

GOLDSBOROUGH AND FLAXBY GROUPEd PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7th November 2016 at the Bay Horse Inn, Goldsborough

Present: Councillors Matthew Davies (Chairman), Claire Morrell, Helen Short, Jackie Dowker, Simon Oldroyd, Steve Rowe and Derrik Summers (Clerk)

Also in attendance: Councillor Andrew Paraskos (for Harrogate Borough Council Ribston ward) and four parishioners from Flaxby.

81. Apologies for absence

Becky Smith was unable to attend the meeting and sent her apologies.

82. Declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda

Steve declared an interest relating to the Parish Council website (item 93).

83. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 5th September 2016

There were no corrections required and accordingly the minutes together with the financial pages at the time of the meeting were approved with the Chairman initialing each page. The Chairman also initialed the corrected minutes and three financial pages for the meeting held on 4th July 2016.

84. Matters arising from the previous Meeting held on 5th September 2016

- Item 61. Clerk to issue a tailored draft of the Financial Regulations. **Done.** Refer item 88 (5).
- Item 61. Awaiting detail from Police in order to submit application for No Cold Calling Zone for Goldsborough. Some details received and **Clerk to now** submit application to NYCC. Refer item 96
- Item 61 Suggestions for use of Allerton Heritage Fund. **Done.** Refer item 95
- Item 61 BT decommissioning of Goldsborough phone box. **Still no answer from BT** on this. Refer item 92
- Item 62 Chairman to draft a letter outlining the PC's concerns etc re the Flaxby housing development. **Not done yet.** Refer item 85
- Item 64 Clerk to contact NYCC over lack of progress on drain at Station Road, Goldsborough **Done.** Refer item 94
- Item 65 Clerk to put questions forward from Councillors for inclusion on the agenda for the Parish Consultation meeting 24th October . **Done.** Refer item 85
- Item 66. Jackie/Steve, NYCC Ranger liaison re paths and Heritage Fund. **Done.** Refer item 95
- Item 67. Clerk to look at replacement goal net at the Play Area. **Not done yet.** Refer item 86.
- Item 69. Councillors to consider potential options for use of Commuted Sums. **Done.** Refer item 88 (4).
- Item 70. Clerk to look into potential personal gates for allotments. **Part done.** Refer item 89 (1)
- Item 73 Steve to look into costs (and types) of suggestion boxes. **Done.** Refer item 91.
- Item 75 Clerk to get names of Councillors added to website. **Done.** Refer item 93
- Item 76 Clerk to send to HBC claim for repayment of the commuted sums for Flaxby posts and dog style. **Done.** Refer item 88 (4).
- Item 79 Clerk to contact YLCA for advice over taking on administration of the Goldsborough Pools Charity. **Done.** Refer item 98
- Item 79 Clerk to obtain quotes for pruning back tree at Flaxby green. **Done.** Refer item 103
- Item 79 Steve to take forward further dog fouling signs. **Done.** Refer item 104

85. Harrogate Borough Council Local Plan.

- i) For the Parish Consultation Meeting on 24th October 2016, the Clerk had received suggestions for questions from the Councillors and had put them to HBC for inclusion on the agenda for this meeting. The Chairman had attended that meeting and reported that HBC were looking at about 12,000 new homes being built in the Borough by 2035, of which there were already submitted planning applications in respect of circa 6,000 new homes. HBC confirmed that, whilst the target of 12,000 new home could be achieved without including a new settlement within the Local Plan, a new settlement was something that they were seriously considering. HBC commented that any new settlement would need to be a sustainable development and not just 'a housing estate'.
- ii) A pop up cafe preview session of the Local Plan was held at the Harrogate International Centre on Tuesday 25th October. Jackie Dowker had attended.
At this session HBC indicated they were looking at potential new settlements at Flaxby and Cattal. They would require various reports including NYCC Education and Highways prior to any progress being made.
- iii) The Local Plan will be open for Public Consultation from November 11th to December 23rd 2016. There is to be public exhibition by HBC about it at the Gracious Street Methodist Church in Knaresborough on Saturday 19th November from 10am to 3pm. There will be others around the district after this up until 30th November.
Councillor Paraskos advised that all individuals will need to register and respond on line. The consultation is accessible via <http://consult.harrogate.gov.uk>
- iv) Councillor Paraskos mentioned that Knaresborough Town Council does not favour the Flaxby Housing Development. Also he suggested that having no existing railway halt/station nearby was considered a huge negative for a development.
- v) It was agreed that the Councillors would meet in November to discuss the draft Local Plan. A letter drop to all parishioners would then follow in early December and subsequent consultations with the other local Councils, and response to HBC's Local Plan before the deadline of 4.30pm on 23rd December 2016.

86. Goldsborough Childrens Play Area

The Play Area had its ROSPA inspection on 6th September 2016 by a new company. The charge being raised by £5 to £55 + VAT for this year. The report has given the Play Area an overall risk rating of Medium. Items to be addressed are

- 1) Fit Football Goal net
- 2) Repair damaged/delaminated wood to ramp and top deck of the Junior slide
- 3) Where missing fit caps to fixing bolts to Junior Slide.
- 4) Shorten rope to Junior slide
- 5) Make good cracked soft pour surface to one post of Toddler slide.
- 6) Remove grass, moss and weeds from playing surface to Junior swings soft pour and Toddler swings soft pour.

These works are to be undertaken prior to the next Annual Inspection in September 2017. The Clerk estimates these works could cost circa £1000.00 (including VAT) if all undertaken by Contractors. (The Play Area fund currently has approximately £3000)

87. Planning and Land Registration

Applications: Rowan Garth, Goldsborough. PC response on 17th October 2016 to HBC of 'no objections.

Decisions: None

Note: No comments received back regarding the Tiger sign beside the A59

88. Finance and Insurance -

- 1) Precept - The Parish Councils calculation and request for precept for year commencing April 2017 needs to be returned to HBC by 20th January 2017. The Clerk has prepared a 3 year budget (for April 2017 onwards) and will send this round to the Councillors for their review, so that the precept can be fully considered at the Parish Councils 9th January 2017 meeting.
- 2) Cheques -
 - Nr 856: Cancelled
 - Nr 857: Network Print: £624.00 (Website)
 - Nr 858: Royal British legion: £22.25 (Wreath)
 - Nr 859: Cancelled
 - Nr 860: Farm & Land Services Ltd: £103.20 (Grass cutting)
 - Nr 861: D Summers: £66.00. Reimbursement for his personal BACS payment to HBC for Play Area inspection.
- 3) Bank accounts Current Account has £6509.33 at 30th September 2016. Business Account has £4368.71 at 30th September 2016. The Clerk estimates by the time of the next precept payment to the PC in April 2017, with all the payments to be made until then the combined sums of the two accounts will be approximately £7500.
- 4) Commuted sums: No payment received yet from HBC for the work done at Flaxby but promised soon. The Clerk has asked HBC if the Commuted Sums could be utilised to pay for a village signboard (as are in place at Ripley, Kirkby Overblow and Spofforth). The Councillors agreed that this would be worth taking further depending on the reply by HBC.
- 5) Financial Regulations; The Clerk had amended the Model Regulations (that had been recommended by YLCA to be implemented by all Parish Councils in Yorkshire). The amended draft had been sent to the Councillors for consideration prior to the meeting. At the meeting Steve proposed the draft be implemented and Claire seconded and all voted in agreement. The Clerk would now prepare a master copy for signing by the Chairman at the next meeting.

89. Goldsborough Allotments

- i) The Clerk is still searching for the right type of gate (at best price) and would hope to have found one with the costs to report at the next meeting in January.
- ii) It is hoped that Goldsborough School will take on the quarter plot for 2017. That would mean 100% usage of the plots.
- iii) HBC (referring to the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 and following an ad hoc inspection) have contacted the Clerk to request that the Parish Council takes action to deal with rats that are believed to be at the allotments, with the use of bait boxes. The Clerk disputed the suggestion of any infestation and was not happy that HBC had not involved the Parish Council with its assessment of the allotments. Following further discussions it was agreed by the Councillors that the Clerk should establish the cost of HBC's own in-house contractor and also a private contractor for taking the appropriate action and this to be considered at the next meeting.
- iv) The Clerk would normally about now contact the tenants to request payment of the rent for the coming year and it was agreed that he should firstly request that all tenants do whatever they can to prevent the harbouring of rats within their plot. Also he was asked to issue an amended Regulations that included a new item for the tenants to be entirely responsible for the cleanliness of their plots and the ridding of rats.
- v) The Councillors considered the rent for the coming year, and in order to keep it attractive it was agreed (Chairman proposed, Simon seconded, all Councillors agreed) to keep the charge at the same level as 2016 ie £25 per full plot and £12.50 for half plot. The Clerk would contact the tenants as soon as possible.

90. Police items

There have been some incidents in September and October 2016 within the local ward of Ribston but there have been none recorded for the villages of Goldsborough and Flaxby. However Simon was aware that the Police were increasing ad hoc patrols of Low Field Lane, Goldsborough due to increased traffic down and back up the Lane late at night.

91. Parish Council suggestion box

Both Steve and Jackie had researched these and come up with steel lockable small postbox type boxes for approximately £10 each. The Clerk was asked to order two and Steve offered to fix these beside the Flaxby and Goldsborough notice-boards.

92. Goldsborough Phone box adoption and use of phone box/defibrillator

BT have honoured their agreement and fitted a new door to the Phone Box. Steve has sought a re-quote (of £175.00) for replacing the perspex glazing (as now less to replace). BT have not however confirmed yet to the Parish Council of the completion of its purchase. Once that happens (and the Clerk has been enquiring with BT but they are not responding due to unprecedented emails), the glass could be replaced. However it was considered the repainting of the box would best be left now until better weather in the Spring of 2017. The defibrillator and cabinet had not been received yet and the Clerk would only chase for these once the purchase of the phone box has been confirmed.

93. Parish Council website

This is now very close to going live. The content was discussed and it was agreed the Clerk arrange for the following changes:

- 1) The introduction on the Welcome page to be expanded.
 - 2) Detail about the Parish Council, its function etc.
 - 3) A tab for the Goldsborough Welcome pack
 - 4) A tab also for a Flaxby Welcome pack .
 - 5) Bus times for both villages
 - 6) Waste collection dates
 - 7) More financial details
 - 8) Links to the Local Plan and Planning generally
 - 9) Some way of making the Councillors page more personable.
 - 10) More photos (including removing one at present that is considered not relevant)
- . Ideally the website would be good to be live in time for the next Village Newsletter.

94. Flooding Station Road, Goldsborough

There have now been several false alarms where it was thought the drainage would be improved. One earlier in the year (early July) was where signs were put up of impending works in Station Road, but nothing was ever done. Then on July 16th drain cleaners were emptying gullies and nothing took place after that. Then just recently (25th October) Station Road was closed completely from the War Memorial right down to the A59 for several days - but this was due to a water leak near the cemetery. Apparently, the drainage works are now provisionally planned to take place in January 2017.

95. Allerton Incinerator & Allerton Waste Recovery Landscape & Cultural Heritage Fund

Steve has met up with Mike Gurney of NYCC and inspected together some footpaths within Great Wood. Jackie has been in contact with Paul Varney of Groundwork (one of Two Ridings recommended contractors) to discuss potential improvements near to Flaxby. Jackie offered to take these both up with Paul Varney, who it is believed would take on the whole process of establishing appropriate works, preparing a report and submitting that to Two Ridings (who are administering the Fund).

96. No cold calling zone for Goldsborough

The Clerk has been sent some details of incidents in Goldsborough by the Police and would now apply to NYCC for a no cold calling zone.

97. Remembrance Day 2016.

The Chairman agreed to attend the service at the War Memorial on Sunday November 13th. He had prior to the meeting prepared some words to go onto the card that is placed with the Wreath. The Councillors all agreed that the words were most appropriate.

98. Goldsborough Poores Charity

The Clerk had sought advice from YLCA about the legalities and any pitfalls of taking on the administration of this Charity. YLCA had replied suggesting it would be most unlikely to be appropriate to take on the role. Based on this the Councillors considered it was not something that should be taken further with the Parish Council.

99. Street sign at Woodland Close, Goldsborough

Due to some rotten posts, this had fallen down at the end of September and the Clerk had immediately notified HBC. It has not yet been made good.

100. Safer Neighbourhood meeting

The Clerk had received minutes to the March 2016 meeting but not yet for the July and September meetings. There was nothing relevant to Goldsborough and Flaxby within the March minutes.

101. Church Street, Goldsborough public footpath.

A parishioner had raised concerns about the state of this footpath, which was virtually impassable. Steve had spoken to Mike Gurney of NYCC about this footpath and they met there to discuss it. It would appear NYCC and the owner of the adjoining property are in disagreement about works to the overhanging trees and shrubs. It was hoped that this would get resolved and the pathway could be cleared.

102 Parish Council procedures

When reviewing the model Financial Regulations, the Clerk had identified various procedures that the Parish Council should ideally be undertaking. He had sent these round to the Councillors prior to the meeting and at the meeting it was agreed (the Chairman proposed, Claire seconded, all agreed) for the Clerk to implement the procedures he had identified. The Clerk asked that could the Councillors get back to him with the name of anyone who might be willing to take on the role of Internal Auditor, as the current Internal Auditor has suggested he would be happy for someone else to take on the role. However, firstly the Clerk would enquire with YLCA and local parish Councils if they have such a person who might assist the PC.

103. Tree pruning at Flaxby Green

The Clerk had received two quotes but one seemed a lot, to do what is really required (crown lifting and crown reduction). The other was better priced but unclear if it would prune back to the level needed. Accordingly the Clerk was given names of two more Contractors to seek quotes.

104. Dog fouling signs

Steve had put up more signs but the problem persists - and quite badly in some places such as Midgeley Lane.

105. Grass cutting 2017.

The grass cutters had presented their quotation for cutting in 2017. This has increased by £1 a cut. This was considered reasonable considering there had been no increase for 2016 and they do appear to do a good job.

The Chairman proposed and Steve seconded the approval to use the grass cutters again for 2017 at these new rates. All Councillors agreed. The Clerk would confirm their appointment for 2017 to the grass cutters.

106. Parish Newsletter

There would be one normally issued before Christmas. However the Chairman would be unable to continue with doing the Newsletter due to increased work commitments. He asked if anyone would like to take it on, and with no-one offering he agreed to do the Christmas one and within it ask for someone to take over from him.

107. Members requests at the discretion of the Chairman

- 1) Jackie had brought in the crocus bulbs she had collected from HBC and after the meeting shared out these to those who would be happy to plant some in local public areas.
- 2) The Clerk advised of a communication from 95 Alive (The York and North Yorkshire Road Safety Partnership) who had undertaken an unannounced check of speeds of vehicles outside Goldsborough School. The survey had concluded that the average speed was 23 mph ie less than the designated 30mph.

The letter went on to suggest there was no evidence from this survey to support and request for enforcement or engineering works to improve the situation. The only suggestion was that volunteers could be utilised with speed guns loaned out by the Police as part of Community Speed Watch to do checks themselves to determine speeds independently and report back to the Police. Someone from CSW will get in touch with the Clerk about this.

- 3) Simon was finding that his work commitments were increasing such that he could not guarantee appropriate attendances at future PC meetings. Accordingly Simon regretfully handed in his resignation letter to the Parish Council. Simon has been a Parish Councillor for many years and the Chairman, Councillors and Clerk all agreed that he would be sadly missed and thanked him for his time with the Parish Council.

108. Dates of next meetings

9th January 2017

6th March 2017

8th May 2017

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm

These minutes are subject to final approval at the next or a subsequent Parish Council meeting.