

Minutes of the Meeting of Darrington Parish Council at the
Reading Rooms
Thursday 5th December 2013

Present:

Cllr Britton (Chairman), Cllr Stainer, Cllr Tagger, Cllr Farrell, Cllr Hoyle, Cllr Wilkins.

In Attendance:

Two members of the public.

Apologies:

Cllr Atkinson, Cllr Jackson, Cllr Newton, Cllr Walsh & Cllr Loughran,

Declaration of Interest:

None offered.

2013-12 -01

Public Matters:

The sad death of Melvyn Harper the village gardener and handyman was reported.

2013-12-02

Minutes of the last meeting:

Accepted by Cllr Wilkins and seconded by Cllr Hoyle.

2013-12-03

Matters arising:

Inconsiderate parking on Sotheron Croft. An article referring to this, and the other parking problems at the junction of Philips Lane had been put in the latest version of the PCC magazine. When Iain Glass was informed of the council's actions he confirmed that he had now put in a formal complaint to the WMDC highways regarding parking problems.

Urbanforum.org. Q &A website highlighting that the neighbourhood plan has to be in line with the WMDC Local Development Framework LDF. Cllr Walsh has still to advise the council if they need to be concerned about this matter.

Cllr Stainer reported that that the application to consider the Spread eagle as an asset of community value was proceeding. He had now obtained guidance notes and would try to instigate this as a one off support group of the Spread eagle rather than a Parish Council issue.

Cllr Wilkins is still talking to WMDC about blocked gullies throughout the village.

Invoices had been raised for the recent newsletter adverts. One had been paid the other was still outstanding.

2013-12-04

Correspondence:

Letter. Cllr Graham Stokes and Judith Badger. Re the localisation of council tax support. The one off payment made last year to compensate the Parish Councils for the reduction in service by WMDC will not be paid for the coming year.

2013-12-05

Finance:

The balance at the end of November stood at £9,400.59

Two items of payment was presented for approval in November.

Date	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
05.12.13	33-1314	Cheque 543	P Stainer	Printing ink	23.28	00.00
05.12.13	34-1314	Cheque 544	A Tagger	Section 137 grant	150.00	00.00
					173.28	00.00

Cllr Tagger gave an explanation to support his request for £150. This is broken down into 3 areas.

1. £50 to support a children's design competition in the Tithe barn area.
2. £50 to support the annual gardening competition.
3. £50 to support a children's competition for the boxes around the shop.

These were accepted by Cllr Britton and seconded by Cllr Farrell.

Grass seed had now been donated towards the Tithe Barn area. This will mean that the council will not be asked for additional money for grass seeding/ turfing in the spring.

Cllr Jackson will discuss the replacement of the planters near Estcourt Drive with Knavesmire.

2013-12-06

Budget Proposals.

Cllr Stainer presented his budget for 2014/2015 based on an increase in the precept of 5%. Together with the refund of VAT and advertising this will provide the council with an income of £12,274.11.

The budget was approved by all and signed by Cllr Britton thus enabling Cllr Stainer to apply for the precept.

2013-12-07

Planning matters:

The recent earthworks on the graveyard site look like it could still be being developed as a graveyard and not a housing development. Photographs of the working will be forwarded by Cllr Wilkins to Herbert Toss (WMDC planning officer) to ensure that work is in accordance with the deposited plans.

Development of the old allotment site on Valley Road. Development of this site seems to be taking place despite no planning application ever being approved. Again details and photographs will be forwarded to Mr Toss for his consideration.

Hillcroft Farm Estcourt Road. 2 storey extension. No comments.

1 Denby Crest Conversion of bungalow into 2 storey building. No comments.

2013-12-08

Christmas tree:

The tree was delivered, erected and the lights are in place. There is some concern as to the quality and safety of the electrical connections. Cllr Wilkins would raise these concerns with the company and ask that they make the works safe, compliant and in line with the risk assessments.

For next year the council is considering relocating the tree to a more suitable place. A permanent slot could be made for this in the centre of the circular planter. Battery or solar powered lights would resolve the problems being experienced with a mains supply.

2013-12-09

Reports:

School:

The Christmas service around the tree was organised for the 2nd December but was not as well attended as in recent years.

Village Field:

There are reports of drug taking apparatus (but not needles) around the shelter.

Police:

There has been a break in to a property on Estcourt Road near the Darrington Hotel.

Further problems with fly tipping on Westfield Lane.

In Bloom:

Nothing to report.

Gardening Club:

The S137 grant was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Newsletter:

Nothing to report.

PCC Magazine:

An item for consideration in the next issue is the Christmas tree. Following the loss of the village handyman a request for volunteers to come forward who may be prepared to help improve the village by helping do small things around their property e.g. litter picking, weeding a garden planter, or maintaining the tithe barn.

2013-10-10

Minor Items:

None.

2013-11-11

Date of next meeting:

The next PC meeting will be held on 9th January 2014 at 7.00 in the reading room.

Meeting closed at 8.50.