

North Rigton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held at North Rigton School

10 January 2013

1. Attendance and Welcome; consideration of any Apologies for Absence.

1. Present:- Councillors Mary Hopkins (Chairman), Andrew Batcup, Amanda Martyn, Tim Bennett, Barbara Massey, & Mike Richards (Clerk). In attendance, County Councillor W John Fort (for items 1-4). Also in attendance Neighbourhood Police Officer PC Mark Ayre (items 1-3).
2. Apologies for Absence – Margaret Splain and Borough Councillor Christine Ryder.

2. Requests for order variations and Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interest, but it was **AGREED** that PC Ayre's report should be received as the next item, followed by Highways, to allow Councillor Fort time to attend his next meeting.

3. Neighbourhood Police Officer – periodic report.

PC Ayre circulated the crime figures report for 2012 for the parish area, which revealed the following:

Offence	Number	Detections
Thefts	3	0
Assault	3	3
Burglary dwelling	3	0
Burglary other	4	0
Attempt SMV	1	0
Drugs	3	3
Total	17	6

For reasons of confidentiality, PC Ayre was unable to provide any more detail on the above, but he was able to confirm that the 3 cases of drugs offences related to out of area individuals. Councillors were pleased to note that no upward trend was apparent from the above figures.

Various traffic and vehicle issues were then discussed, notably parking near the mini roundabout adjacent to the Square and Compass – PC Ayre **AGREED** to pursue this and take appropriate action. It was also **AGREED** that general parking on pavements, whilst regrettable, was difficult to prevent or restrict as it mainly related to village residents.

PC Ayre went on to reassure councillors that surveillance of potential criminal activity throughout the area was a continuing issue for the police, via the mobile number plate recognition vehicles and also the permanent camera, sited on Poole bridge.

Chairman thanked PC Ayre for his attendance and presentation of an informative report.

4. Highways, Footpaths and Verges

4.1 Traffic impact – concerns were raised by Councillors Hopkins and Batcup at the recent Parish Consultation meeting with HBC about the potential traffic impact on North Rigton of possible housing development between Cardale Park and Beckwithshaw. After a follow up letter from Councillor Batcup to

HBC Forward Planning, HBC have passed on our concerns to their traffic consultants (Jacobs) and will inform us of their response.

4.2 Roadway outside Barn Elm House. Repair and reparation is the responsibility of North Yorkshire Water, but it is not clear that this has been fully accepted.

4.3 Potholes. Chairman reported that she was aware that proper permanent repairs had been carried out on a number of potholes, but it was important that this action was applied to all such repairs. Councillor Fort **AGREED** but advised that it would be better for such work to be completed when prevailing weather conditions improved. Councillors accepted this response.

4.4 Verges. Councillors expressed concern at vehicular damage being caused to grass verges, particularly those adjacent to the school. Several suggestions for preventative measures were put forward, such as the erection of white plastic posts, although it was pointed out that these did break easily and become unsightly. Chairman put forward the possibility of the Council funding a more permanent (although expensive) solution such as the installation of concrete kerbs.

4.5 Sewerage problems outside The Cottage, Rigton Hill, flooding on Hall Green Lane and on A658 outside Cliff Bank Nursery. (The pipe blockage outside the Nursery has since been cleared by NYCC – we have requested future monthly inspections).

County Councillor Fort **AGREED** to pursue and take up all the above issues with the relevant parties. He did stress again, however, the significant budget constraints facing the County Council.

Chairman thanked Councillor Fort for his attendance and input and he left the meeting.

5. Approval and signing of Minutes; Matters arising

5.1 Minutes of the meeting of 22 November 2012 were considered.

5.2 There being no other matters arising which were not the subject of a further agenda item, the minutes were **APPROVED** and signed as a true record.

6. Administration.

6.1 Clerk's email address – please use mikenrichards@gmail.com for all communications.

6.2 Production of Minutes and agenda. It was **AGREED** that minutes should be available within 2 weeks of the meeting to which they refer and all agenda should be circulated at least a week before the meeting.

Clerk to action.

7. Finance.

7.1 Accounts payable

1.1 £444.93 for provision of computer and associated office equipment for the Clerk

1.2 £76.20 to K Farrington & Son for time switch to Xmas Tree lighting.

Both above sums **AGREED** for payment.

7.2 Commuted sums. The Chairman and Clerk had met with Sean Wright, the HBC officer responsible for commuted sums and their allocation. It was confirmed at the meeting that there was still a sum of £2300 which was available for use by the School, possibly to purchase play equipment in the open access playing field. Sean Wright was of the understanding however, that this sum would have to be spent by 31 March 2013, but he would look into other possibilities. **ACTION** – Clerk to contact Sean Wright to confirm position and to see if the sum could be “ring-fenced” if a firm spending commitment could be achieved before 31 March.

8. Village Plan

The >50% response rate for the questionnaire is about average for exercises of this type. We may have to

wait until the results of the 2011 Census at parish level are published in March to check that our 50% sample is truly representative of our population. In any event, Terry Massey has been commissioned to do a detailed analysis of all responses showing, for example, any significant trends or areas for attention. Councillor Batcup and he will get together to decide the next steps with the eventual outcome being the production of the Parish Plan, by the Summer of 2013.

9. Planning

9.1 At the Parish Consultation Meeting referred to at item 4.1 above, several parishes, including North Rigton, expressed concerns about the difficulty in navigating the Planning Department's website, as well as dissatisfaction with the communication of reasoning behind planning decisions. HBC Councillor responsible for Planning agreed to look into this and also set up a seminar on navigating the website for interested councils.

9.2 Current applications and issues etc.

9.2.1 Caravan on land off A658 – will be removed

9.2.2 New York Farm – latest planning application withdrawn, but others still likely to follow.

9.2.3 Low Garden, Shaw Lane, Beckwithshaw – application refused.

9.2.4 Fairview Farm – Parish Council has no objection.

9.3 Apparent missed consultations.

HBC had provided a list of planning applications where no "consultation response" had been received from this Council. **ACTION** Clerk will go through planning file and cross check whether consultation notifications received.

9.4 New system for planning consultations.

Following decision by HBC to move to communication via email only the following procedure was **AGREED**:-

Clerk to receive all planning applications from HBC and forward immediately to councillors, with a brief summary description of the proposal, with link to HBC website where possible (MH to pass on hard copy to MS)

Clerk to set deadline for responses (to him) and then do a brief summary to respond to HBC (copied to members)

10. Village Garden, Amenities and Activities.

10.1 Christmas Tree – Chairman reported successful planting of tree (funded by Villagers Association), a "living" tree which would hopefully be around for many years to come.

10.2 Sue Keane has been clearing and tidying the hedge and a big gap has emerged. Materials to fill the gap will cost some £55 + VAT. Councillors **AGREED** and approved this expenditure

11. **Correspondence** – Letter from SELRAP (Skipton, East Lancs Rail Action Partnership) received, asking for Council support. **AGREED** not relevant to this Parish, so no response required.

- **Dates of next Meetings**

- March 14 2013, 19.30 at North Rigton School.

- May 9th for Parish Council, followed by Parish Annual Meeting on May 16th (PC Ayre to be invited).

12. Meeting closed at 21.45 hrs.