

SCORTON PARISH COUNCIL

The normal monthly meeting held on Wednesday 6th October 2021 at 7.30pm in the Methodist Chapel.

Present: - Cllrs Rafelt, Aston, Harper, Hull & Maddison-Potts, Parish & District Cllr Threlfall, Members of the Public x 20, District Cllr Rowe, County Cllr Les

Cllr Rafelt thanks all for attending this PC meeting, and assures everyone will have the opportunity to speak. He reminds that this is a meeting held in the public not a public meeting, and if anyone wishes to speak please raise their hand.

- 1) Apologies. Cllrs Newall
- 2) Declarations of interest. None.
- 3) Parish Council roles and responsibilities. Cllr Rafelt gives a summary of the roles and responsibilities of Parish Councils. This information is from <https://www.localgov.co.uk/Parish-council-responsibilities/29135>, and minutes are not a verbatim record of everything that is said but a recording of the matters raised. Criminal issues are not within the Parish Council powers, these are Police matters. There is a Complaints Procedure, if anyone requires this please contact the Clerk. The next Parish Council election is in May 2022 and there is an opportunity for anyone who lives and/or works in the village to stand as a Parish Councillor.
- 4) Approval of minutes dated 30th June. Emails received from 2 residents (one wished to remain anonymous) about the accuracy of these minutes, and one resident had reported the PC to the Monitoring Office at RDC. Response about this complaint from Monitoring Officer read out, and he felt that there had been nothing wrong with the decision making at this meeting. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record.
- 5) Crime Report. Crime reports summarised for July, August & September. PC Bernie Luker is our new Constable; Clerk to specifically ask for a representative to attend our next meeting. Small reports with specifics relating to Scorton missed, disappointing for residents and PC. Cllr Threlfall suggests that we email the Police and ask for a more detailed report
- 6) Matters raised by the members of the public. A MOP discusses the problems with parking on the lower green, will discuss this under item 11 Walkabout. Also, the canvas signs on the Hospital Wall have been there for a number of years, especially the recruitment sign. DC Threlfall stated that this had been discussed previously and DC had been contacted. Canvas signs don't require as much planning regulations as other signs. Clerk to email Abbey Care and ask if some of the older signs could be removed. Another MOP asked about the blocked off footpath at Banks Lane. The path has been re-routed by NYCC footpaths and Bridleways department a number of years ago. That parcel of land is in private ownership.
- 7) Updates from County/District Councillors. District Cllr Rowe. The RDC Licencing Committee is allocating funding initiatives to promote electric taxis; the community charging points within the district is ongoing (Richmond, Catterick Garrison & Hawes). Richmond Pool upgrade ongoing. Planning application received for 120 houses in Brompton on Swale. Business week will run in November, providing workshops for businesses.
District Cllr Threlfall. The new bin outside the Post Office is part of a pilot scheme to encourage recycling. Clerk to put in the next S&D Times.
County Cllr Les. Clerk has forwarded a list to Highways over the summer, the work from this is ongoing. Parish Council elections have been brought forward to 2022 so they are in line with the new Unitary Authority elections. These elections will not be charged, this is to encourage democratic rights.
- 8) Updates from previous meetings.
 - Travellers (Email from YLCA and other PCs, resident letters and emails). Cllr Rafelt begins by reading the emails from YLCA and other local councils following the PC asking for their advice. Middleham Town Council advised that they receive travellers to and from Appleby, only a few as not on a well-used route. They request that the travellers tether their horses, avoid destroying saplings, not light fires on the turf and bag their rubbish. These requests are usually upheld and their PCSO suggested, as well as Cllrs talking to the travellers, that signage may be useful with Do's and Don'ts. Newsham also have a small number of travellers camping, they have few issues and the travellers usually move on within 4 days. Letter and email read out from MOP, additionally another email received but this resident requested that only the

Cllrs had access to the email, this correspondence explains the problems residents face and asks for the PC to action. The letter was copied to Rishi Sunak and Inspector Mark Gee. The MOP was in attendance as stated that Rishi Sunak had responded, and asks what the PC has done since 2019. Cllr Rafelt replies and states that he also wrote to Rishi Sunak in 2019 about this issue, the PC has requested legal advice from the DC, Police advice, been involved with the Safer Partnership, invited Philip Allott and Inspector Gee to the last meeting, reported when the travellers arrived on Bridge Green and any crimes or suspicious activity reported to the PC onto the Police. The Safer Partnership has been quiet due to COVID but up and running again now. Cllr Rafelt then goes on to report what has happened since the last meeting, discussed blocking access, discussed other villages/laybys issues with displacement and the Gazette article which caused problems for a rugby club following the travellers being displaced from a usual encampment. Cllr Threlfall adds that this issue was taken to the NY County Council, Area Partnerships, Cumbria CC and with the help from MPs, the new law is moving quickly through Parliament. This new act will allow Police to act immediately if they suspect criminality. Queries raised from MOP about the lack of use of Section 77 + 78 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994. Cllrs stated that we had sought legal advice in 2019. Clerk to request further advice regarding Section 77 + 78. Another MOP asks about placing stones to deter. Cllr Rafelt then summarises the options open to us: Erect fence, place bollards, earth works, reclassification/reuse of green area, the parishioners' opinions, cost implications, access/maintenance/emergency, legalities. Clerk to ask NYCC Common land department about rights or changing use/classification. Cllr Aston adds that the PC is here to serve the whole village. Cllr Rafelt asks all MOPs for any comments, some wanted the Cllrs to vote on boulders at this meeting, signage was suggested (with what travellers can and can't do), Byelaws could be put in place, there was disagreement about physically blocking the area off with one person stating that this should be the last option, there is a breach of the Environmental Act, with toileting in bushes and disposal of fluids into beck. Another adds that the residents are aware it's no fault of the PC but they want help. Suggestion for NYCC to link up with other CC's and discuss with actual travellers. Other issues noted were travellers trespassing onto private property, loose horses, Police not doing enough. Overall, it was resolved to use a three-plan option:

1. Look at signage (alloy) for Bridge Green for the next meeting,
2. Hopeful that the new law will be passed by April
3. Consult with the whole community about other options such as some form of barrier, if previous actions are unsuccessful. Cllr Aston pleased to see so many MOP tonight and Cllr Rafelt thanks for coming, invites all to stay, most residents leave.

- CPR training. This is now available again from the Yorkshire Ambulance Service. Clerk to agenda in February.
- Footway light, reply from RDC. Email from RDC who are unable to adopt the lamp on Bolton Road.
- Parking issues – Hospital Road. Reply from Highways, they are unable to provide the amount of bollards which would be required to block off the verge and stop people parking on the pavement. Advised that this is a Police matter.
- Repeat prescriptions. Reply from Scorton Medical Centre relating to stopping telephone ordering of repeat prescriptions. The main reason for change is that of patient safety and advised if the PC know of anyone struggling with this change, then encourage them to contact the surgery directly.
- Jubilee Green signage. Sign to be a copy of the one at Mollie Cail Park, but to include pick up after your dog and remove the no bike sign.

9) Planning items

- FPP for replacement boundary structure, formation of entrance gates at Rectory Cottage, Southside. No objections, decision made under delegated authority (Cllrs Harper & Aston)
- FPP for a single storey rear extension and internal rearrangement at Briarside, Southside. MOP explains the issues surrounding this application. Scorton PC has no objections but ask the planner to note that there may be a dispute about ownership. Request notification of the dimensions of the extension, this is not clear on the plans.
- LBC & FPP for single storey extension to provide dining area, lobby and WC at The Old Rectory, Southside. No objections.
- Email re: potential development Hospital Road. Cllr Harper suggests single storey dwelling to be incorporated. Clerk to respond and to wait for planning application.

Granted: FPP for replacement boundary structure, formation of entrance gates at Rectory Cottage, FPP for erection of domestic garage at Carholme, Application to vary condition 2 at 9 Archers Green, FPP for garden room at 23 Blenheim Close

10) Accounts.

Incoming: -

- RDC (CAP funding for solar powered lamp & play park funding) £10808.62
- Openreach (Wayleave payment) £245.44
- Scorton Bus Shelter Buddies (Donation) £2363.00

Expenditure: -

- Margaret Goldie (Internal Audit) £100.00
- NYCC (Signposts for VAS & newsletter) £1238.00
- Acorn Lighting Services (Install column and attach lamp) £412.98
- Ian Threlfall (Timber for noticeboard Galvanised tubing and paint for football posts) £111.97
- Zurich (Insurance) £165.55
- Streetscape (New equipment and installation at Jubilee Green) £24600.00
- PFK (External audit) £240.00
- V Raven (Wages July, August, September) £1200.00
- PlusNet (Broadband supply) £126.00 (Clerk to agenda this in November)
- Swarco (Vehicle activated signs) £5260.08
- British Legion (Remembrance Sunday) £100.00
- Methodist Chapel (Hall Hire) £12.50

Update re: 106 money – Stags Close. Information given to RDC and should receive transfer soon.

Quotes for the cemetery extension. Quotes received for fencing (£2460.50 Len Porter), tarmac (£880.00 Mac Plant). Clerk to research if any funding is available for this project.

- 11) Walkabout findings. The list is longer but most items have been resolved or will be in the near future, and these are not discussed. Bottom of Flywheel Street – stones on village green. Cllrs resolved to take no action. Hospital Road planters, Cllr Hull had repaired these but unfortunately a car had collided with one and crushed it. The planters need reviewing, Cllr Threlfall suggested small shrubs planted directly in the verge. Clerk to agenda in February. Stags Way road surface does not meet the criteria for repair. Lower village green parking. Discussed at length by both residents and Cllrs, other problem areas mentioned triangle outside Farmers and Hospital Road. Clerk to discuss with Scorton Care Village about parking provision for St John of God workers. Signs discussed and PC will look into this. Bolton Road parking, resident parking on pavement, Highways have asked the Police to visit this area and to encourage safe parking near the school.
- 12) Suggestions for next edition of Scorton & District Times. WI programme, Dance, Cllr Harper will do a Scorton quiz, Remembrance Sunday, Flu jabs/surgery news, New park equipment/VAS/new streetlamp, Scorton Community Speed Watch, Poster request from children (Clerk to ask at school too), new recycling bin, Bus shelter buddies funding, thanks and suggestions from the children about what additional piece of equipment they would like in Jubilee Green
- 13) Decision PC representative for Remembrance Sunday and donation. Most Cllrs able to attend and it was resolved to donate £100.00 to British Legion.
- 14) Feedback from meetings attended by Councillors & Clerk. None.
- 15) Safety review. Report from RDC play park inspection: small entrance gate at Jubilee Green requires adjustment, this should be resolved very soon. Arson to swing in Mollie Cail, reported to Police. PC claimed on the insurance.
- 16) Report relating to minor parish issues since last meeting. Cllr Threlfall reported that grass cutting had been missed in Cleveland Road. Clerk notified contractor but will not cut if any cars are parked on the area. MOP & Cllr Threlfall reported the hedges both at the cemetery and Mollie Cail Park need cutting. The village requires weedkiller around verges and kerbs. Contractor will complete the hedge cutting and both the Contractor and Highways resolved the weedkilling. Resident reported dog fouling in Mollie Cail Park. Clerk reported to the dog warden. Cllr Hull reported noisy, empty wagons in the early morning. She has observed and noted that the noisy wagons were from one company. Clerk to report to Highways to check road surface and if fine, then discuss with the relevant company to seek resolution. Resident reported a bushy tree overhanging the access on Bridge Green. Will discuss with contractor. Cllr Hull and resident requested that

the beck side be cut on the village side. Clerk reported to contactors. Resident reported becksides hogweeds and also further downstream. Contactors treated area and cut one side; the other side was delayed due to not being able to access the area. A MOP asks if the surplus fence could be removed on Bridge Green, and the holes from previous fencing be filled. Another MOP queries about the footway in front of the stables, this is privately owned.

- 17) Correspondence. NYCC – Unitary Council for North Yorkshire. Elections for the new unitary council will take place in May 22. New Council April 2023. RDC – Communitree project & Litter Bins. An expression of interest has been issued to RDC re: Communitree. PCs can purchase extra litter bins and the DC will empty and maintain. Yorkshire Local Council Association – Queens Green Canopy Initiative & Jubilee Celebrations for 2022, Branch meeting 7th October – Middleton Key Centre. Bolton school informed about the Green Canopy initiative. Clerk & IT will attend the YLCA meeting. NY Branch of 20's Plenty. Clerk to email our support. Richmond Rotary Club – results of best kept village. Scorton was 7th.

- 18) Date of next meeting – 17th November

Meeting closed: 22.17

DRAFT