

Minutes of the Darrington Parish Council Meeting Reading Room

Thursday 9th November 2017

Present:

Cllr Britton (Chair), Cllr Thompson, Cllr Hoyle, Cllr Smith, Cllr Stainer, Cllr Stones, Cllr Tagger, Cllr Wilkins.

Apologies:

Cllr Johnson.

In Attendance:

Cllr Jones and 8 members of the public.

2017-11-01

Declaration of Interests:

None offered.

2017-11-02

Public Matters:

Some local residents living close to the church are being kept awake at night by the recently restored clock chimes. Mrs Morrell will seek advice from Mr Precious, the man who repaired and restored the clock chimes on the church clock. Background noise monitoring will also be undertaken.

2017-11-03

Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the October meeting were reviewed and accepted as being a true record by Cllr's Thompson and Smith.

2017-11-04

Matters arising:

- Ponty pets have been contacted regarding the provision of dog poo bags and are investigating if branded bags can be obtained.
- Changes to the bank account signatories are still ongoing. Cllr Britton is also required to complete the form for the bank.
- Cllr Tagger investigated if enforcement actions have yet taken place at Bankwood Stables, which appeared not to be the case. Cllr Jones confirmed that WMDC are struggling to cope with a backlog of similar cases.
- Cllr Stones is still awaiting confirmation of the times when the WMDC radar speed measuring device "Smiley Sid" will be available in our area.
- Cllr Wilkins will forward to Cllr Jones the correspondence about the traffic light sequencing being changed, and will update Mr Glass on the response from Highways.
- Cllr Thompson has contacted Mrs Holmes of the Darrington Ladies Group offering to talk at one of the group's future meetings.
- Cllr Tagger confirmed that a representative Health watch were happy to attend a future meeting.

- Cllr Thompson has posted times of the Highways England's webinar on the Face book site, where the A1 road improvement strategy will be discussed. This is scheduled to take place 14.00 on 15th November.
- Cllr Thompson has received a "holding letter" from Highways England regarding the maintenance of the A1 slip road roundabout.
- Cllr Stones confirmed that the Christmas trees were on order. These will be erected on 2nd December. Cllr Britton will obtain a long pole to assist when the lights are being put up.
- Email addresses have been altered on the Agenda template.
- Despite a poor response from WMDC re temporary road signs and contradictory 7.5 tonne signs near the flyover. Cllr Thompson reported that a good working relationship was being developed between himself and Mr Platts at WMDC highways.
- All councillors agreed that the response they received when dealing with WMDC Street scene was exceptionally good. Cllr Britton agreed to write to thank them for their efforts. With a copy also being sent to Cllr Jones.

2017-11-05

Correspondence:

- Email. Confirming that the lamp post recently damaged on Applewood Gardens that had been damaged by antisocial behaviour would be repaired. Cllr Smith updated the council on the background to the incident which culminated in a group of under aged youths physically assaulting one of the residents. Despite police arrests there is still a strong feeling of miss trust and intimidation amongst some of the community. Cllr Smith will liaise with Cllr Jones to see how WMDC and the neighbourhood police team can work together to try and stop the situation deteriorating further.
- Cllr Smith read out a letter that had been sent to Claire Bradshaw of Enterprise Inns. In this letter she stated that the Parish Council and the many local residents were fully supportive of the Spreadeagle being reopened as a viable community pub. In response Enterprise Inns confirmed that the pub would not be closed and negotiations were ongoing to reopen it in the near future.
- Email. Mr Johnson re the reinstated church bells.
- Email. Police re a current scam relating to fake modelling jobs.
- Email. Cllr Thompson giving details of his experience when trying to deliver a newsletter to one of the residents on West Park.
- Cllr Thompson confirmed he had written to MacDonald's informing them that he had taken their advertising poster down from the telephone box. As this box is now owned by the Parish Council any future adverts will require permission from the Parish Council and will incur a fee. To date there has been no response.

2017-11-06-01

Finance:

Cllr Stainer presented the accounts for October. He reported that the balance at the end of October stood at £22,892.82

One further payment was submitted for approval.

Date	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
09.11.17	31-1718	CH 737	Carter & Jackson	Printing	95.00	0.00
					95.00	0.00

Cllr's Hoyle and Stones approved these payments.

Cllr Stainer reported that the forecast current year end balance now stood at £10,563.65

On behalf of the Friends of the Parish Church luncheon club a donation of £100 was handed over to the council to help fund the defibrillator.

2017-11-06-02

2018/2019 Draft Budget.

Cllr Stainer presented the draft budget for 2018-2019. In the usual format 3 options were presented. The first being a zero percentage increase in the precept which may lead to a potential reduction in the year end balance of £358.79. The second option was a 3% increase in line with inflation. This would leave the council with a potential £10.07 increase in the year end balance. The final option was a 5% increase which resulted in a £255.97 increase in the predicted year end balance. After some debate about future parish projects, the relatively healthy state of the current balance, and the recommended reserve, two proposals were tabled.

Cllr Thompson proposed a zero percent increase.

Cllr Wilkins counter proposed a 3% increase.

All members voted the result being 4 to 3 in favour of a zero percentage increase in next years precept.

2017-11-07

Planning matters:

Existing Applications

Old Vicarage Jackson Lane Wentbridge	Single storey extension	Approved
Willowbeck Estcourt Road	Tree work	Refused

New applications

1 Green Lane Wentbridge	Modifications to existing building	No Comments
The Grange Great North Road	Change of internal swimming pool and gym into residential rooms	No Comments

2017-11-08

Defibrillator:

Cllr Smith confirmed that the order had now been placed and work was scheduled to commence mid January. Cllr Smith and Stones will continue to work together to coordinate the delivery of the telephone box and fitting of the defibrillator. A suitably qualified electrician will be required to fit and test this equipment.

Cllr Stainer will ultimately add this onto the asset register for insurance purposes.

2017-11-09**Air crash:**

Cllr Tagger confirmed that the next liaison meeting is tomorrow. At this meeting they will be talking to a relative of one of the last living residents. Cllr Jones has discussed this with Cllr Sandra Pickin, the WMDC forces champion.

2017-11-10**Flagpole project:**

Cllr Thompson confirmed that the 1980 Highway Act enables the Parish Council to erect a flagpole without a planning application or a certificate of lawfulness. He will liaise with Mr P Platts from Wakefield MDC highways a suitable site that will not encroach on Highways England land ,or cause traffic visibility restrictions. Cllr Thompson has also been advised not to purchase a sectional pole or one with external ropes as both these types are more prone to damage if they are vandalised.

2017-11-11**Reports:****School:**

The date for the carol service/ light switch on has been fixed for Tuesday 5th December and will be followed by refreshments at the school.

Village Field:

The bonfire was a great success and attracted a large crowd. Work is now well advanced in trying to reinstate the field. There was some fly tipping of material on the field that meant the gates had to be closed earlier than anticipated.

Police:

There have been no reports passed onto the council this month.

In Bloom:

Orders all placed for next year.

Gardening Club:

The next scheduled meeting will be a Christmas quiz on the 13th December at the Kyte.

Newsletter:

This has now been distributed around the village.

PCC magazine:

This is not scheduled to be published until January.

Drone:

Nothing to report.

2017-11-12**Minor Items:****Old Orchard.**

Mr A Wilson has volunteered to cut back the ivy and prune the trees in the old orchard.

Date of next meeting:

7.00 PM on the 7th December in the reading room. The meeting closed at 8.50

