

Minutes of the Darrington Parish Council Meeting Reading Room

Thursday 8th October 2015

Present:

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

In Attendance:

Cllr D Jones, Mr P Batty and 10 members of the public.

Apologies:

Cllr Wilkins, Cllr C Loughran, Cllr Eyre.

2015-10-01

Declaration of Interests:

None offered.

2015-10-02

Public Matters:

Mr Batty introduced a representative from the Environmental Agency who is responsible for the monitoring the farm compliance with the environmental permitting regulations. He explained that these regulations covered all industrial practices. On a pig farm the main areas that would have an impact on the environment was sludge, ammonia and methane. Smell can be a very subjective issue and its impact on the neighbourhood is affected by the weather conditions, wind speed, direction, and time of year and if people are outside. There are no numeric ways of measuring smell and the EA adopt a 1-6 scale where typically a pig farm could be in the area of 3 or 4.

Odour control is self audited by the farmer and any well managed farm will continually try to improve their working practices to minimise their adverse impact on the environment. To aid this, it was suggested that the odour log was continued. However, the data needs to be accurate.

Cllr Smith agreed to contact the Environmental officer to get the smell grade descriptions. Cllr Tagger agreed to continue with the log incorporating the "new" descriptors.

2015-10-03

Minutes of the last meeting:

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

2015-10-04

Matters arising:

The old "mounting step" in the church grounds has been repaired.

An estimate of £250-£300 has been received for the re treatment of the notice boards. However, the handyman is currently working on the boards and the one completed by the post box looks very good.

Money from the sale of scarecrow maps has now been collected.

The invoice has now been received for the planter jet washing.

The area around the Darrington sign will be cleared and replanted next year.

The garage has been erected on Ash Grove and does not appear to be intrusive.

The footpath between Beech Crescent and Estcourt Road was cleared and tidied as part of the litter picking day. There is still one broken fence panel along the path that is the responsibility of the householder to sort out.

The resident next to the tithe barn area has agreed to a £20 donation for providing power to the proposed tree lights.

The Darrington Hotel has not agreed to sponsor the tree adjacent to their property. Cllr Stones agreed to pursue this further.

WMDC have not responded to the request to use their power supply for the tree lights.

The cable ducting has been completed from the WMDC cabinet to the planter.

The damaged planter on Estcourt Road has been repaired.

Cllr Stones has produced a mock up of a letter head that could be adopted by the council.

2015-10-05

Correspondence:

- Letter. K Robinson. Regarding traffic noise and pollution near the A1 flyover, and the recent removal of trees from the highway verges. Cllr Johnson will discuss this with Cllr Wilkins and ask him to reply and explain to him the council's previous discussions with the Highways Agency.
- Letter. N Harvey. Increase in farm vehicles passing through Darrington.
- Email. J Jackson. School advertising banner erected on Wentworth Park Rise. Although the owners of the wall had agreed to this being erected an advert of this size would require advertising consent from WMDC. Concern was also expressed about the potential damage to the wall, a feature that the council was keen to preserve. The council was informed that this banner was due to be taken down in the very near future. However, Cllr Tagger agreed to write to the school and explain what they had done was illegal, and they had left themselves vulnerable to the potential of a substantial fine for breaching planning legislation.

2015-10-06

Finance:

Cllr Stainer reported that the second payment of the precept had been received and this left a balance of £15,424.95.

Three further payments were submitted for approval.

Date	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
8.10.15	19-1516	CH 609	Stuart Oakes	Power wash planters	80.00	0.00
8.10.15	20-1516	CH 610	Mick Britton	Christmas tree electricity cable	25.04	0.00
8.10.15	21-1516	CH 611	Mick Britton	Repair of planter	22.14	3.69
					127.18	3.69

Cllr Smith proposed and Cllr Hoyle seconded these payments.

The forecast balance at the 2015-2016 year end stands at £6,515.68. But this does not take into account any election expenses.

2015-10-07

Planning matters:

- Hillcroft Farm Estcourt Road. Detached garage. No comments
- Wayside Café A1 Amendment to wording of previous approved conditions for the erection of 3 properties No comments
- Ripon Farm Services Planning application withdrawn No comments
- Bankswood Stables. Appeal against the 6 month timeframe to remove the barn and stable block.

It was considered by the council that little or no action had been taken by the appellant to try and comply with the planning inspectorate timeframe for removal of the buildings. Cllr Tagger also expressed some concern that this may be a delaying tactics that they had been advised to take by their planning advisor. Cllr Tagger agreed to respond to the planning inspectorate on behalf of the council.

2015-10-08

Christmas tree and Christmas lighting:

2 trees will be ordered from the brotherhood. One for the reading room and one 20 foot tree for Estcourt Road. Cllr Stones will seek advice on outdoor lighting from a resident on Estcourt Road. All councillors agreed that Cllr Britton and Cllr Stones would have the authority to spend up to £600 on suitable outdoor lighting.

2015-10-09

Old Orchard.

Both Mr Batty and Mr Morrell have agreed to assist with the clearance and disposal of scrub and undergrowth from the old orchard mid November. Once this is cleared a better idea can be gained as to what use this area can be put to in the future. Local residents will be informed prior to the work commencing.

2015-10-10

Reports:

Clean up Campaign.

A small group of 7 volunteers worked alongside WMDC to tidy up the village. As well as the footpath being cleared from Beech Crescent, one three piece suite, one TV, three redundant road signs 10 car tyres and about 30 sacks of litter were cleared. Much of the litter in the area is from fast food outlets and unfortunately there were several signs of this type of litter again the day after the area had been cleaned.

School:

It was agreed that there was not sufficient time between now and the end of October to finalise a mock up of the proposed information board and have it erected before Christmas. This project will be postponed until the spring.

Village Field:

Further vandalism and damage has been reported and repairs will take place in the near future.

Police.

There has been a recent break in on Mill Hill in daylight hours when jewellery was taken.

The police have recently given a talk about crime prevention. They reported that 70 % of all crime is theft from vehicles and that 80% of burglaries are through the rear of the property and residents are advised to fit anti snap locks.

A no cold calling zone could also be set up across the area. Cllr Smith agreed to investigate the cost of setting one up.

In Bloom:

Nothing to report.

Gardening Club:

The gardening club may consider applying for a S137 grant next year.

PCC Magazine:

Cllr Britton will prepare some appropriate article for the next magazine.

Newsletter.

This will be published towards the end of October. The golf club will again be sponsoring it with an advert.

2015-10-11

Minor Items:

Cllr Johnson reported that there are occasions when parked cars make a right turn out of Sotheron Croft difficult. This is due to cars parked close to the junction. The local PCSO will be made aware of this problem.

2015-10-12

Date of next meeting:

Thursday 12th November 2015 at 7.00 in the reading room.

Meeting closed at 9.10