

Minutes of the Darrington Parish Council Meeting  
Spread Eagle

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2013

**Present:**

Cllr Britton (Chairman), Cllr Stainer, Cllr Tagger, Cllr Newton, Cllr Hoyle, Cllr Atkinson, Cllr Jackson, Cllr Wilkins

**In Attendance:**

Cllr Dean, Cllr Walsh and two members of the public.

**Apologies:**

Cllr Farrell & Cllr Loughran,

**Declaration of Interest:**

None offered.

**2013-10 -01**

**Public Matters:**

Mr Thompson congratulated the council for the quality of the new website.

**2013-10-02**

**Minutes of the last meeting:**

Accepted by Cllr Atkinson and seconded by Cllr Wilkins

**2013-10-03**

**Matters arising:**

The litter situation throughout the village is getting worse. Numerous examples of major fly tipping are evident on Westfield Lane and Marl Pit Lane. Any major incidents should be reported to WMDC street scene that has done sterling work in the past to remedy the situation. The recent illness of the gardener has also exacerbated the situation as he has not been able to litter pick when working in the area.

Road reinstatement near the traffic lights. Cllr Wilkins has been in contact with WMDC who will be organising the repairs in the very near future.

Foot path sign on Back lane. Still not erected.

Painting of street lights. Cllr Tagger reported that Amey had now agreed to repaint the lamp standards as originally agreed in the specification for the work.

Details of Neighbourhood review had been sent to all councillors.

The Parish council finances have been audited with no adverse comments from the Auditors.

Future Parish council meeting will be held in the recently refurbished reading rooms.

**2013-10-04**

**Correspondence:**

Letter. Simon Bristow re speed of traffic on Estcourt Road. Cllr Wilkins has responded advising him of the current council position.

Letter. Janet Grace Sotheron Croft regarding the regular parking of vehicles on the road and verges rather than driveways, thus creating traffic restrictions in the area. Cllr Newton, will discuss this matter further with Mrs Grace and then contact Wakefield District Housing to see if they have plans to improve driveways to their properties as they have done so on Baghill Lane.

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

Letter. Mrs Gynn Stevens Application for £200 funding to the Thursday Club.

**2013-10-05**

**Finance:**

The balance at the end of September was £10,817.64

Five item of payment was presented for approval in October

<b>Date</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Payment Method</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>VAT</b>
10.10.13	22-1314	Cheque 531	Darrington PCC	Room Hire	16.00	00.00
10.10.13	23-1314	Cheque 532	D&R Group	Daffodils	50.00	00.00
10.10.13	24-1314	Cheque 533	PKF Littlejohn LLP	Annual external audit	120.00	20.00
10.10.13	25-1314	Cheque 534	Paul Stainer	Spring Bulbs	74.95	00.00
10.10.13	26-1314	Cheque 535	Thursday Club	S137 grant	200.00	200.00
					<b>460.95</b>	<b>20.00</b>

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

Cllr Stainer reported that the accounts had been approved by the external auditor and he would post a notice on the notice board.

The 2014/2015 budget needs to be considered at the next meeting. This will be based on the general principles of the precept remaining unchanged, increasing by 3% and increasing by 5%.

#### **2013-10-06**

##### **Planning matters:**

3 Estcourt Drive Tree trimming. No comments.

Wayside Cafe A1. Use of the cafe constitutes lawful development. Cllr Tagger to check on the full details to understand what this means and will submit any appropriate comments.

#### **2013-10-07**

##### **Grass Cutting contract:**

A quote has been received from B I Sykes for the grass cutting of verges and the village field. This was £3544.05 plus VAT and is far higher than the current rates from WMDC. It is not proposed to take any further action at this moment in time.

#### **2013-10-08**

##### **Christmas Tree:**

Due to WMDC recent increased the price for providing a tree from £300 to £1600, Elveden Farms Limited (the original supplier of trees to WMDC) has been in contact with Cllr Wilkins and they are prepared to do the following.

- Provide erect and dismantle 22ft tree for £379
- As above but installing lights provided by ourselves for £535

Cllr Wilkins has contacted Andy Woodhead at WMDC who has confirmed that the council can have the lights previously used, but there will be a £80 cost of providing power for the duration the tree is installed.

Alternatives such as planting our own smaller 16 ft tree would be £150 but the annual installation of the lights would require hiring in a scaffold tower or cherry picker.

All agreed that Cllr Wilkins should arrange with Elvenden Farm Limited to provide ,erect and decorate a tree with the former WMDC lights and arrange with WMDC the use of the power supply.

Cllr Newton and Cllr Stainer will work on risk assessments for installing the tree, testing of lights and the carol service.

#### **2013-10-09**

##### **Tithe Barn Area.**

The Parish Council, Gardening Club and Church are looking at a project to tidy up the Tithe barn area. This will incorporate defined parking areas separated from the gardens and seating areas.

The cost will be in the region of £500.

Cllr Tagger proposed and Cllr Jackson seconded a proposal to start on the construction phase over winter and the gardening work in the spring. All agreed

Cllr Hoyle suggested that this site would be an ideal location for a village visitor and historical information board. This could be a council project for the coming year.

### **2013-10-10**

#### **Reports:**

#### **School:**

The Christmas service around the tree has been organised for the 2nd December.

#### **Village Field:**

Plans for the Bonfire are progressing well. The large gate to the field will only be open on the weekends to try and limit the volume of material deposited on the field and to deter commercial businesses from dumping. The small gates will remain open as usual.

Repairs are being organised to repair and replace a section of one of the climbing frames.

#### **Police:**

The police are prepared to utilise the speed gun on areas with speeding traffic such as Marl Pit Lane. WMDC would charge for traffic survey data that could reveal the true speed of traffic in this area.

Crime numbers in the last 2 months record 5 thefts of petrol from the garage on the A1, 2 road traffic accidents, and one theft of a phone.

The old Georgian post box on Valley Road has recently been stolen either for scrap or its historical importance. A new post box will be reinstalled by Royal Mail.

#### **In Bloom:**

Following Cllr Wilkins earlier enquiries First Impressions have quoted for next years planting at the same rate as we have paid for the planting this year, and the contract has been renewed.

Cllr Stainer will include these quotes of £1539 for the baskets, £100 for bulb planting and £1897 for the planters into next years budget.

#### **Gardening Club:**

24 people attended a talk given by Phil Hirst, the son of a local resident Kathleen Hirst and the theme was how he designed and won the gold award in the large garden class of the RHS garden competition at Tatton Park.

**Newsletter:**

In print.

**PCC Magazine:**

To include an article on parking in Sotheron Croft, and the tithe barn project. Cllr Tagger and Cllr Newton.

**2013-10-11**

**Minor Items:**

Paul Platts of WMDC has told the council that small quantities of additional road salt could be provided. The council agreed not to pursue this matter further as long as the existing road side bins are filled and maintained.

Cllr Stainer informed the council that following CAMRA guidelines he was considering nominating the Spread eagle, as an asset of community value. This could help protect the pub for community use should it be put up for sale.

Cllr Newton reported a low manhole chamber on Estcourt Road near the Darrington Hotel. Cllr Hoyle will report this to Yorkshire Water.

Cllr Wilkins will talk to WMDC about the numerous blocked gullies throughout the area.

Cllr Hoyle confirmed that all the daffodils purchased for both the Parish Council and the village field have now been planted. Together with a donation from Mr & Mrs Cook this amounted to 81 kg.

**2013-10-12**

**Date of next meeting:**

The next PC meeting will be held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 7.00 in the reading room.

Meeting closed at 9.10