

Minutes of the Darrington Parish Council Meeting Reading Room

Tuesday 11th November 2014

Present:

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

Apologies:

None.

In Attendance:

Two members of the public.

Declaration of Interest:

None offered.

2014-11-01

Public Matters:

The grassed areas and verges around Ripon Farm Services are being damaged by tractors, wagons and other vehicles parking adjacent to the business. On occasions this can also restrict the sight line of vehicles approaching the roundabout. The council is aware that a recent planning application was turned down by WMDC that would have enabled Ripon Farm Services to provide an off road parking/ offloading area. However, they will write to Ripon Farm Services bringing this to their attention and asking them to be more responsible neighbour, tidy up the area and consider alternatives plans to minimise damage in the area.

Development on Bankswood Road. Cllr Wilkins explained that WMDC were fully aware of the development and it was still an ongoing problem. However, it had now been referred to the planning appeals office in Bristol for their deliberation.

2014-11-02

Minutes of the last meeting:

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

2014-11-03

Matters arising:

Cllr Wilkins was asked to complete a declaration of interest form in relation to a planning application he had made comments on at 6 Estcourt Drive.

Cllr Jackson had prepared a letter of appointment for the gardener which takes into account any implications of the 1974 Health and Safety at Work Act. This was reviewed by Cllr Newton and Cllr Farrell, and after minor amendment this will now be sent.

Mr Thompson has confirmed that he is still willing to be co-opted as a councillor. All the councillors welcomed his decision. Cllr Wilkins will forward to Mr Thompson the relevant application forms. His current role as the internal auditor will be assigned to one of the two nominations that have also been received for this post.

The gardener has now treated the seats within the village with a suitable wood preservative.

Mrs Stevens has confirmed that the regular attendance at the Thursday club is between 12 and 15. For trips they usually attract between 35 -40. Cllr Stainer confirmed that this number meant that the benefit per person was in line with other recent Section 137 grants.

Hawthorne Cottage Philips Lane. A letter was sent by the council in relation to this planning application.

2014-11-04

Correspondence:

Concerns that a tree growing in the adjacent property on Estcourt Drive is overhanging their property on Estcourt Road. The householder has been advised to contact the tree surgeon at WMDC.

3 emails re leaves and overhanging trees on Manor Park Rise causing a potential slip hazard. Cllr Britton has replied to these, and Cllr Wilkins has confirmed that street scene have been in the area clearing leaves.

Raised gas valve box near the reading room. Cllr Hoyle will inspect report to the highways if applicable.

2014-11-05

Finance:

During the month Cllr Britton had contacted members asking for permission to purchase Christmas trees and lights up to a value of £350 prior to the meeting. No one objected had to this proposal.

The balance at the end of October stood at £10,524.95

Four payments were presented for payment in November.

Date	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
11.11.14	29-1415	CH 581	John Cain	Garden Maintenance	110.71	0.00
11.11.14	30-1415	CH 582	P M Stainer	Printer Ink	22.73	3.79
11.11.14	31-1415	CH 583	Carter & Jackson	Newsletter printing	95.00	0.00
11.11.14	32-1415	CH 584	M Britton	Christmas tree expenses	271.23	14.50
					499.67	18.29

Cllr Newton proposed and Cllr Farrell seconded these payments.

The forecast budget has been amended for a number of items to reflect the current spend profile e.g. gardening and maintenance and the Christmas tree. This will leave a higher projected year end balance than previously reported of £6172.78.

2014-11-06

Proposed budget for 2015-2016.

Cllr Stainer has produced a proposed budget for the next financial year based on a 0%, 3% or 5% increase in the precept. This will be amended with the Christmas tree budget reduced by £300 with money being transferred to the parish project budget. After some debate on potential projects two options were voted on.

Increase precept by 3% proposed by Cllr Tagger seconded by Cllr Hoyle.

Increase precept by 5% proposed by Cllr Farrell seconded by Cllr Jackson.

Members voted 5 to 2 in favour of a 5% increase in the precept.

The revised budget will be finalised for the next meeting.

2014-11-07

Planning matters:

Hodgewood Farm Darrington. Erection of wind turbine in the green belt.

At the October meeting councillors agreed that the council should maintain its previously adopted principle and object to this proposal on the grounds that it was development within the green belt area. This was the only objection raised. It had been suggested by WMDC that the developer should come and talk to the council about this development. However, no representative was present at this meeting.

Northwood Great North Road Wentbridge. Tree removal.

No comment

10 Beech Crescent.

Tree crowning

No comment.

2014-11-08

Christmas tree and carol service:

3 suitable trees have been sourced from the brotherhood at Stapleton. These will be ready for collection on the afternoon of 28th November. Help will be required to erect these.

The carol service will take place in the Tithe Barn area on 2nd December at 6.00PM. The school will participate and will provide refreshments afterwards within the school premises. Cllr Britton will provide a music system, and power will be available from the church. Cllr Tagger will act as the announcer. Cllr Newton has produced all the necessary risk assessments. Vehicles will have to be excluded from the car park that evening.

2014-11-09

Village Plan.

Cllr Tagger confirmed that he had now been in contact with representatives from the Crofton Parish Council. Following these discussions he was now of the opinion that the potential benefits of developing a plan were far outweighed by the cost and effort in producing a plan. Therefore it was suggested that the council should shelve this idea.

2014-11-10

Reports:

School:

See above.

Village Field:

All repairs to the play equipment have been completed. Despite the poor weather on the day the bonfire and fireworks attracted a large crowd and was a great success. As usual

these events rely on volunteers to organise and provide help on the day and many more helpers would be appreciated to ease the burden.

Police:

The PCSO's have carried out temporary speed check and vehicle surveillance on Estcourt Road.

Following a number of local attempted burglaries there was a suggestion from one resident that CCTV cameras were erected to monitor traffic throughout the village. Cllr Tagger will respond to this stating that the level of crime did not warrant such action and that it would be difficult to cover all 6 road entrances to Darrington and then that would not cover the out laying areas or Wentbridge.

At least 3 police officers were present at the bonfire.

In Bloom:

The prices for a similar service and display in 2015 will remain the same as the 2014 costs.

Gardening Club:

Three trees have been donated and will be planted in the Tithe Bran area. Cllr Tagger has reviewed and update their website page.

Newsletter:

Issued and delivered.

PCC Magazine:

Ideas suggested were a report on the bonfire and appeal for helpers. Also asking villagers for ideas on how they would like to see the orchard at the church being developed.

Minor Items:

Cllr Tagger updated members about the recent WMDC Town and Parish Council meeting he had attended.

2014-11-10

Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 9th December 2014 at 7.00 in the reading room.

Meeting closed at 9.00