

Scrayingham Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 9th December 2013

19:30 hrs, Leavening Methodist Hall

Attendees in alphabetical order:

Newby Groves
Phil Jones ('PJ', Chair)
Mrs Linda Scott ('LS')
Mervyn Stone ('MS')
Mrs Sue Elsey ('SE')
Ms Jan Devos ('JD')

Simon and Kerry Flounders
Stewart & Sandra Wood

Apologies:

Mrs Carolyn Stone ('CS')

Phil Jones thanked all those present for attending the meeting and explained the agenda order, and also the order and manner of speaking as members of the Parish had attended with a view to commenting, by invitation of the council, upon the Planning item relating to Poplar House Farm.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

The minutes of the previous Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on 30/09/2013 were accepted as correct and duly signed by PJ.

2. Matters Arising

All matters arising were covered as agenda items.

3. Financial Report

a) *Report*

PJ provided a Financial Report, indicating no further expenditure since the previous meeting.

b) *Expenditure Items*

- Cheque No <100075> for £12 was countersigned by MS for provision to LMT for hire of the Hall on 09/12/2013. [Note: PJ provided the cheque to LMT

after the meeting]

- Expenditure of £700.00 was approved for footpath clearance (see 10, below)

Action 1:

MS and PJ to make the necessary payment to Highways upon the receipt of an Invoice.

4. Planning Matters

Poplar House Farm

Action 2:

A Retrospective Planning application had been made by Mr and Mrs Wood of Poplar House Farm for the erection of an Agricultural Structure to house their dairy herd. Several outbuildings had been demolished and replaced with a single outbuilding. PJ advised that he had explored the matter and that the structure met the requirements of an agricultural build in terms of its construction and use. Mr (StW) and Mrs Wood were then invited to comment on the following aspects of the work, upon which members of the community and the Parish Council had sought clarification:-

PJ to circulate draft letter to SPC members regarding the application.

Noise

StW commented that the noise from the area of the farm now used as a dairy was no louder than a busy road and added that fewer tanker visits were involved and less farm activity as there were now fewer farms in use in the village. He added that the noise from the equipment used in the milking shed had been measured by the installers and was in their view within acceptable limits.

Size of Operation

StW stated that the herd size was currently under 100 but might increase to 300 in the future.

Slurry Management Regime

StW indicated that any slurry resulting from the operation would be held in existing clamps prior to export to other farms.

Planning Application

StW also stated that advice from RDC planning officers regarding planning requirements appeared to have been inconsistent and that he had visited Mr Gary Housden for further clarification.

Neighbouring Properties

Mr & Mrs Simon (SF) and Kerry Flounders were then invited to speak as they had expressed concern over the impact of the new farming operation upon them as neighbours. SF stated in response to StW that he was one of seven villagers who had expressed concern to RDC about the operation at Poplar House Farm and was not the only complainant. He advised that they were being disturbed by noise from the building that had recently been equipped and used as a milking parlour, adding that the operation was 16m from their property.

PJ noted these concerns advised that this matter, which, whilst connected with the overall operation of the dairy, did not actually relate to the planning application in question.

MS sought clarification over the type of pump in use in the dairy and whether it was of a type that could be operated quietly. StW advised that it was the same pump that had been used in Manor House Farm. This was to determine whether steps could be taken to lessen the impact of the noise on the surrounding properties.

There being no further comment from Mr & Mrs Wood or Mr & Mrs Flounders, PJ thanked them for attending the meeting.

Conclusion

It was the view of the Parish Council that the desired outcome of the matter was that the farming operation would be conducted in such a way as to minimise the impact on surrounding properties; this approach would be a matter for Mr & Mrs Wood to consider. PJ confirmed that he would write to Ryedale Planning indicating that there would be no objection to the application, but that SPC were seeking confirmation from RDC that in considering the matter, they would explore the areas of concern surrounding the impact of the operation.

5. Parish Clerk

a) *Appointment of Clerk*

PJ thanked Ms Sheena Flowers for attending the meeting and she was subsequently unanimously confirmed as Parish Clerk .

Action 3:

PJ to make the necessary arrangements for SF to begin her work.

6. Scrayingham Church Hall

MS reported that a well-attended meeting in Scrayingham had been Chaired by Peter Pace of the PCC, during which options for sale of the Hall and an offer made by the Estate were discussed. The offer from the Estate has been placed on hold while further work was undertaken by the Church to determine the best way forward.

Action 4:

No current action required.

7. Drainage and Pollution in Scrayingham

Yorkshire Water had advised PJ that a programme of remedial work to the drainage infrastructure had been costed and that "... the approximate cost to refurbish the sewers at south end of village are in the region of £50,000 - £60,000. For this reason, the work has placed on our Business Risk Model, as there are no immediate concerns at present"

Action 5:

PJ to continue to report progress and attend meeting with YW as required

PJ stated that he was awaiting the setup of a conference call with YW and GWD to discuss the option of establishing a relief drain to capture a proportion of the surface water before it enters the network of drains, thereby alleviating the volume of water currently having to be carried by the pumps.

8. Broadband Proposals

Action 6:

PJ reported that no further progress had been reported on rural broadband roll-out although GWD appeared to be keen to provide some private capital in Scrayingham and for villagers to join him by making their own contributions. It was not clear which type of solution this might buy.

JD to investigate and report back.

9. Phone Kiosks and Village Improvements

a) Phone Kiosks

Action 7:

PJ had spoken with George Winn Darley, and agreed to have the paint for the Scrayingham kiosk to delivered to Buttercrambe Hall..

PJ to order paint (see previous minutes).

b) Owl Boxes

Action 8:

PJ advised that MS had collected an owl box from William Day and delivered it to Leppington Mill. At the next opportunity, PJ would site the box up the Oak Tree near the dip in the road on the Leppington to Bugthorpe Lane.

PJ to site box in Oak Tree.

c) Village Signs

Action 9:

PJ reported that the Highways Agency had responded and were about to provide a quotation for the provision of a new 'Leppington' village name sign.

PJ to act accordingly upon receipt of quotation.

10. Footpaths and Bridleways

Action 10:

MS had been in discussion with the Environment Agency who indicated that there might be funding available to clear the footpaths and bridleway leading to Howsham. It was agreed that SPC should provide £700 of funding to add to this from its reserves.

PJ and MS to discuss further once more detail becomes available.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21:10 hrs. Dates for future meetings would be made available for viewing on the Parish Council Website.