

Minutes of the Darrington Parish Council Meeting Reading Room

Thursday 7th September 2016

Present:

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

Apologies:

Cllr Smith, Cllr Johnson.

In Attendance:

Cllr Loughran together with 3 members of the public.

2016-09-01

Declaration of Interests:

None offered.

2016-09-02

Public Matters:

Mrs Sue Bowyer referred to the problem of traffic going through the lights at red. She updated members on the response she has had to her letters to the MP, Police, and the Police and Crime Commissioner. From the response received it appears that resources such as speed cameras and personnel can be procured from the police to try tackle the problem. Cllr Tagger also confirmed that he had recently experienced this action by one driver and this incident was brought to the attention of the police
Cllr Loughran stated that there is a perception that tractors are speeding in the village. Peter Batty responded and said that due to increasing size and speed of tractors these can appear to intimidate some people. He regularly asks his employees to drive carefully in built up area.

The last traffic survey in Darrington was carried out in 2008 and Crigglestone PC has recently funded one in its area.

Cllr Tagger and Mrs Bowyer will investigate further what action could be taken and this item will be included on a future agenda.

2016-09-03

Minutes of the last meeting:

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

2016-09-04

Matters arising:

- The notice boards have been repaired. The door is still sticking on the valley road board. Cllr Stones will arrange for this to be fixed
- Joint meeting with East Hardwick PC to gain a better insight into planning legislation is still outstanding.
- Vegetation on Back Lane has now been cut back.
- The cost of restoring the bells is in the order of £1700

- Cllr Thompson has not received a letter from WMDC confirming his appointment. Cllr Wilkins confirmed that the declaration of interest form had been submitted to WMDC.
- Cllr Thompson will contact Highways England and ask for the A1 slip road verges to be cut.

2016-09-05

Correspondence:

- The school had suggested that Monday 28th November should be the day for the Christmas tree lighting and carol service.
- The resident at spring garden cottage is considering converting a barn into a storage area that could eventually be used as a dwelling. He was interested in the council's opinion of the development before applying for planning permission. No objections were raised.
- The mother and toddler group which has recently re formed were unsure of the room hire arrangements for the reading room. It had been suggested that they may be eligible for a S137 grant. Cllr Wilkins suggested that if an application for funding was made it should be for a contribution towards a tangible asset, e.g. insurance, room hire, and equipment. Cllr Stainer would investigate the S137 funding formula.

2016-09-06

Finance:

Cllr Stainer reported that the balance at the end of July stood at £13,611.78.

No payments were submitted for approval in August.

In the budget summary Cllr Stainer confirmed that the end of year balance at the end of August stood at £15,544.74. Again the budget has been reduced for gardening maintenance.

Cllr Stainer went on to say that the balance at the end of August stood at £13,611.78 and again no payments were submitted for approval in September. With a further £200 reduction in the gardening maintenance budget the forecast year end balance now stood at £15,744.74

Since submitting the accounts there has been no contact from the external auditor.

2016-09-07

Planning matters:

New applications

West Park Drive	Modification to access road	No comment

Existing Applications

Trinity Farm	Fenced compound for sewage treatment works and pumping station	Approved
Trinity Farm	Changes to bridge design and ancillary site changes	Approved

No application has been received for the ongoing works at the old farm on Estcourt Road. However, the site did gain outline permission for a housing development.

2016-09-08

Odour Log.

Cllr Tagger reported that since the odour log was first instigated on 5th January 2015, 11 people reported 31 incidents during 2015. In 2016 30 incidents have been reported by 4 people. Mr Batty said that there have been significant improvements made on the farm, its pig units and throughout the whole of the industry. Currently 70 % of the slurry is now being processed in a digester that generates electricity rather than being spread on the land. In light of all the changes it was proposed that Cllr Tagger write to any residents who report any future incidents and ask them to contact the Environment Agency directly as they are the legislators of the industry and are best placed to deal with the farm and manage resident's expectations.

Technical details of the changes made on the farm will be made available to residents via the newsletter and website.

2016-09-09

Reports:

Old Orchard.

The grass is now growing well and is ready for the first cut. Mr Batty will ask Mr Wilson to carry out this work.

The golf club have offered the help of their grounds man to help longer term. Cllr Stones will make contact to see what would be possible.

A new notice board has been erected by the gate.

WMDC are refusing to empty the waste bins on site as they have been incorrectly filled with the wrong type of waste. These will need to be emptied and if the problem persists removed from site.

School:

Nothing to report.

Village Field:

The bonfire is scheduled for 5th November.

Cllr Tagger reported that earlier in the week late night revellers on the field were promptly moved on by the police after he rang the 101 number.

Police:

An HGV was broken into at West Park. Cllr Stainer expressed concern that incidents on his estate had not been reported to the council by the police. These included a house being broken into for car keys and a further attempt to remove a vehicle parked on a driveway using a recovery vehicle.

In Bloom:

Planters have been damaged on Estcourt road and near the Darrington Hotel. Cllr Stainer will ask try to get a quote to repair these later this year once the plants have died back.

Gardening Club:

There have been no recent meetings to report on.

PCC Magazine:

Cllr Thompson has submitted an article on the A1 update and cars running through red lights at the traffic lights this has yet to be published.

Newsletter.

Bonfire, pig farm update, recent break ins, carol concert, A1 update, speeding through the lights at red, results of the scarecrow competition and open garden winners were all suitable articles to be included in the next issue.

DRONE. A1 noise.

Cllr Thompson reported back on the meeting he held with Highways England on the 27th July. This confirmed

- All resurfacing on the northern carriageway is complete. With some of this being high friction surfacing near slip roads noise levels will not have significantly been reduced.
- Nationally there are about 2500 areas that may benefit from acoustic fencing and the available budget up to 2020 that could only tackle between 50 and 100 such sites. On a cost per household basis the low density housing in the Darrington area would make this an area unlikely to be near the top of the priority list. There may also be engineering problems of a fence on the flyover. Highways England did agree though to start a feasibility study now to see if a barrier is feasible.
- In the 2014 Autumn statement the highway strategy changed and it is recognised that upgrading the A1 to motorway standard from the A1(M) Jn 38 to Jn 40 will mean that the whole of the A1 in Yorkshire will have been upgraded to motorway standard and strategically this will provide an alternative route that avoids Sheffield and Leeds.
- Residents and the Parish Council will be consulted throughout the process
What is not known is the impact on future road strategy and funding the post brexit political changes will make.

2016-09-10**Minor Items:**

Cllr Stones suggested that the council consider buying and installing a defibrillator within the village. A suitable site would be adjacent to the shop. The cost is £1395 plus VAT. This was thought to be a good idea but more detail on training, upkeep, costs etc are required.

Cllr Tagger stated that WMDC have powers to assist out in areas that require special support and suggested that parking on Sotheron Croft could be an area where their help was needed. Cllr Hoyle suggested that one way to ease problems there would be to remove the grass verges along Sotheron Croft and replace them with a cobbled surface and allow cars to park partly on the road and partly on the cobbled area. This would help widen the gap for passing traffic whilst retaining the footpath for pedestrians.

2016-09-11**Date of next meeting:**

The next meeting in the reading room will be held at 7.00 PM Thursday 13th October 2016

Cllr Tagger gave his apologies as he will not be able to attend this meeting.

Meeting closed at 9.10