

Scrayingham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 30th September 2013

19:30 hrs, Leavening Methodist Hall

Attendees:

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

Apologies:

Newby Groves ('NG')

Phil Jones thanked all those present for attending the meeting and also apologised for having to move the meeting dates due to work commitments.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

The minutes of the previous Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on 13/05/2013 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 an opening FY 2013/14 balance of £5,677.83 and annual expenditure of £291.00 to date. Receipt of the second Precept payment had been received from Ryedale District Council on 12/09/2013.

b) Expenditure Items

Cheque No <100074> for £12 was countersigned by MS for provision to LMT for hire of the Hall on 30/09/2013. [Note: PJ provided the cheque to LMT after the meeting]

There were no other items of expenditure to report

4. Co-option of Councillor and appointment of Parish Clerk

a) Councillor Co-option

PJ welcomed Ms Jan Devos to the meeting and indicated the unanimous wish of the council for him to propose that she should be appointed as a councillor forthwith, which was seconded by MS. JD duly accepted, and PJ subsequently welcomed her to the Parish Council.

Action 3:

PJ to arrange for JD to complete the necessary Acceptance of Office and Declaration of interests forms. NB – Other councillors to update their forms and submit directly to RDC.

b) Appointment of Clerk

PJ advised that he was to arrange to visit Sheena Flowers with the intention to invite her to the next Parish Council Meeting to meet the Councillors with a view to being considered for the position of Parish Clerk.

Action 4:

PJ to report on outcome of meeting.

5. Scrayingham Church Hall

PJ reported that he had received a copy of a notification from the Land Registry to indicate that the Aldby Park Estate was in the process of claiming Adverse Possession of the land at the front of Scrayingham Church Hall. The PC were able to view supporting documentation from the Estate making the case for ownership and/or occupation of the land. The following observations were made during the resultant debate;

Action 5:

PJ to liaise with various parties if requested.

- It appeared that the Estate could not be in a position to prove ownership of the land, otherwise there would be no requirement for it to attempt to claim Adverse Possession. CS advised that Peter Pace would be taking the matter up with the Land Registry on behalf of the Church Committee.
- Members of the Parish, including the Parish Council itself had used the land for many years. In the case of the PC, this could be born out in its historic minutes.
- The supporting documentation provided by the estate included a letter sent to the Estate by Mr Les Allen, former Chairman of the Parish council. MS (as Vice Chairman of the PC during this time) emphasised that Mr Allen, now sadly departed, was not operating under the remit of the Parish Council, supported by the fact that his letter was not signed on behalf of the Parish Council.
- Whilst it was desirable that the best sale price for the Hall should be achieved in order to provide funding to maintain the Church of St Peter and St Paul as a benefit to the community, the matter was an issue for the Church to resolve.

CS proposed that the PC should, upon request, provide any supporting documentation that might ensure that the full facts over usage of the land are available to all parties. This was seconded by PJ.

6. Drainage and Pollution in Scrayingham

PJ reported that YW commenced a programme of survey and repair work in Scrayingham. Drains had been investigated by camera and various areas for repair had been identified, some of which had already been dealt with. Others would follow once further investigation had taken place. YW had established that there appear to be a number of undocumented connections to the drainage system from properties within the village, and this warranted further examination.

YW had subcontracted George Winn-Darley to clear out the Goyte to the West side of the village where it had become silted up with mud and sewage. The work had immediately re-established a flow of water along the length of the Goyte, allowing surface water to drain through from further up the village. It was also possible now to measure and test output from the Waste Treatment plant. MS confirmed this to be the case having monitored the situation and provided documentary photographs.

PJ stated that SPC would continue to monitor YW's progress, and in particular 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.

PJ added that he had been kept advised of progress by YW throughout the whole process and was expecting to be invited to a further meeting as representative of the Parish Council.

Action 6:

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

7. Broadband Proposals

PJ reported that he had been in touch with MP Anne McIntosh (MP for Thirsk, Malton and Filey) to seek an update on progress over rural broadband roll-out. *[Post meeting note:- Mrs McIntosh received and forwarded a letter from David Cameron providing a general update but which contained only limited substance in terms of resultant action in Leppington and Scrayingham]*

Action 7:

SPC to continue to lobby accordingly

8. Phone Kiosks and Village Improvements

a) Phone Kiosks

PJ advised that the residents of Leppington, including Sue Elsey, Russ and Linda Scott had done a very good job in restoring the Telephone Kiosk in Leppington.

JD had spoken with George Winn Darley, and he had agreed to provide resource to paint the kiosk in Scrayingham. PJ proposed that he would order another tin of the specialist paint to provide to GWD, and this was seconded by SE.

Action 8:

PJ to order another tin of paint (approximately £65) in accordance with the Village Improvement Budget agreed previously.

b) Owl Boxes

MS advised that he had acquired the 2 Owl Boxes built by William Day and was now looking to confirm the positioning of a box near Leppington. It was agreed that subject to a closer survey, the Oak Tree at the end of the lane to Leppington Mill on the Bugthorpe to Stamford Bridge road, would be a good position.

Action 9:

PJ and MS to visit site.

c) Village Signs

It was proposed by LS that SPC should seek a quotation from the Highways Agency for the provision of a new 'Leppington' village name sign. This was seconded by SE.

Action 10:

PJ to seek a quotation from Simon Lythe at the Highways Agency.

9. Footpaths and Bridleways

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 suggested that SPC could provide some funding to add to this from its reserves, and to provide some volunteers from the community.

Action 11:

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.