

SCORTON PARISH COUNCIL

The normal monthly meeting held on Wednesday 25th January 2023 at 7.30pm in the Scorton War Memorial Institute.

Present: - Cllrs Rafelt, Harper, Calvert, Richardson & Bell, Parish & District Cllr Threlfall, County Cllr Les, Members of the Public x 7

- 1) Apologies. District Cllr Rowe
- 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. Alan Bell declares an interest re: Outline application for erection of 9 dwellings at land to the North of Hospital Road.
- 3) Approval of minutes dated 30th November. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting.
- 4) Crime Report. Reports sent from November & December, overall crimes decreased. Vehicle lighting checks have been carried out and clerk to put useful contact numbers from the report on the website.
- 5) Matters raised by the members of the public. Parking on verges on Hospital Road, this is causing visibility problems with concerns about safety. Also dropping skips off near to listed buildings and the damage this may cause, especially relating to the planning proposals to rear of Hospital Road, Cllr Rafelt adds that the developer has stated that they will have a direct phone number available for any problems during building work. Tancred lakes development MOP/member of steering group asks if we have seen any further developments and are the PC aware that a scoping survey is being conducted. Cllr Rafelt states yes but we are not consultees for this. The steering group will send a letter/email to the PC.
- 6) Updates from County/District Councillors. County Cllr Les reports that we are 9 weeks away from Unitary and highlights the Parish Charter consultation. Scorton has been supported by the locality budget £500 to carry out work on the Bridge Green wooden bridge and £1000 for bike track improvements on Jubilee Green. District Cllr Threlfall highlights that additional work is needed for Richmond pool. DC hoping to clear the planning backlog prior to the move to Unitary. Community Infrastructure fund on hold, Cllr Harper asks if this will be transferred to the new Unitary authority, Cllr Threlfall replies that the funding will be spent prior to April.
- 7) Updates from previous meetings. Litter bin – Bolton Road. Clerk to order from DC. Communitree project, trees on order and should be available for collection soon. Cllr Harper has an oak tree sapling, may need growing on, Cllr Threlfall will talk to Cemetery Chairman about this. A MOP has offered to pay for the oak tree near the SWMI and also a plaque to remember Elizabeth II, plaque around 6”x3” and wording to be decided. Clerk to action. Cllr Richardson has done research about plants which may be suitable for Hospital Road, clerk to circulate to all Cllrs and agenda February. Update about land transfer – Spitfire Close & Typhoon Close, clerk to ask for amendment to change play area to recreational area and also typo correction. Allotment update – new funding released from the National Garden Scheme for Community Gardens. Clerk to apply. Website update, some difficulties making changes to website. Clerk emailed the original designer and the PC needs a new website to allow for usage on mobile devices. Clerk has obtained some quotes, Purple Creative £1300, Hush HQ around £2000 & Yarm Webcraft £1000. Cllr Les suggests AJP Website designer. Clerk to apply for lottery funding and agenda February.
- 8) Accounts. Balance 25/01/23 £25,944.34
Outgoing:
 - NYCC (S&D Times) £38.00
 - Richmond Print (Jubilee Photo) £7.00
 - Plus Net (Broadband) £72.26
 - Tesco (Mobile phone contract) £15.00
 - Mac Plant (Hedge Cutting & Digger work for Xmas tree) £228.00
 - SWMI (Donation) £850.00

SWMI donation. Cllr Threlfall explains that this donation is used to keep the hire prices of the hall lower for residents, and thanks for the donation. Cllrs ask questions about the energy costs and SWMI managing presently.

9) Planning matters

- i) Approval of reserved matter application following outline approval of planning permission 17/0710/OUT for appearance, landscaping, layout and scale at land for development opposite Glebe Terrace. Email to Planning Officer from a MOP forwarded to PC, this was asking for clarification about the full extent of changes, as the planning portal was poorly labelled and difficult to ascertain. Cllr Richardson asks for more details regarding the history of this application. Cllr Threlfall suggests that we should be fully consulted about all aspects of the play area. Cllr Harper raises concerns about the soakaway opposite the garage, the developer will alter the drainage in that area. It was resolved to reply with no objections and to be fully consulted about the play area prior to work commencing.
- ii) Outline application with some matters reserved for residential development for up to 32 units at land for development Bolton Road. Committee meeting regarding this proposal will take place on 31.1 at 3pm at Mercury House. Cllr Rafelt reads our previous comments, and states that 109 properties are approved for Scorton and this is a 30% increase to the current size of the village, and that it is crucial to see how the village evolves with these developments, prior to additional housing being approved. Cllr Richardson agrees and highlights the danger of losing Scorton's identity. Cllr Threlfall adds that the rural gap between Bolton & Scorton is discussed in the Local Plan preferred options 2018-2039, figure 23 recommends that the area between Scorton & Bolton is a proposed settlement gap boundary. Cllr Harper adds that central government has issued guidance that villages shouldn't be merged, and that the housing targets are for guidance and not a ceiling. Cllr Bell adds that the parking problems around the school won't be resolved and this area is already dangerous at pick up and drop off times, he also raises concerns about sewerage capacity. Previous comments from Bolton on Swale PM read. The Planning Officer has recommended this for approval, this has been posted on social media. Clerk requested a time extension for this application and disappointed that the recommendation is put forward prior to Cllrs comments. MOP notes his frustration that the planning policy isn't being enforced, and asks District Cllr Threlfall to answer. Cllr Threlfall replies that this application was refused last time. MOP suggests that we read our objections at the meeting, to give our objections more weight. This was discussed, and resolved to email our previous objections.
- iii) Outline application for residential development including new vehicular and pedestrian access, site drainage, hard and soft landscaping and associated works at land for development Station Road. Email and letter with 40 signatures which was sent to the planning committee has been forwarded to Cllrs as cced to PC. Cllrs Rafelt & Richardson note that the Stags Way junction is dangerous and another access will only make traffic/safety worse, they also agreed that our original concerns still stand. Cllr Calvert feels there are too many houses already granted for Scorton. MOP asks if the PC has the mandate to reply on behalf of the village, as has concerns about the 40 residents who object. Cllr Rafelt replies that we are a consultee. It was resolved to reply: no material objections, however Cllrs preferred option is that a mini roundabout should be the egress and access at the Stags Way junction, and the LAP needs to be altered to open space. Nearby residents have forwarded the correspondence they have sent to you, please can you bear their concerns in mind when making a decision.
- iv) FPP for an extension to west elevation and internal rearrangement at 2 Beaufighter Close. No objections.
- v) Outline application for erection of 9 dwellings at land to north of Hospital Road (east). Cllr Bell declares an interest. It was resolved to reply: Scorton PC has no material objections, however councillors have concerns about the proximity of the roadway to the current dwellings, notably the gable end walls of The Lodge & Rose Cottage, both listed buildings.

Application withdrawn: LBC for installation of solar panel array at Manor House.

Granted: FPP & LBC refurbishment , repairs, conservation work to The Lodge, Hospital Road.

- 10) Review of Standing Orders. This has been circulated to Cllrs, a few minor changes plus discussion about approving urgent work. Cllrs approved an increase from £200 to £500 and also discussion about time limit/comfort break during meetings. It was resolved to include a 10 minute comfort break after 2 hours. Clerk to make changes and recirculate.

- 11) Charles III Coronation celebrations discussion. Weekend 6/7/8 May. Saturday Coronation, Sunday Street Party, Monday volunteering, these are the suggested themes for the days from the HM website. Cllr Threlfall suggests that funding may be available. All agreed that the PC should give a donation. A Facebook post may be the best way to get feedback from residents, and to find out who would like to move forward with this. MOP suggests using the Monday volunteer day, as a day when we can all get together and benefit the village.
- 12) Feedback from meetings attended by Councillors/Clerk. The Tarmac presentation was very well attended on 1/12, feedback from MOP who thanked the PC for organising this event. Thanks sent to Tarmac. Cllr Rafelt adds that we need to keep this link open. The PC also had an invite from Kiplin Hall to preview the Christmas themed rooms, Cllr Threlfall, Rafelt and the clerk attended and enjoyed the event. Thanks sent to Kiplin Hall.
- 13) Safety review. Report sent and no different observations.
- 14) Report relating to minor parish issues since last meeting. Work required for the Christmas tree siting for stability. MOP reported Hospital Road verge due to contractors' vans, clerk reported to PCSO who was unable to take any action as vehicles aren't causing an obstruction, posted letter through to owner and reported to Highways. MOPs reported dog fouling on Hospital Road, The Havens & Bridge Green. Reported to dog warden. Litter was all the way along Brompton Road, clerk reported to DC. MOP reports pot holes along Northside. Cllrs resolved to action the deep, large pot holes soon and carry out further work in the summer. Cllr Bell suggests a contractor who may provide a quote for these works. MOP reported the solar light at the bridge unlit. Clerk reported to Highways. MOP has asked Highways if a new streetlamp could be provided this side of the Bridge, he is completing the application but wanted to confirm the PC supports. No objections. MOP reports noisy sign at Westfield, clerk reports to Highways. MOP reports rubbish and dog poo along Banks Lane. Resident has cleared this up. Scorton PC meeting dates, change to July meeting and moving forwards to August 16th.
- 15) Correspondence. NYCC – North Yorkshire Unitary, draft Parish Charter and drop in dates & new website testing. Last date for the Parish Charter consultation is 12th April, clerk to test new unitary website. RDC – Cemetery noticeboard success. CAP funding, clerk to order. YLCA Branch meeting – 2nd February, clerk to book training. Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments – notification of external auditor, PKF Littlejohn to continue until 2027.
Christmas tree discussed, clerk to agenda in February.
- 16) Date of next meeting – 22nd February
- 17) Meeting closed: 22.25