

Scagglethorpe Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on

Tuesday 10th November 2020 at 7.00pm

using the Zoom video conferencing facility

1. Apologies for absence/Councillors present

Apologies were received from Councillor Maureen Danby-Smith. The reason given was accepted by the meeting.

Present: Councillors Paul Douthwaite(PD), Sheila Cook(SC), John Smyth(JS), Lee Walker(LW), Janet Bates(JB), Nancy Wilson(NW). Also present David Sonley(DS), Clerk. This Zoom meeting had been advertised to the public, but none were present.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record and would be passed to the chairman for signing after the meeting.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

5.3 Vehicle Activated Sign. The Clerk reported that we were still awaiting further information regarding the VAS installation on Main Street. The pole on which the equipment will be fixed had now been installed by NYCC.

6. Old Village Road. The Clerk had written to NYCC regarding the poor state of the roads in the old village. The response was that these roads were of much lower priority when compared to other roads elsewhere and did not warrant further maintenance at this time. Also that they are inspected at appropriate intervals and action taken if a problem is found. The meeting did not feel that that was a satisfactory response. We believe that other surrounding villages have similar problems in having their poor minor roads maintained and that they resort to repeatedly contact NYCC to get results. It was resolved that we should follow their example and contact NYCC again some time next year.

7. Implementation of Fibre in the village. Residences in the old part of the village were still not connected and the solution being implemented by BT contractors was to install a new set of overhead wires along the road. They had installed one new telegraph pole in Charleton Place and had marked the locations of two other poles on the verges by the road. These markers have since been removed and we are unsure of the status of the project. We understand that because of time and budget restrictions, if the poles are not installed, then fibre connections will not be made available.

8. Flooding behind Southwood. The Clerk had reviewed information on the web sites of Yorkshire Water, NYCC, RDC and the Environment Agency, and it was clear that as the water was passing through a conduit on private property, that none of these

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agencies would take responsibility for it. So the PC was not in a position to take further action.

4. Financial Statement and setting of next years precept

4.1 The latest bank reconciliation statement had been circulated to Councillors. There were no questions on the accounts.

4.2 Precept. The meeting discussed the Clerk's estimated of income requirement for next year. We are now buying street light electricity through NYCC. NYCC had previously indicated that they had a policy to convert street lighting to LED lamps. This should reduce our electricity bill further, but the cost to us of conversion could be significant. It was felt that we did not require the same level of precept as last year for the coming year, but we should make provision for conversion to LED lamps. PD reported that the beacon needed to be moved because the base was rotting, but that there should be no expense on the PC for this work. It was resolved that we should set a precept of £3000 for 2021-22 and that the Clerk should invite NYCC to our next PC meeting to discuss the lighting provision.

5. Correspondence/Clerks report

5.1 There will be no more Speedwatch sessions until after 2nd December when the Covid-19 restrictions ease.

5.2 PD had organised a tree inspection for this year to comply with our Risk Assessment policy. A number of none urgent actions had been identified and his report has been passed to the Clerk for retention.

6. Lorries on the pavement in the lower part of Main Street

Although we had engaged with NYCC who had stated that they would attempt to get budget for raising the pavement to prevent lorries using it, Councillors felt that we should gather evidence to provide a more substantive case for action and that we should involve local county councillors. The evidence should be gathered by the end of January and we should organise a separate discussion outside of our scheduled PC meeting. LW and JS make some observations and JS would attempt to position a camera to record the number of lorries passing and transgressions onto the pavement over a time period. We already had some measure of the numbers of large vehicle passing through the village from our previous surveys. As it was the time of year that all councils were discussing budgets for next year, DS would write to remind NYCC of the pavement upgrade offer.

7. Proposal for NYCC to become a unitary Authority

NYCC had formulated and documented a plan of how a single authority, excluding York, would operate. A consortium of local district councillors had put forward another plan to split North Yorkshire into two authorities, dividing east and west and including York. PD expressed concern that if RDC was dissolved, then the Ryedale Development Plan which governs future building development would also disappear

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and this may affect us and other communities. The meeting agreed that neither of the plans appeared to offer sensible savings and efficiencies and we should not offer our support for either. It was resolved that JB would draft a response to both of the bodies proposing the new plans indicating that we did not like the plan.

8. Community Grant resulting from the Scagglethorpe Manor Farm Development

As our last Parish Open Meeting in May did not take place, Councillors agreed that an alternative means of obtaining local opinions should now be sought. The money may be used to support multiple projects up to the value of the grant, and suggestions were made that it might be used to upgrade the play area facilities, provide a war memorial, or assist with the national campaign to reinstate lost public footpaths. We could drop a circular to all households in the village. DS would send Councillors a copy of the circular he had prepared prior to the cancelled May meeting last year, but was never distributed. It was resolved that councillors would discuss the matter outside of our meetings ready to discuss options at the next scheduled PC meeting in February.

9. Asset Register Review

The Clerk had previously circulated the Asset Register, last amended in November 2019, before the meeting. Councillors agreed that it was up to date and no amendment was necessary.

10. Risk Register Review

The Clerk had previously circulated the Risk Register, last updated in November 2019 before the meeting. Councillors agreed that no further amendment was necessary..

11. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 9th February 2021 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall (Subject to there being no social distancing requirements)

Signed by the Chairman of the February 2021 remote meeting after the date of that meeting.

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