

Minutes of the Darrington Parish Council Meeting Reading Room

Thursday 5th February 2015

Present:

Cllr Britton (Chairman), Cllr Hoyle, Cllr Wilkins, Cllr Tagger, Cllr Farrell, Cllr Thompson, Cllr Jackson.

Apologies:

Cllr Stainer, Cllr Newton, Cllr Loughran, Cllr Dean.

In Attendance:

Two members of the public.

Declaration of Interest:

None offered.

2015-02-01

Public Matters:

There were no public matters raised.

2015-02-02

Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the January meeting were reviewed. These were approved as a true and correct record by Cllr Thompson and Cllr Jackson.

2015-02-03

Matters arising:

Development at Ripon Farm Services. Cllr Wilkins confirmed that the grounds the original application was turned down by WMDC, was due to it being a development within the greenbelt. It was not clear whether Cllr Stainer had managed to look at the WMDC planning policy for greenbelt developments

Cllr Thompson had reviewed both the standing orders and the members' handbook and had sent all members a copy of the revised version. It was agreed that as not all members were present at the meeting in particular the responsible financial officer these proposed changes would be reviewed in detail at a future meeting.

Cllr Wilkins confirmed that he had currently shelved the idea of creating a Facebook site for the Parish Council. Residents throughout the area had received letters from "Streetwise" asking them to join a Facebook style forum. The benefits of doing so and legitimacy of this site were still questionable.

A fence has now been placed around the collapsed wall in the grave yard. Cllr Britton has not yet been able to contact Rev Judd to ask when the repairs are going to take place.

2015-02-04

Correspondence:

Email from Geoff Walsh stating that he will be standing as the conservative councillor for the Pontefract South ward at the local elections which will be held in May.

Letter from North Yorkshire County Council. With regard to planning applications in the next 15 years for mineral and gas extraction and waste development. Any comments would be required by 13th March 2015. As the three nearest sites to Darrington are in Kirk Smeaton, Burton Salmon and Kellington, it was not considered necessary for the council to comment on their proposals.

Email David Walker. Damage to the road verges on Estcourt Road and Sotheron Croft. Cllr Wilkins has already replied to the email and it was suggested that an article is put in the PCC magazine about parking on verges, especially as the daffodils are just beginning to grow.

Physical restraints to parking were also discussed such as painted stones along Estcourt Road.

2015-02-05

Finance:

In Cllr Strainers absence Cllr Wilkins presented the monthly financial summary.

One item of income was received in January 2015 after the last meeting for the sum of £50. This left the balance at the end of January 2015 at £8,752.16

One payment was presented for payment in February.

Date	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
5.2.15	38-1415	CH 589	Mick Britton	Rebuilding damaged planter	22.68	3.78
					22.68	3.78

Cllr Wilkins proposed and Cllr Jackson seconded this payment.

The forecast balance at year end stands at £6,552.16

2015-02-06

Planning matters:

Hawthorne Cottage Philips lane Single storey extension Approved

2015-02-07

Reports:

Ripon Farm Services.

Cllr Britton confirmed that a meeting had been held with Ripon Farm Services to discuss the parking problems around their premises and their planning application for an off road parking and off loading area. At the meeting RFS confirmed that their planning application that was turned down by WMDC was for a "grasscrete" hard standing area surrounded by an earth embankment at the rear of the works. This would be fenced and lit. Improvements to the traffic flow though the premises were also proposed. The land on which this would be built would be rented to them by the farmer. If for any reason this area was no longer required it could revert back to agricultural land as no topsoil was being removed from site.

Cllr Tagger had investigated development within the greenbelt and had identified case law that stated that only on very rare occasions would an engineering operation be allowed.

As the onus is on the applicant to prove that the benefits of the development outweigh the damage to the area. Cllr Wilkins proposed and Cllr Farrell seconded a proposal that RFS review their application and call a meeting on site with the WMDC planners to discuss options. If requested to do so representatives from the parish council would also attend. Cllr Britton agreed to contact RFS.

School:

Due to the resignation of a governor at the school there currently is a vacancy for a new governor.

Village Field:

Planning for the 2015 Feast & Fayre has commenced and this will take place on the 27th June 2015. The council confirmed that they would want a stall again. Who will man the stall and what it will contain will be discussed as a future agenda item.

The Scarecrow Competition will also take place on the weekend of the Feast & Fayre.

Police:

There has been some damage to a car early one morning that was parked on Estcourt Road. The perpetrator was recorded on CCTV.

In Bloom:

Orders have been placed with in bloom, and all is in hand to provide a floral display later this year.

Gardening Club:

There has been no recent meeting the next is scheduled to take place next week.

Newsletter:

The next newsletter will be produced in May and will contain articles on the Feast & Fayre and the scare crow competition.

PCC Magazine:

None of the councillors thought that a magazine had been produced in January. An item for the next issue could be driving on verges in the daffodil season.

2015-02-08

Minor Items:

Cllr Farrell will contact the gardener/ handyman to ask him to retreat the notice boards.

2015-02-09

Date of next meeting:

Thursday 12th March 2015 at 7.00 in the reading room.

Meeting closed at 8.25