taken. **RH** suggested that we may need to look at getting an external organisation to assist if this matter is not picked up by NYCC or NY Police. **DH** made comment that a neighbouring village sent letters to local farmers and contractors and this did appear to make a difference. Suggested that a letter is sent out through the school as well to all parents. Article for newsletter to be given to **LS** by 10<sup>th</sup> July.
- D. Damage to road between Appleton Wiske & Picton – **DH** is meeting with Nigel Smith (Head of Area2 Thirsk). He will address this matter and also the information regarding speeding.
- E. **Report on progress and outstanding matters from previous meetings –**
- i. Village Green damage/protection and village green furniture (Section 106 monies) – When an action plan is submitted we cannot submit another plan for a further 6 months. **DP** and Simon Golding to try and get measurements re the surface repairs so that quotes can be sourced.
  - ii. Dog Fouling and the school competition – Mr Clark has agreed to this idea and **PG** has contacted **SW** and the Dog warden. The competition would be open to Class 3 and prizes to be awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>. **PG** to purchase 3 prizes, possibly cuddly dogs and **LS** will then look to get quotes for making the designs into proper signage to display around the village.
  - iii. Removal of White Beam Tree from Village Green (T2 on the tree report produced by Helen Arnold – outside Ivy Croft) – this tree is certainly dead, the one next to it is not looking very healthy but will be given a stay of execution. **LS** to contact the people that normally carry out tree work and get a quote for removal.
  - iv. Meserani culvert update – Yorkshire Water have been putting dye down individual drains and looking for which drain is leaking into the culvert, we believe they have identified where the problem is coming.
- F. **Matters arising for information only –**
- Dog poop bin at the bus shelter – the slab that this is resting on is not stable and could cause a person to get their foot caught under the bin. The has been reported to HDC who said they would take urgent action but nothing has been done to date.

- There are 3 trees on the side of the Picton road as it exits the village, just north of Green Croft, that are very dead and a risk of falling on the road. **LS** to report these to Highways through the Parish Portal.

## **5. Correspondence**

- a) YLCA e-mails – issued as they arrive
- b) Letter received from Mr Walker regarding allotment use – Mr Walker has agreed to put the hedge right that was removed between the allotment and Mr Fryer's garden. All agreed to look to amend the policy to state that one shed can be positioned (size to be stated) for storage of horticultural equipment only. Mr Walker to be asked to remove the larger shed. There is a large Ash tree on the edge of the allotment that requires attention. It is believed that this is Highways and **LS** will report this through the Parish Portal.
- c) Email in relation to the Parish Portal for logging Highways and lighting issues – for the time being the Clerk is to be the point of contact on this until allocation of responsibilities has been confirmed following the August election. **LS** to report matters including the light opposite Newbiggin Cottage. (HDC lights can be identified through a white plate, green number. NYCC have black writing on a yellow sticker)
- d) Other correspondence – no further correspondence.

## **6. Circulars**

- a. No Circulars issued.

## **7. Planning Matters**

- a) No planning matters

## **8. Financial matters**

- a. Agreed to pay Appleton Wiske Village Hall £10 for use of Annex for June meeting – BACS payment.
- b. Agreed to pay CT Grounds Maintenance £450.00 for village grass cutting (May/June) – BACS payment
- c. Agreed to pay Hambleton District Council £639.60 for new bins at the play park and skate park – BACS payment
- d. Agreed to pay Sam Turners £10.90 (previous underpayment) – BACS payment
- e. Agreed to pay Thirsk Payroll £16.25 for quarterly payroll admin charge – BACS payment
- f. Agreed to pay Lowther Decorators Ltd £308.55 for paint to refurbishment of playpark area – BACS payment
- g. Agreed to pay DesignArt £60.00 for Domain hosting – BACS payment
- h. Agreed to pay Leonie Smith £331.40, clerks salary – BACS Payment
- i. Agreed to pay HMRC £82.80 – chq no. 156
- j. Agreed to pay Paul Robson £168.00 for grass cutting – chq no. 157
- k. Acknowledge receipt of £841.55 donation from ARA towards paint and new bins at playpark.
- l. Acknowledge receipt of £4,400.45 VAT return.
- m. Acknowledge receipt of £276 donation from Scarecrow Festival towards cost of St Johns Ambulance.
- n. Acknowledge receipt of £1,448.07 donation towards the village infrastructure (to be ring fenced) from the Scarecrow Festival. Request suggestions on how this money should be spent through the July newsletter.
- o. Any other financial matters

## **9. Reports from Representatives**

- **ARA** – Tennis Competition on 13<sup>th</sup> August with BBQ. Tennis comp is £2.50 for members and £5 for non-members. Adult and child team comp where child plays free as well. BBQ is free to attend but bring your own food.
- Mobile Phone Mast – works will commence 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017. Programme of works to be sent to the Clerk of the PC and these will be published if it is possible to do so.
- Storage of the scarecrow signs - it was agreed that these can be stored in the pavilion.
- Village Hall meeting – it was asked if the tote results could be put in the newsletter and on the website. LS stated that if they are emailed through to her she can publish them
- Appleton Wiske School – due to the numbers coming across from Ingleby Arncliffe the school numbers will grow to 84. This means that a 4<sup>th</sup> class room is required and as such a new teacher has been appointed. Paul Brennan (Assistant Director of Education) has been to visit the school and was very impressed with everything he saw during his visit.
- Scarecrow Festival – this event raised an amazing £5,700 which was split 4 ways between the Pre-School, Friends of the School, The Chapel and Village Infrastructure.

## **10. AOB for information or September agenda**

- Letter of thanks to go in the newsletter to all involved with the Scarecrow Festival.
- **All Councillors to provide LS** with articles for newsletter by the agreed quarterly deadlines of 10 July, 15 October, 15 January & 15 April.

## **11. Public Comment**

Olwen Young raised the issue of the area of land where the Phone Box once stood. Although she is aware from previous minutes that the PC were looking into how to restore this area, it is now becoming a giant cat litter tray and really needs some action to be taken in the near future as it is not healthy for young children who may be walking past or playing in this area.

Meeting closed at 8:35 p.m.

Next meeting Monday 04 September 2017