

North Rigton Parish Council
Meeting held on Wednesday 8 January 2020 at 7.30 at the Village School

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

1. **Apologies for absence** –Apologies for absence were received from Mary Hopkins, Tim Bennett, Cllr. Victoria Oldham (HBC) and Cllr Stanley Lumley (NYCC).
2. **Agenda order variation and Declaration of Interests.** There were no declarations of interest.
3. **Approval and signing of minutes,** matters arising.

The minutes of the last meeting held on 13 November were agreed as a true record and Councillors approved the minutes which were signed by Cllr Edwards in the absence of the Chairman.

Reports on matters arising

- a) Parish road signs. As discussed at the November meeting, the clerk had investigated the supply and cost of size A3 signs to affix to posts on Rigton Hill, Church Hill and Hall Green Lane. He confirmed that the signs could be provided at a cost of some £40 each. Councillors agreed to the purchase of three signs, with the wording “Slow Down – Children”
- b) Waste collection – noted that the re-cycling bins on Rigton Hill had again not been collected. The clerk had contacted Cllr Oldham who observed that re-cyclable waste for collection over the Christmas period and beyond, had far exceeded normal volumes and additional collections were being made to cope with the backlog. Hopefully all bins will now have been emptied. If not, failed collections should be reported immediately, or within two days, to Customer Services, as recorded previously.
- c) Woodland Trust. Free trees for communities. Whilst several individuals had expressed interest in this scheme, it now appears that trees are only to be made available to communities, for community land. The clerk will follow up and clarify the position.

4. Administration

- a)The clerk had received a communication from HBC, promulgating its “Get Digital” scheme and asking for volunteers to become “Digital Champions” As a Digital Champion, individuals would have access to accredited training, resources and support. Once trained, Champions would be able to make a difference to someone’s digital skills and confidence, within the District. Councillors agreed it was a worthwhile scheme but did not feel able to pursue. The clerk will promulgate the initiative via the next edition of the “Village News”
- b) An email had been received from an individual seeking information about the possible availability of land within the Parish to construct an “eco- build” dwelling. The clerk had responded initially, advising that the availability of such land was extremely unlikely and also the categorisation of the majority of the village as Green Belt, would make such a venture virtually impossible anyway. Councillors agreed, affirming that there was in fact no development land available in North Rigton. A councillor did suggest that the clerk respond further to the individual, making him aware of the “Ecology Building Society” which may be able to provide helpful,

relevant advice.

5. Planning

a) Applications received – none.

b) Decisions

19/04503/FUL – Whitegates Farm, Harrogate Road

GRANTED

Councillors noted the above.

6. Highways, footpaths and verges

a) VAS (Vehicle Activated Signs) - the clerk is to meet with the NYCC Community Safety Officer who will carry out the necessary site survey to determine the best location for the VAS equipment and the siting of the poles to which it is fixed.

b) The clerk had been made aware of another possible traffic calming measure, that of the erection of white “picket fences” on the verges, on the approaches to the village. He had circulated photos of these picket fences and councillors agreed that the initiative was worthy of further consideration. They felt, however, that the reported cost of some £1500, was excessive and wondered whether “self-build” and installation was an option. The clerk will make enquiries of NYCC Highways.

7. Finance

a) Approval of expenditure. Items for approval were:

M Richards Oct Salary	£191.16
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HMRC PAYE	£44.04
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Yorkshire Water	£5.69
Stuart Bush – grasscutting	£165.00
I&T Lishman – grass verge cutting	£432.00
A&S Keane – gardening services	£669.75
HBC – ROSPA inspection	£66.00

Councillors approved the above 9 items of expenditure.

b) The clerk had circulated the bank reconciliation for the 2 months ended 31 December.

Councillors approved the statement and the Vice Chairman initialled the bank statements to agree.

c) The clerk confirmed that he had submitted the precept demand for 2020/21 of £8,800.

Councillors approved the 2020/21 budget as set out in the Budget Statement.

8. Village Garden, Amenities and Activities

a) Play equipment – as reported previously, the Chairman has researched the potential options for re-providing the play equipment and facilities. A costed plan is now in place to provide for:

- Removing the damaged equipment
- Repairing the soft-play surface
- Installing an agility cube suitable for children up the age of 13.
- Installing a Tyre Activity trail.
- Installing a new safety surface and a basket swing in the lawn area, suitable for all ages, even adults.

As reported at the November meeting, the costs of this venture are significant and a bid has been made for "Pocket Park" funding in association with AVCA. The Parish Council and AVCA will provide funds which will hopefully be matched by Pocket Park funding, allowing the project to be completed by 31 March 2020.

b) Councillors agreed that the date for the annual litter pick would be Saturday & Sunday 14 & 15 March 2020. Please meet at the War Memorial at 10am each morning. To volunteer, please contact Barbara Massey on 01423-733141.

Other matters

None.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.20.

Dates of next meetings:

Wednesday 4 March 2020, at the village school, commencing at 7.30pm

Wednesday 6 May 2020, at the village school, commencing at 7.30pm,
preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting, commencing at 7pm

Signed

(Chairman)

Date