

**Draft Minutes Skipwith Parish Council Meeting
Village Hall Monday at 7.30pm 11th September 2017**

Present Councillors Glynnis Smith, Noel McCool, Sharon Worrall and Trevor Britain

432. Apologies and declarations of interest

Councillor Andrew Faulkes sent his apologies

No declarations of interest

433. Public Session

5 members of the public present.

Focus of session was the proposed village Play and Recreational area. The Chair indicated aspects of the project required considering and had listed these on the agenda including management.

Bill Innis and Tim Cullum stated that they had viewed a considerable number of children's play areas since August 21st meeting and held discussions with Playscheme, the play equipment supplier and were now able to make a presentation to Parish Council. The presentation included four options focused mainly on children's play equipment with estimated installation costs. The play equipment had a ten-year life span.

Potential sources of grants were identified, as well as possible local business support..

A discussion took place between members of public present where issues associated with lack of consultation and appropriateness of options were raised-including the exclusion of differing age groups/ interests from proposed play and recreation area. The difficulty of securing grants for play areas was referred to.

The effort involved in drawing up options was acknowledged and commended but was considered by the Parish Council to be premature. Whilst the PC was aware Bill Innis and Tim Cullum had offered to explore options at the meeting of 21st August, the PC decided it was not at the stage to accept, but would consider doing so, if and when appropriate. All drawings and options were retained by Tim Cullum.

The Council explained that it had initiated its own consultation process with residents to identify and consider ideas for use of recreational area.

The appropriateness of doing this was questioned as the area had already been designated a children's' play area for primary school children. Councillors acknowledged this fact, but believed the initial consultative process had not been sufficiently wide. Parish Councillors were mindful that accessing funding from external sources was dependent on evidence of consultation and a comprehensive project plan. Residents involved in drawing up the initial sample plan were representative of a section of the community. At that point in time, this group of residents indicated they were not prepared to form a management committee or fundraise in support of their proposal.

Councillors explained that the meeting of 21st August had been informative. The meeting had determined that members of the village community had reservations about the initial sample plan and many of those present were not supportive. The Council, in response, had decided to attempt to broaden support for the project by appealing to other age groups and interests through a consultation exercise. A

form was distributed to all householders in the parish. The PC already had comprehensive information and plans for a children's play area so the focus of consultation had been to explore other potential recreational uses.

The Council expressed its disappointment that a flyer (source presently unconfirmed) had been distributed to properties within village, specifically referencing the Council's communication. The PC felt the flyer was unhelpful.

434. The resignation of the clerk Julie Eshelby had been received on Tuesday 5th September. The post of clerk to the Parish Council will be advertised through the website, the noticeboard outside The Old Post Office, Round Up and the Yorkshire Local Council Association website. In the meantime, Councillors Noel McCool and Glynnis Smith would share the role.

Access to the email for the clerk would need to be clarified by **Councillor Glynnis Smith**

435. Co-option for the Vacancy of Councillor.

There has been some issues due to a lack of communication between the clerk, parish councillors and those who had expressed an interest in the vacancy. It was agreed the PC consult Selby District Council Electoral Officer to seek guidance on way forward. **Councillor Noel McCool**

The PC knows of three individuals who have expressed an interest in the vacancy.

436. Reports Selby District Councillor and County Councillor None were received though the local councillor was in attendance and spoke to the meeting about harnessing the enthusiasm of the local community.

437. Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 10th July 2017

The minutes were approved as an accurate record, proposer Councillor Sharon Worrall seconder Councillor Trevor Britain

438.. Minutes 24th July revised Planning Application North House Farm. These minutes were not available and therefore will be postponed till the November meeting.

439.. Minutes of Meeting Monday 21st August 2017

The minutes were approved as an accurate record, proposer Councillor Trevor Britain seconder Councillor Noel McCool

440. Matters arising

The information relating to the precept from Selby District Council had not been received. **Councillor Glynnis Smith** would enquire whether a request had been made by the previous clerk and try to ensure information was with the Council for the November meeting.

A date for the Energy Doctor needs to be arranged in consultation with Mrs Edna Cooper

441. Village Greens/Ponds

Contact with residents during consultation process has highlighted concerns to the state of both locations. It was agreed to seek improvement to Town End Pond and to

gather proposals. It was agreed that Jeremy Massey would be asked to trim round the trees and try a different way of cutting the grass.

The PC would explore training courses leading to accreditation for spraying weed suppressant

Action Noel McCool.

442. Village Sign.

It was agreed to seek reinstatement of sign.

Parish insurance policy will be viewed to determine whether claim is appropriate and

Action Noel McCool.

443. Play and Recreational Area (this item was discussed after the public session)

a. Marking out area: Whilst a post has been driven into ground – area has not been accurately marked out – Andrew Faulks to be contacted to establish whether Escrick Park estate have agreed to delineate boundary.

b. Offer to cut the grass: whilst it was noted Tim Cullum had asked for permission to cut grass, the council indicated that the land at present is not covered by Parish insurance. In addition the council is required to check that persons working for it have the appropriate competencies and public liability insurance to complete works. While the response of the Council was challenged by members of the public-, the Council reiterated that it has to manage formal requests appropriately.

A further offer to pay for grass cutting was declined as it was identified at this moment in time cutting the grass was not necessary.

c. Entrance to area: a tendering process will be initiated to seek quotes from three approved companies for the entrance to the play area. This planning consent requirement. Action Noel McCool.

Management of Project: It was agreed that Councillor Noel McCool should manage the project

d. Feedback from circulated forms: It was noted residents had suggested potential recreational uses including an area for football, basketball, adult exercise equipment and imaginative play for children. A significant number of responses suggested seating such as benches and a picnic area whilst mention was made of a community garden and a barbecue. Many residents also took the opportunity to express their concern at the lack of communication, appropriateness of the initial sample plan for the Play and Recreation area and raised question on funding.

All responses will be written up and circulated

Concerns were raised by councillors that the entrance to the field enabling contractors to access the play and recreational area may be too small for their vehicles. It is only a single gate. Request to Charlie Forbes Adam to consider widening the gate.

444. Street Lights: Law Electrical will be repairing the faulty street lights within the next two weeks. Discussions with the company indicate likelihood of increased costs of materials to repair the lights. It was agreed to seek a quote for the cost of LED

lighting. Also agreed to ask company to fit an extension lead of approximately two metres with two sockets to replace the cable that was accidentally cut .

Action Councillor Glynnis Smith

445. Refurbishment of benches: deferred to November meeting

446. Christmas Lights: deferred till November and councillors to check on current stock of lights. PC would explore the possibility of lighting around the noticeboard at Town End Pond

447. Correspondence

a. Thank you card Mr Geoff Eastwood was shared

b. Booking form Village Hall was signed by Councillor Glynnis Smith

c. Collection of email addresses to support communication. The idea had been raised previously that communication across the parish could be improved by using email address. Residents would need to agree to the sharing of their addresses and if they objected then fliers could be used instead. It was acknowledged that some residents did not have email and would need a flier.

Decision to collect email addresses agreed: proposer Councillor Trevor Britain and seconder Councillor Noel McCool.

d. Letter from MR and Mrs J Morgan complementing the Parish Council on consulting the community about the Play and Recreation area

448 Allotments: a tree was removed from the allotment site. Agreement from the PC is needed to plant trees on the site.

449 Planning

North House Farm

Planning Applications Received:- The application for a storage facility was sited in the Barlby parish on the Market Weighton Road. No plans supplied – Councillor Noel McCool to view plans at SDC and report back to councillors.

Planning Applications Granted:

The Play and Recreation Area was signed off by Selby District Council

450. Finance

Payments to be agreed None (awaiting communication from ex clerk)

Income – None (awaiting communication from ex clerk)

451. Clerk's report None

452. Representatives reports. None

453. Agenda items for next meeting

Projection of finances

Precept information from Selby District Council

Energy Doctor

Refurbishment of benches

Church Lighting

Christmas Lights

Dates for PC meetings in 2018

Update of website

Minutes of the July meeting

Request for planning consultant in relation to proposed development of Red House Farm

454. Date for next meetings – The date for next meeting is Monday 23rd October 2017 at 7.30. This meeting will focus on the Play and Recreational area.

The date of the following meeting is Monday 13th November at 7.30