

# Scrayingham Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council Annual Meeting

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2013 at 19:30 hrs. at Leavening Methodist Hall

### Attendees:

Newby Groves ('NG')  
Phil Jones ('PJ', Chair)  
Mrs Linda Scott ('LS')  
Mrs Carolyn Stone ('CS')  
Mervyn Stone ('MS')  
Neil Jacques ('NJ')  
Mrs Sue Elsey ('SE')

Councillor Caroline Goodrick ('CG')  
Ms Jan Devos ('JD')  
Ms Sarah Jacques ('SJ')

*Phil Jones thanked all those present for attending the meeting.*

### 1. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

The minutes of the previous meeting of 10/12/2012 were accepted as correct and duly signed by PJ.

### 2. Matters Arising

All matters arising were covered as agenda items.

### 3. Financial Report, Audit and Expenditure Items

#### a) Report

PJ provided a Statement of Accounts and Financial Report, confirming that the first Precept payment was due from Ryedale District Council in April 2013, following the previous 'Precept Holiday'.

#### b) Hall Hire

Cheque No 100070 for £12 was countersigned by MS for provision to LMT for hire of the Hall on 08/04/2013. [Note: PJ provided cheque to LMT after the meeting]

**c) Parish Council Insurance**

PJ also reported that having sought quotations from 3 insurers and having had further discussion with Came and Company, they had provided a revised quotation for £159.00 for Parish Council Insurance – a reduction of around £100, this being a specialised policy for small Parish Councils with few assets and no children’s play apparatus to maintain.

**Action 1:**

*PJ to complete necessary forms to activate insurance policy*

A cheque for this amount was signed by PJ and countersigned by SE at the meeting following authorisation to proceed from the previous meeting.

**d) Audit**

**Action 2:**

PJ ran through the audit process for 2012/13.

*PJ to complete necessary paperwork to support Audit sign-off at the next meeting.*

He would produce an up-to-date completed Statement of Accounts and associated documentation, including a Bank Reconciliation Statement, and the Receipts and Payments book, for sign-off at the next meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2013 and subsequent submission to Tony Denness for Internal Audit.

Governance of the PC was discussed and it was agreed by all that no changes were required in the measures designed to ensure the PC managed its finances and any risk incumbent upon it due to the actions of councillors and the management of finances.

PJ discussed the external audit report and highlighted the requirement to ensure that this year’s papers were submitted on time and that adequate insurance of assets was in place. *Note: LS agreed to liaise with PJ to ensure timescales were met. PJ was already in the process of arranging insurance.*

PJ advised that he would complete a Statement of Variances this year as we had received no Precept, as agreed, during 2012/13 (this being a variance on income).

PJ advised that the Register of Assets had been updated to include the Telephone Kiosks that were purchased from BT.

He also advised that an inspection of assets would be undertaken and reported at the next meeting.

**4. Broadband Proposals**

JD and CG kindly provided updates over the latest position on Broadband provision. Very little progress had been made and the ITT had not yet been issued. It was not clear at this stage whether Scrayingham and Leppington could be included as a ‘line of site’ technical solution now did not appear to be practicable due to the presence of trees in the villages.

**Action 3:**

*CG to report any progress.*

NYNet had failed to respond to a request for information on their website by PJ.

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## 5. Scrayingham Church Hall

CS had placed some considerable effort in researching the plot of land and the access over the land on which the Church Hall resides, as it is now in the process of being sold by the Church. As the money from the sale should go back into the Parish to assist in the upkeep of St Peter and St Paul, it is of vital importance that the value of the property is maximised and that the Church goes into the sale attaching the most favourable attributes to the property in terms of plot size and access. It was not clear at the time of the meeting exactly where the boundaries of the property lay.

### **Action 4:**

*PJ to liaise with Fran Wakefield and to seek assurances that all monies would go back into the Parish rather than being dispersed in other areas.*

### **Action 5:**

*CS to liaise further with Peter Pace over boundaries and access.*

## 6. Planning

It was agreed that as the Local Plan for Ryedale was nearing completion that comments would be provided to Ryedale at the earliest opportunity. It was agreed by all that the ongoing drainage issues in Scrayingham currently preclude any future recommendations in favour of planning permission for additional homes in the village.

### **Action 6:**

*PJ to collate any comments from the PC regarding Forward Planning and to submit to Ryedale at the earliest opportunity.*

## 7. General Highways Issues

PJ advised that as a result of the exceptionally bad weather, the pothole situation had become chronic. MS and PJ had reported several areas that currently represented a danger to road users. CG advised that the Highways Agency were well aware of this and that repairs had been delayed until the temperatures were high enough to guarantee no frost.

### **Action 7:**

*PJ/MS to monitor the situation.*

## 8. Phone Kiosks and Village Improvements

No progress had been made in Scrayingham over improvements; PJ reported that he had sought a quotation from a local builder for provision of stone plinths to bear the village name and neighbourhood watch signs.

### **Action 8:**

*VIC members to progress as soon as convenient.*

## 9. Drainage in Scrayingham

The matter was discussed at length. CG had attended a number of meetings, including one with George Winn Darley who owns the land through which stretches of the affected Goit flows. In summary, if he were to be prepared to clear the goit where it is currently blocked at the Treatment Plant outflow, it would facilitate attendance by the EA who could then correctly observe and measure the levels and frequency of pollution of the Goit. Any evidence of pollution would then allow the EA to take the necessary official action with Yorkshire Water who are responsible for meeting their discharge terms. This matter is currently under further discussion.

### **Action 9:**

*PJ to write to Ryedale seeking a summary of progress.*

PJ thanked CG on behalf of the Parish for her efforts so far in helping to progress this matter.

## 10. Any other business

### a) Environment

It was agreed by all that it would be beneficial to all to provide a habitat for Barn Owls through acquisition and positioning of an Owl Box near each village. These were available from a local parishioner for £60 and it was proposed by MS that two boxes should be acquired. This was seconded by PJ. Thought needed to be placed into location of the boxes. PJ advised that as there was a box on Leavening Lane, a second box could be positioned in the Oak tree (or nearby on Brian Binns' land) just outside Leppington Village.

#### **Action 10:**

*PJ to speak to Mr and Mrs Binns.*

#### **Action 11:**

MS advised that he would approach George Winn Darley over the positioning of a box at Scrayingham.

*MS to speak to GWD to query*

***There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:55 hrs. Dates for future meetings would be placed on the Website. All were to note that the next meeting would be at 18:30 Hrs on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2013, being the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. This would be followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 19:30.***