

SCORTON PARISH COUNCIL

The normal monthly meeting held on Wednesday 25th September 2024 at 7.30pm in the Scorton War Memorial Institute.

Present: - Cllrs Rafelt, Threlfall, Richardson, Harper & Calvert, North Yorkshire Cllr Les, 5 MOP

- 1) Apologies. PCSO Brown, hopes to attend in October.
- 2) Declarations of interest. None
- 3) Approval of minutes dated 31st July. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting.
- 4) Crime Report. PCSO Brown sent the Crime report for August. Police awareness this month: rural businesses and equipment/tool security, also property boundary awareness, clerk to post on PC Facebook page.
- 5) Matters raised by the members of the public. MOP asks if the dog bin on Brompton Road can be replaced, Cllrs resolved to replace. MOP asks if he needs permission for a skip on Hospital Road, a licence will be issued for the triangle at the bottom of Flywheel Street.
- 6) Updates from previous meetings. Fencing for Jubilee Green, ongoing. Cllr Rafelt & Threlfall treated the lych gate, needs further treatment on the exposed areas in the Spring, also the circular bench needs painting. The wind sock needs replacing, Cllr Threlfall suggests that the bearings may need attention, again clerk to put on forward planner for Spring.
- 7) Updates from North Yorkshire Councillor, Tarmac representative & SOS group.
North Yorkshire Cllr Les. Has asked for clarification about the works on Brompton crossroads from Highways, there will be some overnight closures and soon to be completed. Waste consultation now completed, results to be published soon. New consultation "Let's Talk Active", Cllrs completing individually. Offers of financial help from the Locality Budget, PC requests help to replace two bins. SOS. The group are holding their own meeting tonight, they continue to hold regular meetings in preparation for action.

8) Accounts

Balance at 25/09/24 £18267.74 (Internal controls checked by Cllrs)

Incoming:

- Murphy's Fair (Ground rent) £300.00
- R&J Engineering (Nets return) £72.00
- HMRC (VAT return – PC) £3220.99
- HMRC (VAT return – Cemetery) £695.00
- Zurich Insurance (Policy excess reimbursement) £250.00

Outgoing:

- Tesco (Mobile phone contract) £15.00
- V Raven (Wages August & September & Brass Band teas & Postage) £1253.50
- BT (Broadband) £90.38
- Live4Soccer (Nets) £42.95
- Unity Trust Bank (Service charge) £18.00
- Margaret Goldie (Internal Audit) £100.00
- NY Citizens Advice & Law Centre (Donation) £250.00
- Defib Warehouse (Battery) £329.46

Clerk's hours. The clerk keeps a log of hours completed, last looked at hours early 2023 was 9.6 hours/week, recently carried out a review from Jan – end June 2024, now 11.94 hours/week. Paid for 8 hours currently. Resolved to increase to 10 hours for September onwards and review May.

- 9) Planning items.
- Advertisement consent for new aluminium sign above entrance to filling station retail area – Penny Petroleum. Decided under delegated authority (Cllrs Rafelt & Threlfall), no objections. Granted. Penny Petroleum. FPP for change of use of unused garage workshop to till/retail area of petrol filling station including alterations to front elevation & Advertisement consent for new aluminium sign above entrance to filling station retail area. Various conditions attached, Cllr Rafelt was pleased to see that the planning department had taken our representations into consideration. 8 Beaufighter Close. FPP for replacement of conservatory to the rear of the property.
- 10) To discuss adoption of the new Standing Orders. Councillors have received the proposed standing orders, clerk sought advice from YLCA re: current standing orders and their advice was to adopt the model standing orders. Cllr Threlfall suggests that if we are going with the model standing orders then they should be adopted in full but with the additions specific to Scorton PC. It was resolved to make these changes.
- 11) To discuss the provision of a Christmas tree. Cllr Threlfall explains the provision of last year's tree, and although it was smaller, was cost effective especially with the donation from Tarmac/REMS. To discuss with Alan Coe at the next meeting. Alan Coe has planted some Christmas trees for future use.
- 12) To discuss the possibility of "Warmer Spaces" over the winter months. Cllr Harper brings this item, as now that some pensioners aren't receiving the winter fuel payment, concerns that some elderly residents will struggle to keep warm and also the social aspect of warmer spaces is positive. Clerk to discuss with Methodist Chapel & Buddies.
- 13) To discuss Bolton on Swale defibrillator. Following the defib awareness session, a resident from Bolton on Swale highlighted that their defib wasn't working as the pads were out of date. YAS gave some pads, but the battery needs replacing. Bolton on Swale Parish Meeting not functioning currently. The defib needs a Guardian to make checks following use and at least every 3 months, clerk to ask contact in Bolton if she knows of anyone who would be happy to do this. If a Guardian can be found then it was resolved to purchase a new battery - £289.00 to get this defib working. Cllrs concerned that this defib is hidden, clerk to ask YAS if she has any ideas for making it more obvious.
- 14) Ideas for next Scorton & District Times. Remembrance Sunday, Cllr Rafelt will read the Roll of Honour at the service. Flu jab provision from surgery, What3Words – clerk to ask YAS about their advice, Christmas Domino Drive, Christmas Fairs, WI, Defib/Bolton, Christmas quiz/recipe, introduction of new councillors, fraud awareness, raised village green – where are the others, dog poo – Jubilee Green
- 15) To discuss co-option of new Councillors. Two applications received for two places; it was resolved to co-opt both Nick Terry & Tom Robson.
- 16) Safety review
- RDC – play equipment inspection. Large report from NYC play park inspection, Clerk & Cllr Rafelt assessed all the items. Jubilee Green – large branch off tree, removed by contractors. Some low branches around the green, to be actioned over winter months. Typhoon – Metal plate worn on wobble board, Cllr Threlfall has assessed this plate and although the hole has got larger over the years of use, replacement is not essential for some time, bench has now been removed and Cllr Threlfall will remove the old seat and replace with a Millenium PC bench which he will fasten down, a few low branches around the park, Stepping log posts, some showing signs of rot – Cllr Rafelt will reduce these, caps missing from wobble board and bridge, Cllr Threlfall will action. Spitfire – low branches, signs of rot in the stepping logs – to reduce, cap missing from equipment, remove defunct posts. Cllr Rafelt has removed iron work from near to gate. Mollie Cail – requires a new bin, clerk to order.
 - Bollards outside No 1 Westfields. Cllr Threlfall noticed that one of these had sheared off during August and checked the others, another weak and removed, others stable. Pavement made safe. The bollards are on village green. Cllrs resolved to replace with galvanised tubing and retain the

original caps – 13 in total. These need checking monthly while we do work on pricing, clerk to agenda in October.

- 17) Feedback from meetings attended by Councillors/Clerk. NY Liaison Group arranged a zoom meeting for all PCs about Code of conduct, Register of Members interests and grievance complaints. Clerk attended, useful session, Cllrs checking their Register of interests. Clerk attended Boundary Commission Parish sector Briefing, this was relating to North Yorkshire Cllr divisions, consultation will commence soon. Clerk & Cllr Calvert attended the grass cutting contractor meeting, Cllr Calvert feeds back: started in cemetery, as grass not being collected as it should, also paths had not been blown off. Stags Way triangle not being cut. Contractors will action these concerns. Bridge Green, becksides cut poor, contractors explained that due to the steepness of the beck sides it is very difficult to get all the way down to the beck with the equipment. Cllrs resolved to talk to Environment Agency about possible solutions to the becksides cut/narrowing of the water course. Additionally, some large stones have fallen into the beck bottom. Cllr Rafelt reports that the Defib awareness session was a success with around 23 attending, clerk has added What3Words to The Circuit.
- 18) Report relating to minor parish issues since last meeting. Resident reports willow tree branch down. Contractor to attend. Resident reports snicket overgrown to Cleveland Road. Resident had already reported this to NYC. Cllrs Threlfall & Rafelt cleared weeds from around the green wall, weeds are growing into the wall and damaging the mortar, steps are also slippery again. Contractor to spray the top and bottom of the green wall and steps. Cemetery Chair reports fly tipping in the cemetery car park, clerk reported to NYC, also that some graves had been filled and require re-seeding, clerk has put a notice on Facebook and Cllr Calvert will re-seed. Cllr Calvert reports overgrown hedge at The Havens, clerk and Cllr Calvert discussed with residents and will be resolved soon. Waiting for pub licences to be returned. Resident asks for help with village green legislation relating to selling property which has a front garden wrongly registered as village green. Clerk discussed with NYC Common land expert and she suggests she may accept a joint application for all the pieces of land which were registered wrongly in 1969 – current price £1651.69, clerk to add to forecast. Cemetery guttering for water butt, Cllr Calvert has been to assess and the bottom of the water butt needs replacing. Cllrs to think of solutions other than guttering, which may spoil the aesthetics of the lych gate. Two trees need replacing on Bridge Green, it was resolved to purchase an apple and pear tree on small root stock.
- 19) Correspondence. NY Citizens Advice & Law Centre – local figures of people helped and donation request. Over the last year, 21 clients had been helped. It was resolved to donate £250.00. NYC – Parish Liaison update. New group specifically for PCs & PMs, Drop-in surgery Richmond Town Hall 6th November. Conference invite 25th October. Information about consultations. YLCA – Richmondshire Branch meeting – 24th October. Cllrs Threlfall, Rafelt & Richardson will attend. Scorton Medical Centre – Patient Participation alternative. Asking for help with an alternative to PPG, unable to recruit enough participants. Cllrs offer help advertising by putting in S&D Times, also Cllrs happy to include anything the Surgery wants in the agenda, clerk to reply. Resident – pruning work information, Bolton Road. Resident – update about complaint. Cllrs noted points, clerk to reply.
- 20) Date of next meeting – 23rd October

Meeting closed: 21.55