

# SCORTON PARISH COUNCIL

The normal monthly meeting held on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.30pm in the Scorton War Memorial Institute.

**Present:** - Cllrs Calvert, Richardson & Bell, Parish & District Cllr Threlfall, Mrs Enevoldson (Cemetery Chairman), County Cllr Les, Members of the Public x 13.  
Cllr Threlfall elected as Chairman for this meeting.

- 1) Apologies. Cllrs Rafelt & Harper, PCSO Brown & District Cllr Rowe. Cllr Rowe sends his best wishes to the PC and good luck with the new Unitary Authority, and thanks us for our assistance over the last 4 years.
- 2) Declarations of interest. Cllr Threlfall declares that he is dual hatted as Parish Councillor and also representative of the District Council Planning Committee, and as such any conclusions/decisions will be solely from documents produced at this PC meeting. Cllr Richardson declares an interest re: FPP for single storey extension to the front to provide wet room, extension to side to provide a porch and window at 17 Beaufighter Close.
- 3) Approval of minutes dated 22<sup>nd</sup> February. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting.
- 4) Crime Report. Small report for February. Bike Safe Workshop for motorcyclists and an appeal for information.
- 5) Matters raised by the members of the public. All are here to observe the Lakeside development response.
- 6) Updates from County/District Councillors. County Cllr Les gives his thanks to District Cllr Threlfall for his support and the work achieved during his time as a District Councillor; always attending meetings regularly and he hopes that he will continue this great work, even if not as District Councillor. There will need to be a property review within the new authority. District Cllr Threlfall explains about the new authority and that the District Council will be obsolete from end of March, he hopes the transfer runs smoothly.
- 7) Updates from previous meetings. Plants for Hospital Road, Cllrs Richardson & Harper have taken measurements for the verges on Hospital Road. Email from Ian Beighton (Highways), he requires more details about the species and dimensions these shrubs may achieve. Clerk to forward map to Cllrs Richardson & Harper from Highways to note locations. Grass verges around the village. Highways replied and stated that these were in line with their standards and established that there is no damage which would necessitate any remedial works being organised at this time. Mr Beighton further stated that any work carried out by the PC to these verges would require Highways consent. Cllr Threlfall adds that the developers have promised to repair the verge in front of The Lodge following the completion of their work, and some grass seed may be a solution for the verges in other locations. Land transfer Spitfire/Typhoon this will be completed on 31/3, to allow time for insurance to be arranged. Needs including in the asset register. Signs discussed, one required for Typhoon Close Park and clerk to obtain a quote. Charles III Coronation, very few attended the meeting, another meeting arranged for the following week. If the funding isn't needed for the celebrations, then clerk to order mugs for the children of the village. Scorton Buddies will have their party on 8<sup>th</sup> May. Cemetery/park estimates, have chased for the third quote but still only two remain. It was resolved to decide contractor with two quotes, JPS £2580.00 ex VAT, Mac Plant £1570.00 ex VAT. It was resolved to use Mac Plant for this job. Bollards also need to be revised, as concrete bollards are very expensive and difficult to obtain at the moment; Cllr Calvert suggests oak posts may be a pleasing alternative.
- 8) Accounts. Balance 29/03/2023 £20,218.42  
Incoming:
  - Cemetery fees £70.00
  - RDC (King's Coronation Fund) £174.00
  - NYCC (Locality funding – Bridge Green bridge & Jubilee bike ramps) £1500.00
  - NYCC (Urban Grass cutting) £993.26

Outgoing:

- Mac Plant (Emergency access repair) £384.00
- RDC (Cemetery inspection) £102.00
- RDC (Litter bin) £338.40
- Plus, Net (Broadband) £36.07
- Tesco (Mobile phone contract) £7.50
- V Raven (Wages J,F,M & plaque) £1771.00
- I Threlfall (Fence board, top soil, wire mesh) £56.70
- Unity Trust Bank (Service Charge) £18.00

Grass cutting quote for 2023 season. For tender next year, current year has increase of 5% £6200.00. Clerk has spoken to contractor about cutting the new parks: Spitfire & Typhoon, and checked that the beckside is cut every month along with the cemetery non-working area. Contractor states that the beckside is cut as close as safety allows once a month, and then with a side-arm flail twice during the cutting season. Cllr Threlfall suggests that 4 times a year may be better, all agreed and clerk to discuss with contractor.

HM Revenue & Customs. PAYE finishing old tax year – all completed.

9) Planning matters

- i) FPP for single storey extension to the front to provide wet room, extension to side to provide a porch and window at 17 Beaufigther Close. Cllr Richardson declares an interest. No objections.

Granted: FPP for extension to west elevation at 2 Beaufigther Close.

10) Adoption of Standing Orders. All amendments completed; Cllrs resolved to adopt.

11) Feedback from meetings attended by Councillors/Clerk. Clerk & Cllr Threlfall attended the Central Area Partnership meeting, this was the last meeting in its present format under the RDC and was held in Kiplin Hall. The Curator showed us round the ground floor and gave an illuminating critique about the painting of Scorton from early 19<sup>th</sup> Century, this was donated to the hall by Mary Hammond. The Central Area Partnership has helped to fund over £60,000 worth of projects in the last year and has been particularly popular with very local, small projects. At the meeting the Parish Charter consultation was discussed with the hope that these small funding streams continue with the Unitary authority.

12) Safety review. Mrs Enevoldson reports about the cemetery inspection. Ten months ago, the cemetery was reviewed and the Monumental Mason was asked to put steel rods through these stones to ensure they were safe. This wasn't carried out; no fee was paid. The recent inspection was carried out by RDC on 14<sup>th</sup> March, 11 stones need action; the unstable ones have been laid flat. The majority of these are old memorials and it's very unlikely that the relatives who purchased will be able to be contacted. The Monumental Mason has been contacted and he will put the steel rods in to all the unstable graves and repair the ones with slight play. The cemetery committee have a new memorial erection form, these have more details on now. Cllr Bell asks if these headstones could be left flat, Mrs Enevoldson replies, yes but it was agreed last year to complete these repairs.

Play equipment review. New item, some fencing planks are missing from Jubilee Green. A Cllr has repaired this.

13) Report relating to minor parish issues since last meeting. Cllr Bell reported one of the cricket squares missing on the village green, all those visible have now been filled by Cllrs. Resident reported weeds and rocks in beck, Cllrs made rocks safe. Cllr Rafelt reported the chicane has been vandalised at Glebe snicket. Clerk reported to Highways and resolved. He also reports holes on Jubilee Green, these have now been filled by Cllrs, however some of the holes around the edge need some attention and this will be carried out when contractors on the site. Cllr Bell & a resident have reported dog fouling reports recurring on Jubilee Green, clerk has spoken with the Dog Warden and he will add the area to his list and look for any places he can place a notice. Resident reported rabbits getting into the cemetery and have carried out some pinning work to the chicken wire. Councillor has added chicken wire to the cemetery gate. AGM – Cllr Rafelt can do 24<sup>th</sup> May, it was resolved to change the date of the meeting.

14) Correspondence. Residents – Tancred Lakes development. Email received, various questions mainly about the lack of a Parish Council response to this proposal. Cllr Richardson summarises that the PC are unable to respond until an application is received and as a representative of the whole community, we must be careful about the representations we make, so as not to negatively affect the outcome. Cllr Threlfall adds as soon as an application for this proposal is received, then an extraordinary meeting will be called and that as a statutory

body we must wait for an application prior to any comments being made. Various frameworks will be used by the planning authority: National Planning Policy, and the RDC Local Plan lasts until 2028. New unitary authority will have 7 members on the planning committee and will be the constituency boundary, these meetings will be held every month, alternating between Richmond & Northallerton. Question about 106 agreement for the quarry, Cllr Threlfall will forward these documents on. Cllr Calvert agrees that it is important to wait for the application before any response by the PC. Question about supporting the SOS group and it was felt that a PC representative may be a good way forward with this. NYCC – Parish Charter Consultation. Clerk & Cllr Threlfall attended the liaison group drop-in, in the main the document is fine and formalises the relationship between the new authority and PCs. Clerk & Cllr Threlfall to complete consultation, including the retention of Partnership meetings, which are useful for local discussions and helping small, local projects. Cllr Threlfall also adds Parish Forums could be useful, Cllr Les will further this. RDC – transfer of Spitfire & Typhoon Close parks. Transfer 31/3/23 to allow insurance to be arranged. Informed park inspection team of the transfer. Clerk to arrange initial quote for a sign for Typhoon and add both parks to our asset document. Latimer Hinks – alteration to deed of covenant. Clerk met with Mr Stephenson following phone call, had sent us the wrong documents. He explained that the previous owner has changed their company name and now PAC Ltd. Clerk rang our solicitor, explained situation and thanked him for his help. Clerk to sign documents and return. National Lottery – website application refused. Quotes for website: Hush HQ around £2000, Purple Creatives £1300, Yarm Webcraft £800-£1000. It was resolved to go with Purple Creative. Rotary Club – Best Kept Village 2023. Scorton would like to enter. YLCA – Resolutions for debate by member councils to YLCA Joint meeting. Cllr Threlfall explains this, this is where local councils can take matters pertinent to other councils to a national level, previous successes have been the Police, Crime, Sentencing & Courts Act 2022.

15) Date of next meeting – 26<sup>th</sup> April

16) Meeting closed: 21.30