

North Rigton Parish Council
Meeting held on Wednesday 3 July 2019 at 7.30 at the Village School

Present: Barbara Massey (Vice-Chairman), Lisa Edwards, Amanda Martyn, Tim Bennett, John Ellacott and Mike Richards (Clerk).

In attendance Cllr Stanley Lumley (NYCC) Also present, one parishioner.

- 1. Apologies for absence** –Apologies for absence were received from Mary Hopkins, and Victoria Oldham.
In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr Massey took the chair.
- 2. Agenda order variation and Declaration of Interests.** There were no declarations of interest and no requests for agenda variation.
- 3. Approval and signing of minutes,** matters arising.

The minutes of the last meeting held on 1 May were agreed as a true record and Councillors approved the minutes to be signed by the Chairman.

Reports on matters arising.

- a) Brackenwell Lane – housing development. Cllr Lumley confirmed that although the garage site had been initially identified as a potential site for housing, there have been no further developments. He also explained that some 50 locations in the district had been originally identified for potential housing development and 25 had been progressed. There is no timetable for or confirmation of, the Brackenwell Lane site to be developed.

4. NYCC/HBC Congestion consultation.

Councillors discussed the summary of the responses to the congestion “flyer” (appended to these minutes) which had been distributed to all residents, prior to deciding on the content of the Parish Council’s response. The parishioner was invited to comment on this issue and he made clear his total opposition to the question of a western by-pass. He then read out an extract from a document, produced by the HAPARA group, which seemed to suggest that the Parish Council supported the concept of a western by-pass. Cllr Massey responded that, whilst she and the Chairman had attended HAPARA meetings, at no point had they indicated formal support of a western by-pass. This has not been formally discussed by this Parish Council and is not therefore the view of the Parish Council. The parishioner welcomed this response. Cllr Lumley then added that a western by-pass had been one of the possible solutions considered but had been rejected on the grounds of a) cost and b) the minimal assessed impact on traffic flow (-7%)

Councillors agreed that the Parish Council’s response to the Congestion Study should stress that the solutions proposed to address the congestion issues could contribute directly to unacceptable increases in traffic flow and volume through surrounding areas such as North Rigton and neighbouring parishes. Furthermore, no regard seems to have been given to the new housing developments to the west of

Harrogate which will undoubtedly cause further traffic issues. Any solution to congestion problems should be developed for the whole of the district, not just the town centre. The clerk will draft the response accordingly.

5. Administration

a) GDPR – the clerk reminded councillors of the need to address the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation 2018. He will draft and circulate prior to the next meeting, a draft GDPR policy and associated documents. He also advised that he would need a lockable cabinet to store parish council personal data and he asked for approval for its purchase (cost to be shared equally with the clerk's other two parishes) Councillors agreed.

b) NYCC report - Cllr Lumley reported:

i) VAS – a number of parish councils had challenged the new NYCC protocol, arguing, amongst other things, that it should be a NYCC responsibility. NYCC response awaited. In the meantime, some 60 councils have applied for the existing scheme and NYCC has commenced the programme of identifying the sites for the (temporary) installation of VAS equipment. Cllr Lumley confirmed that he will make a contribution to the purchase of VAS from his Locality budget.

ii) With regret, the Council has approved an increase from £490 to £600 pa, for the cost of school transport for pupils 16 and over. The actual cost to NYCC is £900, but this is the first increase levied for a number of years. Safeguards will be put in place for those households in need.

iii) Cllr Lumley was pleased to report the success of Allerton Waste Recovery Park, in that North Yorkshire now has no landfill sites for waste disposal and, furthermore AWRP earns income through heat and electricity generation. He also encouraged all residents to maximise recycling of relevant waste as the cost of processing general household waste was £120 per ton against £20 per ton for recyclable waste.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Lumley for his contribution.

Cllr Lumley left the meeting at this point, at 8.25

6. Finance

Approval of expenditure. Items for approval were:

M Richards April Salary	£191.16
M Richards May Salary	£191.16
M Richards June Salary	£191.16
HMRC – PAYE	£44.04
HMRC – PAYE	£44.04
J&M Hopkins – printing	£52.45
YLCA – annual subscription	£203.00
BHIB Insurance	£288.59

S Bush – grasscutting	£330.00
R Chambers –internal audit	£40.00
GPM Builders	£115.79
M Richards – Defib pads	£37.14
S Bush grasscutting	£420.00
Gala entertainer	£350.00
Gala Float	£1000.00

Councillors approved the above 15 items.

7. Planning

a) No planning applications had been received

b) Decisions – Councillors noted the decisions notified for:

- i) 17/05345/FULMAJ – creation of new farmstead and erection of agricultural workers dwelling – field at High Moor Road, North Rigton – APPROVED
- ii) 19/01968/PBR conversion of agricultural building to form 1 dwelling – Kahala Barn, Beestons Lane, North Rigton – APPROVED
- iii) 19/01490/FUL – side extension with low level storage space - ! The Crescent, North Rigton. – REFUSED

c) Enforcement –HBC Enforcement Officer confirmed that investigation of the Rigton Grange issue had been delayed but was in hand.

8. Highways, footpaths, verges

a) VAS – following the comments by Cllr Lumley at 5 b) i) above, supported by the comments received from residents responding to the Congestion Survey, Councillors agreed that a submission should be made to NYCC for inclusion on the VAS scheme. The clerk will follow up.

b) Damage to verges, Rigton Hill. A resident and the clerk had both reported this incident (roadside “bollards” damaged by a tractor) to NYCC Highways, who had inspected and confirmed that there was no risk or damage to utility services at this point.

c) It had been noted that an individual had conducted a traffic survey on Hall Green Lane/ Church Hill. The clerk had contacted NYCC Highways who advised that the survey was part of a routine programme conducted by the Department for Transport. Statistics and traffic count data will be available in due course.

9. Village Garden, Amenities and Activities

a) Play equipment – as recorded previously, on current estimates, the cost of replacing the damaged equipment is likely to be some £14,000. Cllr Hopkins had calculated that this sum could be raised via contributions from Almscliffe Villages Community Association, the Parish Council itself, Cllr Lumley’s Community Fund and a £10,000 Lottery Grant. Councillors discussed in detail and the possibility of scaling down to a more affordable figure was favoured. It was agreed that a decision would

be made at the September meeting, in time for work to be completed so that the facilities would be available for use in Spring/Summer 2020.

b) Village Gala – another successful event with a profit of some £1400. Councillors reviewed the activities involved and it was noted that bar takings were the most significant item. Given this fact, Cllr Ellacott wondered if there was any scope for an additional event which included a bar? Councillors acknowledged this feature, but it was felt that the difficulties in organising such an event made it impracticable.

10. Correspondence received

a) The clerk informed councillors of an email he had received from a charitable organisation offering to maintain the community defibrillator, at a cost of £200 per annum. This service would include a weekly/fortnightly inspection of the equipment, replacement of expired pads and battery and loan of equipment should it prove necessary. Whilst the cost of pads (£40-£50) and battery (£400-£500) is significant, pads should last 2 years and batteries 4 years, so £200 pa contract cost would likely exceed the cost of replacements. On balance, councillors thought it more economical to arrange a local scheme whereby village volunteers, working on a monthly rota, carry out the regular maintenance checks. The clerk will publicise this initiative in the Village News, seeking volunteers. The possibility of arranging a training event on defibrillator use (for both North Rigton and Huby) will be pursued.

b) School Playing Field, Church Hill. Following the incidents of unbagged dog waste being left in the litter bins, Councillors discussed a proposal to ban the exercising of dogs on the school playing field. On balance, councillors were not persuaded of the need to ban dogs and it was also felt that if a ban were imposed it would be ignored. Additionally, it would be very difficult to enforce a ban. It was accepted however, that if instances of dog fouling becomes a regular feature, a ban would need to be considered. In the meantime, a sign will be produced to remind users of the field that it is a play area for children and if irresponsible dog owners do not collect dog waste, a ban will be imposed. Cllr Bennett will research the cost of such a sign. It was agreed that if the School wishes to erect a sign, the cost will fall on the School.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.25.

Date of next meetings:

Wednesday 4 September 2019, at the village school, commencing at 7.30pm

Wednesday 13 November 2019, at the village school, commencing at 7.30pm

Signed

(Chairman)

Date