

# SCORTON PARISH COUNCIL

The normal monthly meeting held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7.30pm in the Scorton War Memorial Institute.

**Present:** - Cllrs Rafelt, Harper, Maddison-Potts, Aston, Parish & District Cllr Threlfall, County Cllr Les, Members of the Public x 4

- 1) Apologies. Cllrs Newall & Hull
- 2) Declarations of interest. Cllr Aston declares an interest in item 8, planning for Mill House.
- 3) Approval of minutes dated 23<sup>rd</sup> February. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record.
- 4) Crime Report. No Crime report at this meeting, clerk explains that the report is released at month end which it isn't yet. Residents disappointed there is no crime report and MOP suggests a crime report specifically written for the PC meeting. Email received from MOP about parking on Cleveland Road. Clerk replied & Cllr Threlfall will discuss with RDC Liaison Officer. Cllr Aston suggests a leaflet drop to all households, discussing inconsiderate parking. Cllr Rafelt replied that this may put the PC in a difficult position, the PC is not an enforcement agency and as such hold no powers to alleviate the problems formally. Nevertheless, it was felt a good idea to place an article in the next Scorton & District Times about parking more considerately.
- 5) Matters raised by the members of the public. MOP raises and email previously sent about the new hedge at Bridge Green and the barrier to deter horses from eating the new hedge, this barrier is temporary and will be removed when the hedge is mature. MOP asks about the gymkhana field planning approval. Full application pending. MOP also asks about the development behind Rose Villa, and asks will that cover the allocated amount of housing for Scorton. District Cllr Threlfall states that there is no finite amount, recommendations are given in the Local Plan.
- 6) Updates from County/District Councillors. Cllr Les: COVID figure increasing, as are hospitalisations thus pressure increased within NHS and there are big gaps in the workforce generally. Promoting vaccinations. Ukrainian evacuees, Cllr Les has actioned this and chasing DBS checks. No provision to help with flights currently but Whizz air are providing first 100,000 flights for Ukrainians. Safeguarding requirements need action from NYCC and Crime Commissioner, the situation continues to evolve. Works from Richmond to Scotch Corner are progressing well and Cllr Les will pass on bus timetable changes. New pot hole repair machine is being trailed, and hopeful that this will be successful. A66 – 10 miles left to dual and plans to start and finish 2029, public examination in progress. LGR proceeding. Cllr Harper asks about the Ukrainian checks and does the government feed down information to NYCC. Cllr Les replies that, yes central government will feed information down but the NYCC responsibilities revolve around schooling, transport, safeguarding and health care. Resident supporting Ukrainians will not forfeit their single person council tax reduction.  
District Cllr Threlfall: Reports that the festival funding remains available, and the Feast Committee may apply for the 3 day event planned this year. There is no increase in the council tax in relation to RDC charges. RDC plans to adopt Motor Neurone charity as the RDC charity this year. Small increases in council housing rent. YLCA have arranged a meeting with the new Crime Commissioner, requesting questions by 3rd May. Suggestions include Crime report and travelling community.
- 7) Updates from previous meetings.  
Signage update (Bridge Green, Jubilee Green, entrances/main green). Quotes in but not directly comparable in materials, it was resolved to accept the quote from William Smith for £720.77. The new legislation is on amendments presently. Discussion about the possible benefits of the new law, ie, criminal offense not civil offense. Use of smart water was also discussed. The new memorial bench looks well on the sycamore tree island, no concerns raised by Highways. MOP asks if a remembrance bench could be placed in front of The Havens. Cllrs had no issue with this. Cemetery issues. Clerk, Chair of Cemetery and District Cllr Threlfall met RDC at cemetery and they offer to check our cemetery annually for approx. £50. We require some work to be carried out prior to second check. 8 stones laid down and 4 remain upright but need some work. A quote had been received for this work and it was resolved to accept this quote at £150/grave to securely

anchor these gravestones. A notice has been placed at the cemetery entrance to explain the current work. Cemetery extension, another quote needed for the fencing prior to work starting.

- 8) Planning items
  - i) FPP for proposed extension to outbuilding to reinstate first floor level, demolition and rebuilding of outbuilding, demolition of redundant outbuildings and reinstatement of previously demolished outbuilding at Mill House, Northside. Cllr Aston declares an interest. Scorton PC has no objections.
- 9) Jubilee celebrations. Cllr Threlfall discusses and has spoken with various local groups. Thoughts that the weekend 11<sup>th</sup> June would be the best option. Marquee, table, chairs, 2 bands would perform. Final cost around £2500. RDC has a funding stream suitable for this event. Application would need to be via an organisation, Cllr Harper would like to see this event. Clerk to apply for funding. It was resolved that if the PC unsuccessful with this bid, then they will underwrite.
- 10) Decision relating to the donation for an item of new play equipment at Jubilee Green. Some quotes for pieces of equipment at Jubilee Green. Land Rover bouncer over budget £9852.61, Inclusive Spring rocker £1995, Flying Saucer roundabout £2800. It was resolved to accept the flying roundabout quote following discussion with Bus Shelter Buddies, the balance could be used to tidy/improve the cycle ramps.
- 11) Feedback from meetings attended by Councillors & Clerk. Clerk attended local Clerk meeting. Clerk & Cllr Threlfall attended RDC CAP meeting, interesting presentation about electric mobility, with a pilot study being carried out in Catterick Garrison and Leyburn. As discussed at last PC meeting, charging of electric vehicles was discussed and its problems especially in village areas with limited parking. Induction charging was discussed but this is in the early stages of development, however it was noted that electric vehicles are unlikely to need charging daily. The underspend of funding from other area partnerships will roll over to 22/23 year.
- 12) Safety review. Report from RDC play park inspection: some concern that the nylon inserts on swing seat hanger cracking and the new play unit has some burnt end caps. Clerk to contact Streetscape to repair.
- 13) Report relating to minor parish issues since last meeting. Cllr Rafelt reports dog fouling remaining a problem on Jubilee Green, additionally a MOP reports via email about the problems around the quarry walks. Cllr Aston states that perpetrators need reporting with photographic evidence and then the DC can prosecute. A tree has fallen into the beck blocking the flow of water, clerk reported to Environment Agency, clerk to chase as work not yet completed. Problems with parking on grass verges and footpath on Hospital Road, for next Scorton & District Times. Large blocks have fallen into the beck near the main footbridge. Macplant will action. MOP reports that the Giant Hogweed further upstream is worsening.
- 14) Correspondence. YLCA – Branch meeting dates. Richmondshire dates 16/6 & 6/10. Brough St Giles PC – Poppies on lampposts. Cllr Maddison-Potts felt this this could be a good way to make residents aware of our annual contribution to British Legion. Cllr Aston is happy to support all Remembrance Sunday representation. It was resolved to continue decorating the Institute and increase our donation to British Legion this year. Clerk to reply to Brough St Giles. Resignation of Cllr Newall. Clerk to write. Cllr Threlfall was pleased with the last edition of the Scorton & District Times.

15) Accounts.

Incoming: -

- RDC (Open spaces contribution) £12698.00

Outgoing:

- William Smith (Signs) £720.77
- YLCA (Membership) £316.00
- NYCC (S&D Times) £76.00
- Mac Plant (Pruning works Jubilee Green & Bridge Green) £1500.00
- V Raven (Wages Jan, Feb, March + back pay from April 21) £2120.00
- Plus Net (Broadband including change of contract) £52.32

Clerk's wages. NALC forwarded details of 2021-22 Salary award. It was resolved to use pay scale 20, at 8 hours/week £13.75/hour with back pay of this increase from April 21 and to review twice/year.

Unity Trust Bank account now open and HSBC closed.

Meeting closed: 21.50