

# North Rigton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held at North Rigton School 5

5th March 2014

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

Present:- Councillors Mary Hopkins (Chairman), Andrew Batcup (Vice Chairman), Barbara Massey, Jo Scott, Tim Bennett & Mike Richards (Clerk).

Apologies for Absence – Amanda Martyn, John Fort, Christine Ryder and PC Mark Ayre.

## 2. Approval and signing of Minutes; Matters arising

Minutes of the meeting of 8 January 2014 were considered.

2.1.1 Cold calling. St John's has now been made a declared "No cold calling" zone. Unfortunately it is not possible to "zone" the rest of the village, as such so the other option is to display "No cold calling" signs on properties. Stickers are available from the Chairman and Neighbourhood Watch representatives.

2.1.2 Church lighting – there is now a timer on the sensors, so lighting is automatically "on" for 30 minutes before and 30 minutes after the required period.

2.1.3 Litter bins. 4 new bins were now being emptied every 2 weeks by a village resident, on a trial basis. It was agreed to pay £10 per fortnight for this service, all "collections" being emptied into the Church wheelie bin. Clerk will establish a petty cash account of £100 to pay for this and other small disbursements.

2.1.4 Bank Mandate. As Councillors Scott and Bennett had been unable to complete the necessary documentation, it was agreed to retain the existing mandate.

There being no other amendments or comments, the minutes were approved for signature by the Chairman.

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

## 4. Administration.

4.1. To set a date for the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and the Annual Parish Meeting.

Clerk explained that the principal function of the AMPC was to elect the Chairman and to review such areas as insurance, risk management and internal financial control. This meeting must be held in May. The Annual Parish Meeting is where the Parish Council invites members of the public and the press to hear reports from the Chairman, District and County councillors, Neighbourhood Watch etc and can be held any time between 1<sup>st</sup> March and 30<sup>th</sup> June. It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held on 8<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00, followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

Clerk will approach Christine Ryder and John Fort to ask if they will report on any issues affecting North Rigton, from a District and County perspective, respectively

4.2 Declaration of Interests. Clerk explained that it was now a legal requirement for the formal Declaration of Councillors Interests to be published on the Parish Council website. He had explored other parish websites and concluded that the best option was a tabular format. After discussion, councillors agreed and the Clerk will produce a draft version for consideration at the next meeting.

4.3 Crime Statistics – 2013/14. PC Ayre forwarded the figures below, for information.

Offence	No. reported	Detected
Damage to vehicle	1	0
Theft	2	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>

Councillors noted the above and expressed satisfaction at the significantly reduced level from the previous year.

## 5. Finance.

### 5.1 Receipts and Accounts payable.

M Richards - £55.90, clerk expenses (stationery and printer cartridges).

#### **Agreed for payment.**

### 5.2 Receipts and Accounts payable - none.

5.3 Play equipment – children. Chairman has had various quotes ranging from £4500 - £10000 for additional play equipment and installation, in the village garden. Chairman proposed the best way forward was to establish a small group of councillors to consider the best option, which would, in any event, be dependant on receipt of a Lottery Grant. Councillors Hopkins, Massey and Scott agreed to get together for this purpose.

5.4 Outdoor equipment – adults. An interested individual has enquired whether permission can be given to run a “boot camp” on the School playing field? This would involve an instructor led exercise session being carried out in the same way as can be seen on week end mornings on Harrogate Stray. After discussion, councillors could see no objections and agreed to support the proposal in principle. The possibility of providing outdoor equipment (fixed) would be explored at a later date.

“Trim Trail” equipment on School playing field. Now in a bad state of repair (rotted support posts). In view of the fact that it was very unlikely that the School would be able to afford the cost of repair/removal it was agreed that the School be offered a grant of up to £500 to carry out the necessary repairs including appropriate amendments to the design of the support posts which would enable much longer durability.

## 6. Parish Plan

6.1 “Tea club”. Flyers have been distributed around the village and initial indications are that a good turnout can be expected. Venue will be the Square and Compass and the Parish Council wishes to express its thanks for this and also to the anonymous donor who has provided funding for the first meeting.

6.2 Village walk. Councillor Batcup suggested 4 walks to be organised in May, June, July and September. He was organising the first walk in May, starting from the Square and Compass, and details would be published in the Parish News. The June walk would be organised by John and Mary Hopkins, and Tim Bennett agreed to front the September event, but the July organised was still to be confirmed.

Some discussion ensued as to whether dogs should be allowed – it was agreed that no dogs would be encouraged for the first meeting, but for the following walks dogs would be permitted but on a short leash only.

6.3. Community Room. Positive signs of progress as a meeting is to be held later this month attended by the Rector, the Church Architect and Parish Council Chairman.

## 7. Planning

Current issues.

7.1 Almscliffe Manor. Planning application to increase size of Utility Room. Councillors did not object in principle but felt that development on the site had now reached its limit and further significant change would not be acceptable.

7.2 It was noted that there had been a number of missing notifications from HBC Planning to the Parish Council. The Clerk will write to the Chief Planning Officer (Mr G Bell) to bring these matters to his attention and ask for comments.

## 8. Highways, Footpaths and Verges

8.1 Cardale Park development. Further report by the traffic consultants, Jacobs, had now been received. We had been assured by HBC that this report would address the specific issues concerning North Rigton which had been omitted from the first version. This is still not the case. We will now need to raise this as part of our submission to the Inspector who is carrying out a formal examination of HBC's Development Plan Document

(DPD) in April and May. Councillors Hopkins and Batcup would get together with the Clerk to formulate this submission..

8.2 Potholes and verges. NYCC Highways have now taken some action on latest deteriorations as reported, but this issue still needs to be kept under review.

#### **9. Village Garden, Amenities and Activities.**

9.1 Litter pick – all arrangements made and equipment etc made available. Note to be inserted in Parish News.

9.2 Party in the Garden. Meeting to be arranged later in March at the Square and Compass – Chairman will organise.

9.5 Jubilee bench. Andrew Keane will be installing the bench later this month.

#### **10. Correspondence**

10.1 Letters had been received from the Church and Parish News, thanking the Parish Council for the donations made.

#### **11. Dates of next Meetings:-**

**Thursday 8 May 2014 (to include Annual Parish Meeting)  
Wednesday 2 July**

**Meeting closed at 22.22 hrs.**