

# Minutes of the Darrington Parish Council Meeting Reading Room

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2016

**Present:**

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

**Apologies:**

Cllr Wilkins Cllr D Jones.

**In Attendance:**

7 members of the public.

Prior to the meeting starting Mr M Flaherty was awarded with his prize for the best scarecrow in the recent scarecrow competition.

Cllr Britton welcomed back Cllr Thompson who had recently been elected as a councillor to fill the casual vacancy that has existed since Cllr Farrell resigned.

**2016-07-01**

**Declaration of Interests:**

None offered.

**2016-07-02**

**Public Matters:**

Mrs Sue Bowyer brought to the attention of the council that she had seen on several occasions cars speeding through the traffic lights whilst these were at red. Whilst there have been no accidents that anyone was aware of to date, this action poses a danger to other road users. The PCSO has been made aware of the concerns and they have in the past initiated local speeding campaigns. Cllr Tagger and Mrs Bowyer will take this matter further with the police and WMDC to see if a camera on the traffic lights could be erected. Cllr Stones stated that the 30 mph sign approaching the lights was no longer working because the solar panels were shielded by the overgrowing trees and bushes.

Mrs Cook asked where the wind turbine was being erected that was visible to residents on Valley Road. This was approved by Selby District Council and is being constructed next to Dovecote Park.

**2016-07-03**

**Minutes of the last meeting:**

The minutes of the June meeting were reviewed and approved as being a true and correct record by Cllr Smith and Cllr Stainer.

**2016-07-04**

**Matters arising:**

- The notice boards have been repaired. However, one of the door handles still needs to be replaced.
- Mr Cook did cut the grass in the Tithe Barn.
- Cllr Smith confirmed that she wrote to Cllr Jones about the planning approval that has been granted for a property in Hillcroft Close and has also had a conversation with Cllr Jones. It appears that conditions are attached to the

- planning approval stating that only family members should live in the annex. If the property was to be sold new planning approval would be required. Cllr Jones also implied that there had been some relaxation of planning standards in recent times and suggested that he invites a planning officer and the council members for East Hardwick Parish council to attend a joint meeting to gain a better insight into planning law. All members were in favour of this meeting taking place.
- Cllr Tagger confirmed he had written a comprehensive letter to Mr Clark regarding the problems of odour.
  - Cllr Wilkins wrote to confirm that he had reported the overgrowing vegetation on Back Lane and this will be cut as soon as possible. Cllr Hoyle added that he had reported this as well and had been told work would be completed by 1<sup>st</sup> July, which has clearly not been the case.
  - Cllr Britton will try to get a quote for restoring the church bells.

**2016-07-05**

**Correspondence:**

- Email. Expressing concern as to where the stone and rubbish was being deposited on the orchard.

**2016-07-06**

**Finance:**

Cllr Stainer reported that the balance at the end of June stood at £15,805.61. This includes the VAT refund.

Four payments were submitted for approval.

Date	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
14.7.16	11-1617	CH 635	P M Stainer	Postage	4.80	0.00
14.7.16	12-1617	CH 636	Wakefield Council	Grass cutting	1,072.86	178.81
14.7.16	13-1617	CH 637	Carter and Jackson	Posters fro parish projects	12.00	2.00
14.7.16	14-1617	Direct Debit	Public Works Loan Board	PWLB loan	1,104.17	0.00
					<b>2,193.83</b>	<b>180.81</b>

Cllr Hoyle proposed and Cllr Britton seconded these payments.

In the budget summary Cllr Stainer confirmed that the end of year balance stood at £15,355.74. Again the budget has been reduced for gardening maintenance plus £4000 has been deducted for electoral expenses that are no longer required. The year end balance does show that the council is in a healthy financial situation and money would be available for future projects. Cllr Thompson stated that national guidelines suggested that the year end balance should be half the annual precept unless a future project is being planned.

Documentation has been sent to the external auditor for their assessment.

Cllr Thompson indicated that he would like to see a copy of the internal auditors report.

As there will be no August meeting of the council, Cllr Stainer requested approval for him and Cllr Britton to make payments if required during the month. Cllr Hoyle proposed this motion and Cllr Stones seconded the motion.

**2016-07-07**

**Planning matters:**

**Existing applications**

8 North Lodge Lane	Garage conversion including raising of the roof and canopy	Approved
8 Park Close	Extension to side over garage	Approved
West Park Caravan site	Portable site building	Approved

**Bankswood Stables**

The new barn has been approved but all the other buildings have to be demolished within the next 6 months.

**Ripon Farm Services**

Cllr Jones is to ask WMDC regeneration team to advise them on their planning application for an offloading area.

**2016-07-08**

**Parish Council Vacancy.**

As previously stated Cllr Thompson was elected to serve on the council. He is still awaiting official confirmation from WMDC confirming this.

**2016-07-09**

**Reports:**

**Old Orchard**

The main area is now ready to be seeded with the area under the trees being left until the grass is established before further landscaping takes place. It has been noted that some of the trees need pruning, or will have to be removed. Cllr Tagger was concerned that the site was difficult to access for disabled or infirm residents. Unfortunately the level of the site makes it difficult to make easy access from Philips Lane.

**School:**

Nothing to report.

**Village Field:**

Minor damage has been reported on the roof of the shelter and Mr Glass has confirmed that some replacement tiles are available.

The Feast and Fayre was a great success with also a record number of runners taking part in the five mile run. Provisionally it is thought that £2600 was raised for the village field with a further £1800 split between 3 charities raised from the run profits. The footfall was thought to be less than the previous year as food and drink were still left at the end of the day.

The adult gym equipment has now been installed and all are welcome to use it. This equipment together with the basket ball area will cost in excess of £10,000.

**Police:**

A van was stolen from one of the farms, and a further car broken into in Applewood Gardens.

The police are aware of the "abandoned" car on Back Lane. WMDC will remove this if no owner comes forward to claim it.

**In Bloom:**

All planters and hanging baskets are now well established and enhance the look of the village.

Some of the verges that are being cut by WMDC are looking very overgrown this year. Cllr Thompson will contact the Highways England and ask them to cut the verges on the A1 slip roads.

**Gardening Club:**

14 gardens were open to the public during the week and Cllr Tagger is inviting feedback from all the participants. Two sold refreshments to visitors and £19.10 will be donated towards the orchard project. It was suggested that a tree should be bought. Cllr Tagger is in contact with Mid Yorkshire Golf club and they are discussing ways of raising the profile next year.

**PCC Magazine:**

Cllr Thompson will submit an article on the A1 update and cars running through red lights at the traffic lights.

**Newsletter.**

Nothing to report.

**DRONE. A1 noise.**

Cllr Thompson will now deal with this matter on behalf of the council. He considers that there are 3 aspects to be looked at.

**1. Noise**

The north bound carriageway has been resurfaced with noise reducing surfacing, but in some areas especially near the slip roads high friction surfacing has been used to aid braking. This does not have the same sound reduction properties. On the 27<sup>th</sup> July, Highways England, and their acoustics engineers plan to meet with a resident and Cllr Thompson to explain why the village has been refused an acoustic wall. Later that day they will be attending the WMDC Parish Council Liaison meeting. Prior to the meeting Cllr Thompson will brief the WMDC highways representative to make them fully aware of the issues.

**2. New route for the A1**

The A1M is scheduled to be upgraded between 2021 and 2026. Feasibility work has started and in due course they will consult with all stake holders.

**3. Air Pollution**

Standing traffic must have an impact on the air quality in that vicinity of Darrington. Some pollution monitoring would be useful to determine the problem.

**2016-07-10****Minor Items:**

Cllr Smith has responded to Mr Limbert explaining how the council came to the decision to promote the street lighting project in parts of the area.

**2016-07-11****Date of next meeting:**

The next meeting in the reading room will be held at 7.00 PM Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Cllr Smith gave her apologies that she will not be able to attend this meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.45