

NETHER WYRESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for the PC meeting of 17th Oct 2013, 7.30PM @ Scorton Primary School

Present: Cllrs Babbs, Cottle, Gorst, Atkinson, Anderton Collinson, the clerk, Luke Godden (ML Planning) and a member of the public

1. Apologies for absence:

Lancashire County Cllr Sandra Perkins

Wyre Borough Cllr Val Wilson

2. Declarations of Interest:

None

3. Minutes from last meeting:

Signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising:

Dog fouling (Millennium Way)

The clerk stated that she has contacted school and that they have 12 signs ready for lamination and collection. Cllr Cottle will get these and bring them to the next meeting for discussion.

Community Payback work

After many weeks of trying to sort this out, the clerk discovered that Roger Scanlon does not deal with Scorton, however, he has agreed to undertake this work and he has enough paint to do this. The clerk has agreed to ring him tomorrow, assuming the Parish Council agree to pay £50 for the work. The PC unanimously decided to pay this amount.

Lower Dolphinholme speed limit

The clerk reported that Karen Cassar had emailed her (on 26th Sept) to say that the section referred to (on the map) was not suitable for either a 20 or 30MPH. The PC requested the clerk to ask for clarification as to why this is the case.

Ford (Brewers Lane)

The clerk read the response from Highways (Karen Cassar) on 1st Oct:

"I note the comments made and we will review the area, however the work carried out by the operations team is to a good standard and a considerable amount of resources was invested in improving the ford at the Parish Council's request.

The recent work to the ford was carried out to improve the safety for motorized vehicles only. There are signs on both approaches advising cyclists to dismount before the ford and use the bridge for their own safety. I have pictures of these signs if you require them.

All vehicles using a ford would primarily drive through the centre of it as this is regarded as the safest point to cross. I note the comments in relation to the ford bed, however the water and any debris which will include stones, pebbles etc will scour the bed thus making it a more even surface over a period of time.

As advised by the approaching signs, pedal cycles should not be using this or any ford, they should dismount and use the footbridge.

There are approaching ford advisory signs on both sides of the ford to warn all motorized vehicles and road users to approach with caution and manoeuvre safely through it. The work undertaken has been as a repair only to an existing structure and has been carried out to an acceptable standard.

To summarize, the surface has not been changed only pointing around the existing stone bed to secure them in place, only motorized vehicles should be using the ford and all cyclists should dismount for their own safety and use the footbridge to cross it."

Drainage (Nr Spout House Farm, Tythebarn Lane)

Cllr Babbs has located a blocked drain which has been pointed out to Highways (Graham Wilcox) opposite Ghyll Wood. Appropriate clearance has been done and this is now clear.

Bench (Throstle's Nest)

Cllr Anderton has tried unsuccessfully to contact the owner. The PC decided to ask the lengthsman to keep an eye on it and if the condition deteriorates further, they will consider removal. The clerk will contact Josh.

Speed limit inconsistency (Station Lane)

The clerk stated that Highways (Chandra Dholakia) responded on 9th October to say that he is currently assessing the speed limits and he should be able to update the PC in 3-4 weeks time.

Introduction of yellow lines (Gubberford Lane, Nr Tythebarn Lane junction)

The clerk updated the PC regarding the response from Highways (Chandra Dholakia) on 9th October:

“A long hatched area (white, say 4 ft wide) on the opposite side of the junction would work just as well as yellow lines. The difficulty with yellow lines is that in a rural area there is very little parking enforcement, and for that reason it is very unusual to have yellow lines on rural county lanes. I have used hatched markings elsewhere in a similar manner and they will achieve the same desired effect as visitors to the area will be guided by the markings as to where they should not be parking.

The hatched marking offers a quick fix therefore if you are agreeable I can arrange for the marking to go down. We can either do that now at fairly short call or leave it till later on in the year when visitors start coming back after autumn/winter period.”

The PC instructed the clerk to request that the above be done as soon as possible.

5. Open forum:

Death of former parish clerk, Margaret Taylor

The clerk informed the PC and handed the chairman details of the obituary for Mrs Taylor.

Notice board

A member of the public stated that the notice board is in a bad state of repair. The PC members will obtain quotes for replacement.

Crime

PC Simon Jones reported that since his last update, there has been no crime in Scorton. Cllr Cottle presented details of the crime figures from the Wyre Area meeting (LALC) covering July to September. Anti social behaviour has dropped. All other crimes have reduced except damage and burglary. He reported several thefts within the parish and surrounding area.

ML Planning presentation (proposed caravan park, Lane Long) By Luke Godden

Mr Godden explained that they are still preparing evidence prior to submitting an application. It is likely to be a high impact proposal and visual impact is a major consideration for planning. It is anticipated that the benefits to the economy of Scorton will offset any visual impact caused. Highways issues are currently being looked at by specialists. An ecological survey has been done. He showed all relevant documentation to the PC as well as the proposed plans. The caravan site will house solely touring vans (53 in total) not static and there will be seasonal pitches. The applicant will endeavour to encourage long term stays rather than short stays. The applicant will have to prove the viability and sustainability of the business.

The PC commented that there are too many vans on the site too close to each other, and that turning would be difficult. They are concerned that there is a limited market due to other caravan sites in the area and the scale of development is an issue. They also stated that the proposal would bring more business into the village and saw that as a benefit.

6. Playing field:

Progress report & MUGA

Cllr Cottle handed out copies of the feasibility study for the MUGA done by Penny Bennett (architect). He has yet to ask her for costings (regarding the options). She has stated that the amount for her services will be £535.00. Cllr Cottle stated that the PC needed to consider whether it would be prepared to pay half. The clerk will include this on the next agenda. Cllr Cottle confirmed that the school will be involved in the consultation and the intention is that the MUGA will be open access so it can be used by everyone.

7. Bikes & Barrows

Cllr Cottle stated that finances are fine and in accordance with the figures he supplied to the clerk for inclusion on previous minutes (July).

8. Correspondence/circulated items:

Refer appendix 1. Items to discuss are:

WC – Remembrance services sheet 10th and 11th November (hard copy)

The clerk reminded the PC that this is available for anyone interested.

LCC – Proposal extinguishment of part of public footpath no 40 and creation of length of footpath

The above was circulated and Cllr Atkinson explained.

LALC Wyre Area Committee – super fast broadband

See item 9. Cllr Cottle received a leaflet at the Wyre Area committee. He gave one to Cllr Collinson. Most people will have this by 2015 (over 90%). Speed will increase from half a meg to thirty meg.

9. Borough Council & Lancashire County Council matters:

Wyre Area Committee – rural broadband

The clerk stated that Wyre Borough Cllr Val Wilson received a reply from Garry Payne regarding his lack of response to Cllr Collinson's email (containing comments from the village):

“firstly apologies that I have not replied to the previous email. You may be aware that the purpose of my request was to highlight areas within the rural communities where broadband speeds were low and then this information could be fed to BT who are rolling out rural broadband. I suggested to Dave Sharples that an invitation to BT inviting appropriate persons to come and speak to and meet with representatives if LALC may be appropriate and David agreed. I am pleased to say at the next LALC meeting representatives from BT will be making a presentation and that will provide you and others with the perfect opportunity to raise matters directly.”

10. Planning:

13/00714/FUL – SS side ext @ Snowhill Cottage, Snowhill Lane

Following discussion there was no objection raised in relation to the above.

13/00731/FUL – Erection of Det building for use as a potter's studio with ancillary living accommodation for Wyreside Cottage, Wagon Rd, Dolphinholme

The Parish Council has no objection but asked the clerk to request a restriction regarding the use, to prevent subletting.

Oaktree Cottage

The clerk spoke to the case officer Graham Avis who told her that even if it is only an enquiry, a file is set up and it is automatically classed as a complaint. Cllr Babbs email was construed as a complaint as he had used his official title. The clerk had explained that this had been raised by a member of the public with Cllr Babbs in his capacity as chairman and it had not been the PC's intention to complain formally. She also told him that Cllr Babbs had brought the correspondence from planning with him to make a full account at the last meeting so everything was clarified. The clerk suggested that if any emails are sent to planning that these are circulated to her and all PC members.

11. Decision notices:

13/00591/FUL – (Pear Tree Cottage) **Granted**

12. Highways:

Cabus Parish Council request for speed limit reduction (Gubberford Lane to A6)

Lancashire County Cllr Sandra Perkins informed the clerk via email on 7th October that the speed limit reduction is ready for signing off. There was no time scale but it should be sooner rather than later.

The clerk stated that Highways (Chandra Dholakia) responded on 9th October to say that he is currently assessing the speed limits and he should be able to update the PC in 3-4 weeks time.

Rd Surface (Gubberford Lane)

Lancashire County Cllr Sandra Perkins emailed the clerk on 7th October to say that she has been informed that the road surface is sound and as it is just not aesthetically pleasing, it does not qualify for any work in the foreseeable future.

Hedges (Mill Lane)

Residents received a strongly worded letter from Highways to cut hedges within 2 weeks which they have not been happy about. Cllr Atkinson suggested that it may be an idea to keep an eye on the hedges and if necessary pay a visit so that there is no need for Highways to write to them in future.

Man holes covers (junction of Mill Lane/Station Lane)

Residents have complained about the two rectangular covers, due to the noise caused by cars driving over them. They are close together and clatter very loudly when vehicles run on them. The clerk was asked to report this to Highways with a view to muffling the sound.

13. Lengthsman:

Jobs undertaken

The clerk read the email sent by Josh:

“W/C 19th Aug - Cutting back shrubs for moving bench near litter bin, stung by wasp so had to leave after putting up warning sign, then strimming sight railings all round. Returned the next day to mow up to church & tennis court and litter pick play area.

W/C 26th - Strim full length of Millennium Way (dog fouling is a big problem, had to go home for a change of clothes). Wasp nest sorted.

W/C 2nd Sept - 3rd week off

W/C 9th - Checking all round and litter picking, make repair to child swing seat as directed on play area. Cut back broken low hanging branch on Snow Hill Lane near Nicky Nook entrance. Inspect broken tapping rail on Millennium Way . Finished cutting back shrub at play area and moved seat.

W/C 16th - Litter picking all day including over Harris-end.

W/C 23rd - Strim & mow tennis court, & up to church, cut hedge at tennis court. Strim round shrubs on play & Litter Picking same.

W/C 30th - Strim full length of Mil-Way, cutting back shrubs and carting away as directed.

W/C 7th Oct - Two visits pruning shrubs at play area and carting away.”

Jobs

PC agreed that Josh should clear the playing field boundary of debris. The clerk will email him.

14. Village Hall:

Update

The clerk stated there was no village hall news to report.

15. Finance:

Account update

The clerk confirmed that there is £9591.83 left in the account.

16. Health & Safety:

None

17. Points of interest:

Woodland Tree order

The clerk was asked to change this to wild harvest.

18. Date of next meeting: **21st Nov 2013**

As there was no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.10PM

APPENDIX 1 – CORRESPONDENCE (EMAILED)

LCR magazine

LALC – Newsletter (Sept), accounts & LCC winter gritting leaflet

WC – Full council & Cabinet minutes 5th & 11th Sept links

WC – Overview & scrutiny committee agenda 23rd Sept link

Lancs PCC – Weekly roundup x 3

WC – Licensing committee agenda 26th Sept link

LCC – October bus service changes

LALC – Council of governor elections

LCC – Major transport schemes in Lancashire

WC – Schedule of executive decision x 3

LCC – Environment bulletin (Wyre) Oct 2013

WC – Agendas for Planning Committee & Standards Committee 2nd Oct links

WC – Remembrance services sheet 10th and 11th November (hard copy) see item 8

LCC – Adoption of Lancs minerals and waste site allocation and development management policies local plan

North West Air Ambulance – magazine

WC – Licensing committee minutes 26th Sept link

WC – Wyre Voice E –Newsletter

Community Futures AGM reminder emailed Cllr Babbs and Cottle

WC – Overview & Scrutiny committee minutes 23rd Sept link

LALC – Info from DCLG

WC – Standards committee minutes 2nd Oct link

WC – Planning committee minutes 2nd Oct link

WC – Consultations & annual report (Wyre estuary & waste recycling)

WC – Full Council agenda 17th October link and items 6 & 7

LCC – Nov bus service changes

WC – Community garden open day 15th Oct

LALC – insurance scenarios Q & A's

Community Futures – AGM info emailed to Cllrs Babbs and Cottle

WC – Overview & scrutiny committee agenda 21st Oct

LCC – 20MPH speed limit amendment order proposal

Police – Halloween posters

LCC – Proposal extinguishment of part of public footpath no 40 and creation of length of footpath see item 8

Came & Co – Parish Matters autumn 2013

WC – Special Constabulary recruitment evening 22nd Oct

LALC Wyre Area Committee – super fast broadband see items 8 and 9

WC – Cabinet agenda 23rd Oct link

LCC – Green partnership awards (grants)

LCC – Briefing note on bus services in Wyre & Fylde