

Skipwith Parish Council Meeting Minutes on Monday 2nd March 2020 at 8.00pm

Present: Councillors Jonathon Morgan (JM) (Chairman), Mike Ward (MW) Vice-Chairman, Claire Colthirst (CC), Kate Baxter (KB), Sharon Worrall (SW), Trevor Britain (TB)

Parish Clerk: Isobel Greatrex (IG)

Guest: County Councillor Richard Musgrave

666. Apologies: None

667. Declarations of interest not already declared under the council's Code of Conduct or members Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests: None.

Item No.	Discussion	Action by	Due Date
668	<p>Public session</p> <p>Further to the Parish Council receiving 5 letters regarding the speeding at the North Duffield/Skipwith road junction a number of residents living nearby attended the meeting to raise their ongoing concerns and suggested interventions for traffic calming.</p> <p>MW explained that the PC doesn't have any powers regarding speeding and therefore has engaged with Highways to obtain expert advice. The scheme for the proposed chicanes at the north and south sides of the village was proposed by Highways. In order for any actions to be taken the general public cannot monitor traffic through the village; it has to be conducted by the police for any further action to be taken. In addition, their financial resource and budgets have to be taken in to consideration. Highways look at collision and fatality statistics in order to take measures to reduce speeding and fortunately there have been no road fatalities in Skipwith, although it was pointed out there have been some near misses.</p> <p>A couple of suggestions were made by members of the public to calm traffic at the North Duffield junction, including speed bumps as they had been installed in Wheldrake. It was explained that Wheldrake comes under York district whereas Skipwith comes under North Yorkshire and North Yorkshire Highways department do not advise them.</p> <p>CC stated that the PC acknowledged there was a problem at the North Duffield junction and that the chicane proposal was the first stage of the traffic calming measures for the village and the situation would be reviewed once they were installed. The 30mph speed limit is now enforceable so police mobile speed cameras should also assist with the speeding problem. However, CC noted that the PC's budget would have to be borne in mind regarding any further interventions as the chicanes would be c. £12,000, although a grant of £2,500 was to be provided to help offset the cost.</p> <p>JM concluded the public session by thanking everyone for attending and informing them that the PC was hoping to make a final decision that night in relation to the north and south entrances to the village.</p>		
669	<p>Minutes of 6th January 2020 meeting were approved by all members of the PC as a true and accurate record. CC proposed and KB seconded.</p>		
670 670.1	<p>Information on the following ongoing issues and to decide further action where necessary:</p> <p>Highway Safety</p> <p>SW provided an update regarding progress and highlighted the new hoop bollards which should alleviate the issues which farmers may have when</p>		

	<p>driving through larger machinery. It was agreed that a meeting should still be convened between the farmers, Darren Griffiths from Highways and SW for any final comments.</p> <p>It was also requested that SW confirm with Highways that the hoop bollards had reflectors and for them to provide a programme of works and final costings. The PC agreed that the chicanes should be installed at the end of May, if possible.</p> <p>TB proposed the above actions and SW seconded.</p> <p>JM highlighted some other traffic issues which had arisen, namely the speed signs recently installed and the dead end sign previously at North House Farm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the clamp down on speeding, North Yorkshire Police has instructed contractors to install 30 mph speed limit signs to other entrances to the village; those being Westfield and Common Lane. The purpose of these signs is to facilitate the police in enforcing the speed limit through the village. Without these signs, motorists caught speeding could argue that they entered the village without passing a 30mph sign and so evade prosecution. <p>However, it is unfortunate to report that a member of the public took the law into their own hands and removed the set of speed limit signs on Common Lane within an hour of their installation. We have been made aware by North Yorkshire Council that these will soon be replaced with new ones but at an extra cost to the taxpayer.</p> <p>The PC had also received some correspondence regarding the installation of the derestricted sign at the end of Westfield. Unfortunately, a derestricted sign has to be erected or the speed limit is unenforceable.</p> <p>The Parish Council was not made aware of the installation of the impending enforcement signs. They were installed by the direct instruction of North Yorkshire Police.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The dead end sign which was previously in place outside North House Farm, at the top of Main Street, needs replacing as Orchard Homes are now landscaping the front of the barn, so JM volunteered to ask Orchard Homes to replace the sign. 	SW	Asap
670.2	<p>Street Lighting</p> <p>IG provided an update regarding the street lighting, informing the PC that all the street lights had now been connected. However, she had raised a complaint with Northern Powergrid as they had taken much longer to complete the works than their guaranteed service level advised. She was awaiting a response from them.</p> <p>She also wanted to express her thanks to Ken McCann from L.A.W. Electrical who had been extremely helpful and responsive in connecting the streetlights when Northern Powergrid had failed to do so.</p>	JM	Asap

670.3	<p>Defibrillator</p> <p>L.A.W. Electrical had provided a quote of £415.30 plus VAT to connect the defibrillator to the electrical supply in the phone box. It was agreed to go ahead with this work. CC proposed and TB seconded.</p> <p>It was agreed to hold a briefing session with the PC on 30th March at 7.30pm in the village hall so it could be trialled. TB volunteered to view the video and lead the session.</p>	IG All TB	Asap 30 th March Before 30 th March
Not an agenda item	<p>At 9.05pm County Councillor Richard Musgrave arrived to inform the PC that speed enforcement was going to start very soon in the village.</p> <p>JM thanked RM for the offer of a grant of £2,500 to assist with the chicane installation from the Locality budget. The PC expressed their appreciation.</p> <p>He also encouraged the PC to participate in the Local Plan consultation regarding the planning framework in Selby District. He stated that all planning should be appropriate to the scale of the village and of good quality design. The PC did express their views that when previous planning applications had been made in the village that, despite their responses, planning had gone ahead regardless.</p> <p>RM departed at 9.20pm.</p>		
670.4	<p>Grass Cutting Tenders 2020</p> <p>The PC had only received two tenders for grass cutting for the forthcoming year, despite best efforts to gain further interest. In total, 8 companies had been approached. It was agreed to accept the tender from York Landscapes as they had provided the best value for money tender and were also known by the PC. MW proposed and KB seconded.</p> <p>JM informed the PC that Ros Forbes- Adam had approached him suggesting that the PC may like to consider obtaining a “pond to pond” (Scarrow Green to Town End) ecological report as to how to improve the surroundings. The report would be conducted by Martin Hammond, a village pond expert. She had also kindly volunteered to fund it. The PC indicated they would be pleased to obtain said report.</p>	IG JM	Asap Asap
670.5	<p>Village Green</p> <p>A quote of £276 plus VAT from Lewis Tree Surgery had been obtained to shape the larger trees on the Green, including the removal of the Christmas lights. It was agreed to go ahead with this as soon as possible. CC proposed and KB seconded.</p> <p>MW confirmed he would prune all the small trees around the pond.</p> <p>IG informed the PC that some correspondence had been received about the reason for the felling of the large willow tree at the side of the pond. She had referred the writer to previous PC meeting minutes when the reasons had been noted i.e. the tree was diseased and was polluting the</p>	IG MW	Asap Asap

	pond. It was also a potential safety risk.		
670.6	<p>Scarrow Green Lewis Tree Surgery had made an excellent job of clearing and tidying up Scarrow Green. However, due to the depth of the water in the pond they were unable to remove the birch and scrub willow vegetation on the island in the middle. This work will be carried out in the Summer when the water will have reduced. They will retain the mature willow in the centre of the island.</p> <p>The PC would like to express their thanks to Phil Ansell for cleaning up and staining one of the benches on the Green.</p>		
670.7	<p>Pond Management Please refer to item no. 670.4.</p> <p>KB volunteered to contact Escrick PC and North Duffield PC regarding the maintenance of their ponds in order to obtain any further information which may be helpful.</p>	KB	Asap
670.8	<p>Asset Register JM updated the PC as to progress, although it was still proving difficult to ascertain the PC's land ownership. The Ministry of Housing had responded stating their records only go back 25 years. Selby District Council hadn't yet responded and the National Allotment Society had referred him to the National Planning Unit. Progress was ongoing.</p>	JM	Asap
670.9	<p>VE Day The village hall committee have organised a treasure hunt starting from the village green. As there will be no stalls or electrical equipment permission to approve this by the PC was not required.</p>		
671	<p>Planning The demolition of all the farm buildings at Park Farm was complete in preparation for the new housing development.</p> <p>No other planning updates had been brought to the PC's attention.</p> <p>A discussion took place regarding possible land ownership breaches of the paddock behind the Orchard Home development, Prospect House and the frontage of North House Farm. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Selby District Council's planning department to investigate further.</p>	IG	Asap

<p>672. 672.1</p>	<p>Matters Requested by Councillors Christmas Decorations (JM) It was proposed that new Christmas lights be obtained to decorate the two large trees, Christmas tree and notice board in plenty of time for Christmas. CC and JM volunteered to source them. CC to contact Ken McCann from L.A.W. Electrical to ask for some advice as to quantity.</p>	<p>CC/JM</p>	<p>Asap</p>
<p>673 673.1 673.1.1 673.1.2</p>	<p>Financial Matters <u>The following accounts for payment were approved:</u> Lewis Tree Surgery - £751.20 for work on the Village Green Lewis Tree Surgery - £1,363.20 for work on Scarrow Green (late presentation of invoice so not itemised on agenda) Parish Clerk's salary CC proposed and KB seconded all of the above payments.</p>		
<p>674 674.1 674.2 674.3 674.4</p>	<p>Correspondence A thank you letter from Mr Russell, Head teacher at North Duffield Primary School was received regarding the PC's donation towards the transport costs to the Christingle service at St Helen's church. No.18 Evening Bus Service A request had been made to request a contribution towards the funding for this service at a cost of £175.90. SW proposed and KB seconded. Sewage Pumping Station The pumping station at the end of Westfield is not working properly, hence there being a tanker there throughout the day and night. A resident has already been in touch with Environmental Health to try to resolve the issue. The PC agreed to contact Yorkshire Water to see what can be done to rectify the problem and to highlight to them that there has been a history of pump failures, although Yorkshire Water had previously informed the PC there were no issues and none would arise due to the new housing developments in the village. Wild Flower Meadow Correspondence had been received from a resident regarding the potential utilisation of this area. Having viewed the lease and allocated site the resident decided that the area was too small to put in to practise any of his ideas.</p>	<p>IG</p>	<p>Asap</p>
<p>663</p>	<p>Matters for Inclusion on the Agenda for the Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highway Safety • Street Lighting • Defibrillator • Village Green • Pond to Pond report 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Asset Register• Communication i.e. items to communicate through Round Up or Facebook• Fire Safety		
	Meeting closed at 10.30pm.		
	Next meeting date is: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4th May at 7.30pm		