

# Scrayingham Parish Council

## Minutes of the Scrayingham Parish Council Meeting Held on Monday 7 September 2015 At 7.30pm in Scrayingham Church

**Attendees:** Mrs S Elsey, Ms S Flowers (Parish Clerk), Mr P Jones (Chairman), Mr D Livsey, Mrs L Scott, Mr M Stone

**Apologies:** Mrs C Stone, Ms J Devos

**Absent:** Mr H Hildyard

**Present:** Mr D Trueman & son (for item 9)

Mr D Livsey was welcomed to his first meeting of Scrayingham Parish Council.

### 1. Minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2015 and Matters Arising (not elsewhere on the agenda)

The minutes of the meeting held 13 July 2015 were approved.

### 2. Financial, Audit, Ongoing Budget & Risk Assessment

#### Audit

The External Audit Report had been received that day. The External Auditors reported that no matters had come to their attention which gave cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met. However, they did draw attention to the fact that the return had not been completed correctly, as the name of the Parish Council had been omitted from Sections 2 and 4. They also drew attention to the Internal Auditor's comments with regard to weaknesses in relation to approval of financial regulations, preparation of an itemised budget and the review of the formal risk assessment. These points are presently being addressed.

#### Risk Assessment

Nothing further to report, the risk assessment had been covered in the meeting held on 13 July 2015.

#### Budget

It was noted that a precept holiday was presently being enjoyed and plans were being put in place for funds to be used for community projects and also as a reserve in case an election is required.

### 3. Internet Banking

**It was proposed and seconded that S Elsey and P Jones should be authorised to undertake internet banking on behalf of the Parish Council**

**Proposed: M Stone**

**Seconded: L Scott**

It was highlighted that two Councillors would always be required to complete transactions.

### 4. Contract of Employment for Parish Council

A contract of employment is required by the Parish Clerk. P Jones is to obtain a suitable contract under advice from the YLCA (see item 7) for circulation to Councillors for approval.

**PJ**

It was agreed item 9 should be taken next on the agenda.

### 9. Broadband Proposals

P Jones advised he had been informed by a resident of Leppington of the possibility of Leppington village obtaining improved broadband speeds via a mast which could potentially provide line of sight broadband.

D Livsey and M Stone reported that as a result of works to the Skirpenbeck cabinet, there was a possibility Scrayingham could potentially enjoy increased broadband speeds by mid-December 2015. However, this was not guaranteed and it was generally accepted that superfast broadband would never be received.

There is now general dissatisfaction from residents about the poor broadband received as this impacts on both professional and leisure activities and also puts younger residents at a disadvantage in undertaking school work. It was proposed a petition and letter should be drawn up, to be delivered to David Cameron MP. S Flowers to draft a suitable petition for circulation in both villages.

**PJ/DL/SF**

**Proposed: M Stone**

**Seconded: D Livsey**

It has now been arranged that Kevin Hollinrake, the MP for our area should meet with Scrayingham Parish Council on Saturday 17 October 2015 at 10.30am to discuss broadband issues.

D Livsey is to produce a brief to be forward to Mr Hollinrake to appraise him as to the background with regard to broadband in the villages.

**DL**

Mr Trueman and his son left the meeting at this point.

## 5. Public Rights of Way

Two letters of complaint regarding the state of public footpaths had been received. One letter had initially been directed to North Yorkshire County Council, the other was received by the Parish Council.

After discussion it was proposed that P Jones should write to the landowners, requesting they arrange for the footpaths to be cleared.

**PJ**

**Proposed: S Elsey**

**Seconded: D Livsey**

## 6. Planning Matters

An application had previously been received from Mr S Wood for further development at Poplar House Farm Leppington. No objections had been received from either Parish Councillors or residents prior to the deadline.

## 7. Drainage in Scrayingham

Yorkshire Water have now advised that they are to undertake a further survey of the drains in Scrayingham. The contractors were unaware of the storm drain issues.

It was confirmed that funds are now in place to finance the project relating to the storm drains; however project management of the project has still to be agreed. Neither Yorkshire Water nor North Yorkshire County Council were willing to take on this responsibility. The Parish Council's liabilities if it were to undertake the project management of the project were unclear.

It was reported that membership of the Yorkshire Local Council Association (YLCA) would provide the Council with legal advice on a variety of issues including advice and guidance on this project and it was therefore proposed and agreed to obtain membership at £43 for the present year.

**Proposed: L Scott**

**Seconded: D Livsey**

## 8. Scrayingham Church Hall

Nothing further to report.

## 9. Broadband Proposals

Considered earlier in the meeting

## **10. Any Other Business**

**Financial Regulations** – the Clerk had previously circulated draft financial regulations to be observed in future by the Parish Council . Subject to amendment it was proposed these should be accepted by Scrayingham Parish Council.

**Proposed: P Jones**

**Seconded: M Stones**

**Verge Cutting** – discussion on whether to appoint a contractor to maintain the grass verges in both villages. After consideration, it was agreed to obtain advice on the employment of contractors from YLCA once membership had been obtained.

### **Issue of Cheques**

It was proposed and agreed to issue the following cheques:

Cheque no 100155 – St Peter & St Paul PCC - £12 – hire of church

Cheque no 100156 – cancelled

Cheque no 100157 – Ms S Flowers – Clerks Salary £180

Cheque no 100158 – YLCA membership - £43

### **Resignation of Councillor C Stone**

A letter of formal resignation from Scrayingham Parish Council was received from Mrs C Stone. After discussion it was agreed a gift in the sum of £50 should be purchased, as recognition of Mrs Stone's hard work and efforts on behalf of the Parish Council over the years.

**Proposed: P Jones**

**Seconded: S Elsey**

## **11. Date of Next Meeting**

Saturday 17 October 2015 10.30am in Scrayingham Church