

Minutes of the Darrington Parish Council Meeting Reading Room

Thursday 13th October 2016

Present:

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

Apologies:

Cllr Smith, Cllr Tagger, Cllr Loughran

In Attendance:

5 members of the public.

2016-10-01

Declaration of Interests:

None offered.

2016-10-02

Public Matters:

Mrs Sue Bowyer updated the council on the latest situation regarding the problem of traffic going through the lights at red. She confirmed that she is still waiting for a response from the Police and Crime Commissioner. Council members have observed this driving behaviour themselves in the last few weeks. An article has been prepared by Cllr Thompson for inclusion in the next newsletter.

A question was raised as to what is the purpose of the new control cabinet that has been erected by the gas company on Estcourt Road. Cllr Thompson will investigate.

2016-10-03

Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the September meeting were reviewed and approved as being a true and correct record by Cllr Thompson and Cllr Stones.

2016-10-04

Matters arising:

- The cost of restoring the bells is in the order of £1700. The church has borrowed money from the PCC and work will commence next month. The church will then try to pay back the money from fund raising. To date £500 has been donated by Yorkshire Bank.
- Cllr Thompson did contact Highways England and ask for the A1 slip road verges to be cut. This work was carried out the following day. They only cut a 1 metre swathe along the road side and warned against cutting back any further vegetation. However, the footpath side has now been cut by the gardener and the planters are once again visible.
- Peter Batty has prepared an article on how Church Farm currently operates and improvements made to reduce the impact of odour. This will be published in the next newsletter and put on the web site.

- The grass in the old orchard has been cut twice. The golf club have offered the use of their grounds man for a couple of hours per month to cut grass next year. Two notice boards have now been erected. The waste bin has now been emptied.
- A quote of £200 has now been received to take down a rebuild the planter adjacent to the Darrington Hotel. This work needs to be completed prior to the Christmas tree being erected. Care must be taken when working around the electric cables.

2016-10-05

Correspondence:

- The mother and toddler group have applied for a section 137 grant to cover the cost of insurance which will be £81.65. Cllr Thompson has reviewed the 1972 Local Government Act, and the published figures for this financial year, and confirmed that the funding formula for S137 grants should have applied, as a "reasonableness test" the sum of £7.36 per elector that will benefit from the grant. For this grant it was considered that £81.65 was a reasonable sum to be provided. Cllr Stones proposed and Cllr Stainer seconded that the grant be made. All others approved the application.
- Email. Asking for information about the straw fire on Westfield Lane
- Telephone call. Mrs Bowmer referring to an incident she experienced on the field with unruly dogs. There is already a sign on the field asking owners to keep their dogs under control.
- Telephone call. Mrs Evans expressing concern about a large overhanging branch on Philips Lane. The tree is in the church yard and this will be inspected when the tree experts come to examine the trees in the orchard.
- Letter. Providing details of the next West Yorkshire Bus and Transport Strategy consultation meeting that will be added to the Town and Parish liaison group meeting on the 2nd November. Cllr's Johnson and Thompson will be attending
- Email .Cllr Loughran copying the council in on her email to the PCSO's about the number of vehicles parked on verge of Estcourt road during the building works at Kensworth House.

2016-10-06

Finance:

Cllr Stainer reported that the balance at the end of September stood at £19,759.40 and this included the second payment of the precept.

Three payments were submitted for approval in October.

Date	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
13.10.16	15-1617	CH 638	PKF Littlejohn LLP	Audit fees	120.00	20.00
13.10.16	16-1617	CH 639	Mr J Capon	Gardening maintenance	208.36	0.00
13.10.16	17-1617	CH 640	Mother & toddlers	S137	81.65	0.00
					410.01	20.00

Cllr Britton asked why the gardening invoice was £208.36 when the agreed rate was £10/ hour. Cllr Stainer replied that the invoice included the hire of a strimmer and protective clothing.

Cllr Britton proposed and Cllr Thompson seconded that these payments could be made. In the budget summary Cllr Stainer confirmed that the end of year balance at the end of August stood at £15,824.74.

The external auditors have now approved the accounts and requested that a copy of the audit form is published on the website as well as the notice boards.

2016-10-07

Planning matters:

New applications

Initial liaison for the Eggborough **CCGT power station** project. This works and the associated gas pipeline are not going to have any major impact on the parish.

Existing Applications

West Park Drive	Modification to access road	Approved
Hodgewood Lane	Wind turbine – initially submitted in 2014	Refused on the grounds of interference with radar.

2016-10-08

Defibrillator

Further to the email from Chris Smart and other research it is now apparent that

- These are only affective within a 600 m range meaning that 3 would be required to cover the parish. Suitable sites could be Spreadeagle, Wentbridge House Hotel and the Darrington Hotel.
- Power supply is required.
- A responsible person would be required to maintain the unit.
- £30 replacement costs if used.
- Training in its use will be provided.

Cllr Stones will have further discussions with Kirk Smeaton PC and South Milford PC to see how they operate their defibrillators.

2016-10-09

Reports:

Old Orchard.

Cllr Smith is contacting a tree surgeon to determine if some of the trees need to be pruned.

Rev Judd has suggested that the area could be used to display sculptures.

If any one wants any apples they should help themselves.

School:

Nothing to report.

Village Field:

The bonfire is scheduled for 5th November.

More tiles have been dislodged on the shelter roof.

Police:

No further incidents have been reported.

A caravan has been burnt out on Westfield Lane. Cllr Wilkins will report this to Streetscene and ask them to remove the debris.

In Bloom:

The hanging baskets have been removed for safe keeping over winter. Cllr Wilkins will thank First Impressions for the fine and colourful display they provided this year. Cllr Stones and Johnson will investigate if it is still possible to purchase and plant bulbs in the planters. In previous years tulips have been planted in the planters on Valley Road and the Darrington Hotel, those on Estcourt Road are the areas that need to be planted. Cllr Britton and Cllr Wilkins proposed that a budget of up to £100 was made available for these bulbs.

It is not proposed to replant any of the daffodils.

Gardening Club:

The gardening club are going to try and identify the apple types on the orchard by submitting some to the Harlow Carr gardens apple identification weekend on 29/30th October.

They also intend to get involved in the church flower festival.

PCC Magazine:

Depending on when this is going to be published the carol service in the tithe barn is the obvious thing to refer to.

Newsletter.

The proof is complete and this newsletter will be available for distribution later this month.

DRONE. A1 noise.

Cllr Thompson reported that

- The feasibility into acoustic fencing has not yet been started.
- As the strategy to reduce noise by resurfacing had clearly not solved the problem in Darrington he has asked Highways England what is now there solution to comply with the EU directive.

Cllr Jones has been asked to get WMDC to nominate someone to come to Darrington and experience the noise problems first hand before the next WMDC/ PC liaison meeting.

2016-10-10

Minor Items:

Christmas Tree

Cllr Stones and Johnson will visit the brotherhood and source a 6 ft tree for the reading room, a 18 -20 ft tree for the site near the Darrington and something that may be suitable for the church Christmas tree festival.

The main tree needs to be erected and trimmed before 28th November.

2016-10-11

Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held at 7.00 PM Thursday 10th November 2016 in the reading room. The December meeting will be held on the 15th December.

Meeting closed at 8.50