

North Rigton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held at North Rigton School

5 September 2013

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

1.1.Present:- Councillors Mary Hopkins (Chairman), Andrew Batcup (Vice Chairman), Amanda Martyn, Tim Bennett, Barbara Massey, & Mike Richards (Clerk). In attendance, County Councillor W John Fort and Borough Councillor Christine Ryder
Also present one parishioner (Mrs J Williams).

1.2 Apologies for Absence – none.

2. Approval and signing of Minutes; Matters arising

2.1 Minutes of the meeting of 11 July were considered. There being no matters arising, the Chairman signed the minutes as a true record.

3. Requests for order variations and Declaration of Interest – None.

4. Administration.

4.1.Co-option of a councillor. As the Returning Officer had not received the requisite number of nominations to require an election, the Parish Council now needs to co-opt an individual to fill the vacancy on the Council. A number of suitable individuals were considered, but ultimately it was agreed that the Chairman would approach Mrs Jo Scott, to ascertain whether she was willing to put her name forward.

5. Finance.

5.1 Receipts and Accounts payable.

- a) £300 to T Massey for Parish Plan development
- b) £945 to Gecko Ltd for printing of Parish Plan
- c) £47.97 to M E Hopkins for stationery and print cartridge
- d) £300 to Ray Skelton LLP for installation of Play Equipment
- e) £35.94 to Mike Richards for printer cartridge and USB stick.
- f) £30 to Mrs L Moore for internal audit services.

All the above were AGREED for payment.

5.2.Clerk confirmed receipt of £1633.34 from HBC iro commuted sums payment for the play equipment.

5.3.Chairman confirmed the need to obtain a “white liner” so that the newly marked out football pitch could be permanently outlined. Amanda Martyn had managed to obtain a white line machine but as yet it was not fully functional.The Clerk agreed to approach Weeton and Huby Cricket Club to see if they would be willing to loan out their machine.

5.4.Capital Grant. Clerk reported receipt of information on the possible availability of a capital grant for the purchase of play equipment. He agreed to pursue this to ascertain whether such aid may be permissible for the replacement of the “trim trail” in the playing field.

5.5 Jubilee Fund. Following information that there could possibly be a flaw in the design of the originally identified bench (similar benches in the Valley Garden had become “bowed” after a number of years), the Chairman reported that she had now located a bench with a central support which should therefore prove more durable. Councillors agreed to the purchase of this new bench at a cost of some £450.

6. Parish Plan

Status. Councillor Batcup circulated a paper outlining the current status of the Plan. 250 copies of the final version were being printed at a cost of £945. Copies will be provided to parishioners attending the launch meeting on 19th September and the remainder will be hand delivered or posted out. Andrew will complete the “end of grant” report to be sent to the “Big Lottery” organisation by the due date of 11th October. It is anticipated that virtually all of the £3045 grant will have been expended.

Launch Arrangements. The launch will be held at the Square and Compass on 19th September, commencing at 7pm. We have budgeted for 50 people to attend at a maximum cost of £400 for a drink and light refreshments. Andrew will give a short presentation on the key points in the Action Plan and invite questions. Copies of the plan (one per household) will be given out in exchange for e-mail addresses (which can then be used for future communications.)

Action Plan Promises (for 2013).

- Welcome Pack (by December 2013) – (Parish Plan will act as this for the next year or so)
- Set up system for parishioners e-mail addresses to be registered on parish website to enable better communication of village events etc
- Investigate affordability of a local farmer supplementing NY Highways snow clearance (before November 2013)
- Arrange for Xmas Carol singing for charity (by Xmas 2013)

Progress in implementing the key issues of the Action Plan will be a main agenda item for the next Council meeting in November.

Councillors expressed their appreciation to Councillor Batcup for all the hard work which had gone in to the production of a very professional and worthwhile document.

7. Planning

7.1. Clerk circulated the current Planning Control List. (see Appendix). It was noted that there were a couple of omissions and the Clerk undertook to ensure these were added before publication on the website. Councillors also asked that they be copied in to the response to all planning consultations.

7.2. Cardale Park – proposed development. Chairman outlined the consultation process surrounding this proposal to build some 450 new houses. She was aware of a number of responses and complaints from other parishes and concerned groups, and circulated the proposed response from this Parish. Jo Williams was then asked for her input from the education perspective. She had been made aware by the Chair of Governors of Harrogate Grammar School, that the allocation of places for “rural” children would be halved with the existence of this new development. Councillors expressed concern at this and also discussed other potential negative effects such as healthcare provision and social welfare. It was agreed that these other points would be added to the Council’s submission. Clerk to submit before due date of 26 September.

7.3. Clerk read out a list of valid planning considerations provided by YLCA. He would circulate this list to councillors in due course.

8. Highways, Footpaths and Verges.

8.1 The compiled list of potholes and drainage problems has been sent to NY Highways for action. Chairman asked Clerk to circulate to all so that any corrective action taken can be monitored and further problems can be identified.

8.2 Bollards in front of Green Meadows. Clerk had obtained copy of the appropriate licence and it was agreed that this would be passed to Mr and Mrs Scott for them to complete as appropriate and forward to HBC.

8.3 Road signs. Signposts for Almscliffe Garth, Brackenthwaite Lane and the Hall Green Lane/A658 junction are in need of repair. Councillor Ryder agreed to notify the appropriate department and ask for corrective action to be taken.

9. Village Garden, Amenities and Activities.

9.1.HBC have offered to supply two fixed bins for the Garden and an extra wheelie bin for them to emptied into. After discussion it was decided to accept the offer of the additional fixed bins but not the extra wheelie bin as the bin in Beeston's Lane could be used for this purpose.

9.2.Party in the Garden and BBQ 2014. Dates agreed 7/8 June 2014. Detailed arrangements would be made nearer the date but in the meantime all councillors were asked to consider options for the tombola and raffle and to start collecting!

9.3.Village Christmas Dinner. To be held on 7 December 2013 at the Square and Compass. All invitees will be asked to bring a tombola prize. (in addition, in January 2014 an "Unwanted Xmas Gift" gathering will also be held at the Square and Compass, for all such gifts to be donated to charity.)

10. Correspondence – No items received.

11. Dates of next Meetings –

- Wednesday November 13 2013
- Wednesday January 8 2014. Both meetings to be held at North Rigton School at 7.30pm.

12. Meeting closed at 21.46 hrs.