

Minutes of the Darrington Parish Council Meeting
Reading Room

Thursday 11th September 2014

Present:

Cllr Britton (Chairman), Cllr Hoyle, Cllr Wilkins. Cllr Jackson, Cllr Tagger, Cllr Newton.

Apologies:

Cllr Farrell, Cllr Stainer, Cllr Loughran.

In Attendance:

Cllr Dean, and two members of the public.

Declaration of Interest:

None offered.

2014-09-01

Public Matters:

None.

2014-09-02

Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the July meeting were reviewed. These were approved by Cllr Newton and Cllr Wilkins seconded this motion.

2014-09-03

Matters arising:

Cllr Tagger confirmed that he did attend the meeting with WMDC on the 15th July to discuss how WMDC and parish councils can work together. A report of this meeting has already been circulated to members by Cllr Tagger.

One of the main outcomes was that it may be beneficial to the council to develop a neighbourhood plan that would then be used in planning decisions. It could also potentially open up money raised by the proposed community infrastructure levy to be spent in the area. Cllr Tagger agreed to check out the requirements of preparing such a plan. He will use the one developed by Crofton as a pro-forma. Cllr Dean offered to help provide information for such a plan. This requirement will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Cllr Tagger still has to review the 2011 Parish Council Charter with Mr Thompson.

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

The ivy has been trimmed back from the wall near the Darrington Hotel. Vegetation has now been cut back that was obscuring the Darrington sign.

The rubbish was removed from the junction of Marl Pit Lane and Spital Gap Lane. Since then further fly tipping has taken place but this has also been removed by WMDC.

2014-09-04

Correspondence:

Grass cutting near the Kyte Hotel. This is already in hand by the highways agency. The planter near the junction of Sotheron croft was reported to be in poor condition. This has now been removed.

Cllr Wilkins reported that there may be a specific format issued by WMDC relating to online transparency of financial expenditure greater than £100. As all the council's payments are recorded in the minutes and displayed on the website no further action was proposed at this moment in time.

2014-09-05

Finance:

Cllr Wilkins presented the financial statement on behalf of Cllr Stainer.

The process for dealing with payments during August had been approved at the July meeting and one payment was made in August.

Date	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
25.8.14	24-1415	CH 576	John Cain	Gardening maintenance	110.00	00.00
					110.00	0.00

A further payment was presented for payment in September.

Date	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
11.9.14	25-1415	CH 577	Stuart Oakes	Power washing planters	80.00	00.00
					80.00	0.00

Cllr Wilkins proposed and Cllr Britton seconded the payments.

This will leave a projected year end balance of £5574.55

2014-09-06

Risk Assessments.

Cllr Wilkins has reviewed the risks associated with financial records, documentation, council minutes etc. A drop box account has been opened and he will scan any relevant documents. Cllr Wilkins will also talk to Hemsworth Town council to ascertain how they deal with risk assessments for their gardener. If the gardener is employed as a contractor and not an employee the requirement to produce risk assessments will vary.

Cllr Newton will provide details of any implications, or requirements on the council of the 1974 Health and Safety at Work Act.

2014-09-07

Planning matters:

Darrington service station A1	Car park extension and office space	Approved
Beck foot Moor Lane	Single storey extension to rear	Approved

No other applications have been identified in the area from the WMDC planning weekly list

The councillors were also made aware of the following potential applications outside the parish which may have had an impact on Darrington.

- Provision of a second bio fuel power station at Ferrybridge
- Wind turbine on land near the golf course exact location unknown.

Cllr Wilkins will ask WMDC for an update on the development in the small holding on Valley Road.

2014-09-08

Parish Council Vacancy.

As there have been no applications from members of the public to become a councillor the council now has 3 options available.

- Do nothing
- Ask/persuade someone to put their name forward
- Advertise the vacancy at a later date

Mr Thompson indicated that he may be willing to stand as a councillor but only on the proviso that a suitable candidate was found to carry out the internal auditor role.

2014-09-09

Christmas tree and carol service

This year the tree will be sourced locally and will be situated in the planter near the Darrington Hotel. Cllr Jackson will contact the brotherhood at Stapleton to see if they have a 15 -18 foot tree available.

The carol service will take place in the Tithe Barn area and the school will be happy to participate and will provide refreshments in the school. Cllr Tagger will ask the school to pick a suitable date for this event.
Cllr Newton will produce all the necessary risk assessments.

2014-09-10

Reports:

School:

As mentioned above the school is happy to participate in the carol service again this year. They are also helping to finalise the wording and detail on the proposed tithe barn information board.

Village Field:

Further decay of the wooden play equipment has been found making some of it unsafe. Arrangements will be put in hand to have this equipment repaired. The remainder of the wooden equipment will be treated with a timber preservative in the near future.

Police:

There have been a number of thefts from vehicles recently, together with a number of pots of plants being stolen.

Whilst the PCSO's still frequently visit the area there has been no community meeting organised.

In Bloom:

These have been very good displays this year. It was suggested by the gardening club that next year this could be enhanced even more if some were to include plants with a more vibrant colour, and that blocks of bulbs were planted in the planters.

Gardening Club:

See above.

It had been suggested that the area at the top of Sotheron Croft was an area where the gardening club could get involved to try and improve the environment. Cllr Tagger indicated that this would not be a project that they would want to take on board.

Newsletter:

The deadline date for the next edition will be early October. It is likely to feature, Bonfire night, safety on dark evenings and possibly the councillor vacancy.

PCC Magazine:

Cllr Wilkins volunteered to prepare some suitable item for inclusion in the magazine. One item suggested was a thank you to all residents who made an attempt to cut back overhanging vegetation adjacent to footpaths.

Minor Items:

Cllr Hoyle agreed to arrange to procure some additional daffodils at a cost of about £75. These will be planted throughout the village.

As it is harvest time again large quantities of straw are once again evident within the village. There is no action proposed by the council and WMDC street cleaners have been seen within the area which will help reduce the risk of blocked road gullies.

The seats throughout the village were also cleaned as well as the planters. Cllr Jackson will ask the gardener to treat these with a suitable wood preservative.

2014-09-11

Date of next meeting:

The day future PC meetings will be held will be changed from a Thursday to a Tuesday for the foreseeable future. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 7th October 2014 at 7.00 in the reading room.

Meeting closed at 8.30