

Minutes of the Darrington Parish Council Meeting Reading Room

Thursday 15th December 2016

Present:

Cllr Britton (Chairperson), Cllr Wilkins, Cllr Thompson, Cllr Hoyle, Cllr Johnson, Cllr Smith, Cllr Tagger.

Apologies:

Cllr Stainer, Cllr Stones, Cllr Jones, Cllr Eyres.

In Attendance:

Cllr Loughran and 7 members of the public.

2016-12-01

Declaration of Interests:

None offered.

2016-12-02

Public Matters:

Concern was expressed about the quantity of mud that was being left on the road and footpath adjacent to the Hillcroft farm development. It was noted that the road had been cleaned in this area but the paths were still very dirty. Cllr Smith will try to contact the site agent, if this is unsuccessful then WMDC Environmental health department will be informed.

2016-12-03

Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the November meeting were reviewed. Cllr Tagger pointed out that in section 2016-11-09 gardening club; this should say an open garden event not a garden competition. With this revision the minutes were and approved as being a true and correct record by Cllr Tagger and Cllr Wilkins.

2016-12-04

Matters arising:

- Tree pruning in the old orchard is still outstanding. Cllr Smith will talk to the tree surgeon.
- The burnt out caravan on Westfield Lane has now been removed.
- Cllr Wilkins reported that he had now confirmed the position of all the official grit boxes, including that on Thorntree Close. If not already refilled the remaining ones will be filled in the very near future.
- Cllr Wilkins will thank Mr Hirst for repairing the damaged notice board.
- There are several road signs throughout the parish showing the way to the new development called Manor Park in Pontefract. This could easily lead to confusion on Manor Park in Darrington when deliveries are being made from the A1. Cllr Wilkins will make WMDC planning aware of this street naming duplication.
- It was confirmed that the proposed 2017-2018 budget included an increased budget for parish projects.
- BT have confirmed that they will repair the damaged phone box.

2016-12-05

Correspondence:

Email from "leedsorchardarchive.eventbright.co.uk" providing details of the "big community orchard gathering" in Leeds on 14th January 2017
 Rev Judd confirmed that the next copy date for the PCC magazine would be 28/12/16.
 Email from the milestone society, informing the council that the 18th century guidepost at the junction of Moor Lane and Hardwick Road had been knocked over. Cllr Hoyle will investigate and also check that the society is aware of a milepost on the old A1 in Wentbridge.

2016-12-06

Finance:

2016-12-06-01

In Cllr Stainer absence Cllr Wilkins presented the accounts. He reported that the balance at the end of November stood at £19,019.39.

Two payments were submitted for approval in December.

Date	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
15/12/16	21-1617	CH 644	Richard Hirst	Repairs to notice boards	25.72	4.29
15/12/16	22-1617	CH 645	P M Stainer	Postage	7.68	0.00
					33.40	4.29

Cllr Smith proposed and Cllr Britton seconded that these payments could be made. In the budget summary Cllr Wilkins confirmed that the end of year balance at the end of December stood at £15,810.19.

2016-12-06-02

Cllr Wilkins presented on behalf of Cllr Stainer the proposed budget for 2017-2018. This had been prepared with a 0%, 3% and 5% increase. All options included an increased element of funding for parish projects such as the orchard, defibrillators and church bells. After some debate over the level of reserve, the restrictions on paying off debt, and the number of known projects two proposals were put forward.

Cllr Thompson proposed and Cllr Hoyle seconded a proposal to not increase the budget for the following year.

Cllr Tagger proposed and Cllr Smith seconded a proposal to increase the budget by 3%. No one wanted to increase the budget by 5%.

Members voted 4 to 2 in favour of a 0% increase for the 2017-2018 budget with Cllr Britton not using his casting voting.

2016-12-07

Planning matters:

Existing Applications

1 Garden Lane Wentbridge	Alterations to bungalow	Approved

New applications

14 Estcourt Drive	Extension and balcony	No comments
9-10a Darrington Road Pontefract	1 new property	No comments. However, it was noted that this was next to a public footpath

Hillcroft Farm Darrington	Details of 6 new properties	The PC would be commenting on this application
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It is accepted by all that the land at Hillcroft Farm has been granted outline planning for the development as a small housing estate. The Parish Council would be making comments on the proposed design to WMDC. These would be on the grounds of.

- Issues with parking
- Preservation of old walls
- Size of property out of keeping with the surrounding properties along Estcourt Road
- Building material
- Access

Any resident who feels that the development is inappropriate should make their own comments to WMDC before the closing date in early January 2017.

Bankswood Stables.

Cllr Wilkins has written to the WMDC planning enforcement officer asking to be updated on the latest development. The owner was found to be guilty of failing to comply with the conditions and fined £100 by Leeds magistrates Court on 21st October.

2016-12-08

Defibrillator

Cllr Stones has been in contact with the Wentbridge House Hotel and they have no objections to a defibrillator being placed on their building if maintained by DPC but still need to discuss at their internal management meeting.

Cllr Johnson reported that BT are currently removing numerous phone boxes nationally. They will in some circumstances sell at a nominal price boxes to councils to adopt and maintain. They also operate a scheme via the community heartbeat trust where they will fund the power supply for 7 years for defibrillators put in redundant phone boxes and maintain a 999 emergency phone.

The existing phone box on Estcourt Road is ideally situated to serve the whole of the village. However, is not one of the older style classic red K6 box. BT will not swap this box but it may be possible to obtain one from other locations.

Cllr Hoyle said he was going to suggest to the organisers of the 5 mile run, that this year the profit from the run is donated towards the cost of providing a defibrillator.

2016-12-09

Reports:

School:

The carol service was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Village Field:

Nothing to report.

Police:

Reports of incidents are always sporadic when they are sent via the police or neighbourhood watch and are not always relevant to Darrington. One recent incident involving the theft of Christmas presents from a car has been circulated via social media. A second incident involving a car running into the side of a property on Wentworth Park

Rise. Neither of these reports has come via any of the normal police channels. Cllr Thompson agreed to take on the role as the police contact.

In Bloom:

Cllr Wilkins will confirm the order for the coming year.

Gardening Club:

The gardening club recently met at the Kyte for their annual Christmas get together.

PCC Magazine:

Last months submission was not published as it missed the copy date. This will be updated and used in the next edition. In 2017 the PCC magazine may change from being a monthly magazine to a quarterly magazine.

Newsletter.

Nothing to report.

DRONE. A1 noise.

Cllr Thompson reported that Highways England would be carrying out the acoustic study into providing a fence adjacent to the A1 in the first quarter of 2017. He will also report to them that on occasions traffic drive on the wrong side of the southbound A1 sliproad wrongly assuming that this section is still a dual carriageway.

2016-12-10

Minor Items:

Changes to Footpath legislation

Cllr Loughran informed the council of changes that are being debated about footpath maintenance and legislation from 2026. This may in due course be something the Parish Council needs to take on board as a project to ensure footpaths in the parish are preserved, maintained and enhanced.

Christmas tree and decorations.

Cllr Smith will contact the farm to see if a cherry picker will be available to assist when the lights are taken down and confirm the time and date when the work can be carried out.

Town and Parish Council Liaison committee

Cllr Johnson has reviewed the area plans for 2017 and will be making comments that are pertinent to Darrington about

- traffic control
- road maintenance
- public transport
- support for village groups
- Parish Council projects
- satellite doctors surgery/ pharmacy

Cllr Thompson as a member of the fairwood surgery patient participation group will also raise the last comment to gauge their reaction.

2016-12-11

Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held at 7.00 PM Thursday 12th January 2017 in the reading room. Meeting closed at 9.06