

SCORTON PARISH COUNCIL

The normal monthly meeting held on Wednesday 11th March 2020 at 7.30pm in the Scorton War Memorial Institute.

Present: - Cllrs Rafelt, Harper, Hull, Aston, Maddison-Potts, Parish & District Cllr Threlfall, County Cllr Les (later)

- 1) Apologies. District Cllr Rowe & Cllr Newall
- 2) Declarations of interest. Cllr Threlfall declares an interest re: Item 9 SWMI donation.
- 3) Approval of normal monthly minutes dated 4th December 2019. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record.
- 4) Matters raised by the members of the public. None attending.
- 5) Updates from County/District Councillors. District Cllr Threlfall states that the RDC have ratified their budget for 20/21, the Council Tax will rise by £4.20 on a band D property. The RDC Environmental Officer is having their hours increased from part time to full time and as part of their duties will give support with any issues arising in relation to the Travellers. It has been decided that all involved PCs & RDC will pull together and present a soft approach to tackle the problems that may arise during the journeying to and from Appleby Horse Fair. In addition there will be Special Constables and a co-ordinating full time Officer on duty specifically for this period, also a central contact for PCs to get in touch with if required. County Cllr Les reports that the NYCC part of the Council Tax will rise by 4%. The Locality Budget is still in place. The 'Better Deal for Bus Users' will be a bidding process and there will need to be good reasons why a service should be sponsored. On demand services may be more viable for rural area; Central Area Budget meeting is pushing for community lift sharing schemes.
- 6) Crime report. Crime bulletin received from PC Wood for December – February, encourages residents to keep reporting anything suspicious and also mentions how helpful the "what3words" App for all the emergency services.
- 7) Updates from previous meetings.
 - VAS signs. Email received from Brompton on Swale who do not want to join the VAS scheme, as had a speed survey carried out which showed that there was no issues with speeding. Tunstall do want to be included, and also St Martins asking but Cllrs resolved that this would stretch the VAS too far and so existing partners wouldn't be able to use the equipment for a good period of time. Clerk to reply.
 - Speed concern – Station Road. York & North Yorkshire Road Safety Partnership replied stating that speed data had been obtained at this location and the average speed is 47mph, no speed related accidents have occurred within the last 3 years and so no further action can be taken.
 - Play park meeting. Following meeting with the park inspector, Cllr Threlfall confirmed that the park inspector is happy with the equipment in Scorton.
 - New Streetlight – Bolton Road. Cllr Threlfall reported back and suggested that cllrs should view the new solar powered LED street light in Foss car park, Richmond; this has been recently installed by RDC – cost £1100. This may prove to be a good, inexpensive option for Scorton. Clerk to seek funding.
 - Community Defib. Clerk to request a training evening by the Ambulance Service in relation to the Defib.
- 8) Planning items. None
- 9) Accounts.
 - Incoming:
 - NYCC (Urban grasscutting 19/20) £993.26
 - Expenditure: -
 - Plusnet (Broadband supply) £126.00
 - V Raven (Wages Jan, Feb, Mar) £1200.00
 - News Today (Advert for grass tender) £35.00
 - NYCC (Newsletter) £38.00
 - Mac Plant Hire (Cut & remove flowers – Bridge Green & hedge cutting Mollie Cail park) £690.00

- Cardiac Science (Chest electrodes for Defib) £55.14
- SWMI (Annual donation) £800.00

SWMI Donation. It was resolved to donate £800 to the SWMI, this goes towards keeping the hall hire prices down for Scorton residents.

The Pensions Regulator: re-declaration of compliance completed.

- 10) Decision relating to grass cutting contract for 2020 season. Following a lengthy discussion, it was resolved to accept NYCC bid for grasscutting (not unanimous decision), £375/cut every fortnight during growing season. Two other contractors bid for the tender, clerk to advise with explanation about how decision was made.
- 11) Replacement tree for outside the SWMI. A resident has offered to purchase the replacement tree in memory of her father, who was a previous Parish Councillor in Scorton for many years. It was resolved to plant a green beech, Cllr Threlfall will action and Cllr Rafelt & Threlfall will plant.
- 12) Feedback from meetings attended by Councillors & Clerk. Partly discussed under item 5. Additionally Cllr Threlfall attended YLCA meeting with a talk from Friends of the Earth; peatbog expansions and renovations were discussed and is more effective/acre than tree planting. There is an area of planned peatbog regeneration programmed for NY Moors; this will be able to absorb all of the pollutants generated by a major conurbation the size of Manchester.
- 13) Safety review. None.
- 14) Report relating to minor parish issues since last meeting. Cllr Hull reported the kerb stones on the Northside were loose, Cllrs Threlfall & Aston to action, the streetlight at the bottom of Flywheel Street not working, clerk has reported, a tree was growing in the beck near the packhorse bridge, clerk reported to Environment Agency and they removed, and the grass verge/lower part of green is being parked on and damaged, future article for S&D Times. Cllr Rafelt & Maddison-Potts report the streetlight out opposite Glebe Terrace, clerk to report. The white stones along Hospital Road remain and clerk to ask NYCC to replace with white posts. Accesses around the green require attention, Macplant to action. The dog bins were full at the quarry, clerk reported. Football posts on green have required an emergency repair following recent storms, and cemetery bollard repaired, thank you Cllr Threlfall. Wind sock was ripped off by wind, now located and needs mending and also pole painting, clerk to reagenda.
- 15) Correspondence. NYCC – Better deal for bus users – funding for supported bus users; consultation re: developer contributions for education. Bid was put forward for better access to James Cook Hospital, ie, with a service from Friarage linking in with other local services. YLCA – new website & training programme, VE day celebrations. Cllrs to inform clerk of their training requirements, and in line with government guidelines due to COVID19, it was resolved not to hold a gathering for this event. Football Foundation – grant success. New posts for main green with alterations to others for Jubilee Green. Clerk to action. Residents – Trees, dog fouling. Cllr Threlfall visited residents whose gardens back onto Jubilee Green and discussed with them individually; subsequently the contractor has been and trees now topped, the tractor tyre marks will be rolled out when ground conditions improve. Dog fouling remains problematic around the quarry and Banks Lane with emails from two residents. District Cllr Threlfall will request that the dog warden should target the village again, and clerk to add to next S&D Times. Additionally Julie from RDC suggested that moving one of the bins from Banks Lane to Station Road wasn't a great idea as deteriorating, but a new one could be bought and installed for £222. It was resolved to purchase a new dog bin. Scorton Grammar School – Request. Email addressed to District Cllr Threlfall and cced to PC requesting financial assistance for the repair of the clocktower. PC cannot help private residents to pay for the upkeep and repair of their property. Ripon Cathedral – VE day service. Likely to be cancelled due to COVID restrictions.

Meeting closed: 22.00