

NETHER WYRESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for the PC meeting of 19th March 2015, 7.30PM @ Scorton Primary School

Present: Cllrs Collinson, Gorst, Babbs, Atkinson and Anderton, the clerk, Wyre Cllr Val Wilson Lancashire County Cllr Sandra Perkins and 2 members of the public

1. Apologies for absence:

Cllr Cottle

2. Declarations of Interest:

None

3. Minutes from last meeting:

Signed as a correct record.

4. Police report:

None. See appendix 1 for email reports for January and February.

5. Matters arising:

Street sweeping

The clerk reported the following responses from John Bettle (to Val Wilson):

3rd Feb:

"It is often difficult during the winter periods to stick rigidly to a sweeping schedule this is because operational reasons are more unpredictable and prevalent during winter causing for the sweeper to be often diverted away from a set rota however saying that – we do aim to stick to the rota. I will speak with the sweeper manager tomorrow as I have a meeting with him – and see if I can set some advance warning system in place. I will also discuss Cleveley bank Lane."

13th Feb:

"I have spoken to the sweeper supervisor and he has outlined some concerns he has had over sweeping Cleveley Bank Lane. The problem is access and to sweep with a safe working system we will have to apply for a road closure in order to prevent any risk of an accident. Because the lane is narrow and in one place so narrow we cannot get a sweeper through safely, the road will have to be swept in two parts. The reference for this work is CRM 101003716613."

10th March:

"A large proportion of Cleveley Bank Lane has now been mechanically swept and the small outstanding section will unfortunately have to be carried out under road closure conditions. This has always been a tricky section to sweep but thank you for bringing it to our attention and hope to complete the small outstanding area soon."

Wyre Cllr Wilson will raise the issue of a rota with him again.

Defibrillator (village hall)

Cllr Collinson discussed this with the PC and it was decided that the best place was the Methodist chapel. Once it is fixed, training will be arranged.

Plaques/memorial garden/ information board

Cllr Babbs stated that research is underway by Sue House regarding John Parkinson and a member of the public stated that he is looking into Thomas Mawson's history.

Blocked gully (Long Lane)

The clerk reported the response from Karen Cassar (Highways) on 30th Jan which states that the gullies have been cleared, however there is one at this location which requires additional work to remove roots. Works will be planned shortly.

6. Open forum:

Dangerous parking by Network Rail

The clerk read the response from the police (Matt Butcher) on 16th March following an email from a member of the public:

"I have heard nothing at all. I have monitored the area when possible and have encountered no issues myself. I have several colleagues that live in the area being talked about and they have reported nothing to me (they would if there was a problem). I am aware that the issue arises at different bridges in the area as most access points for the rail network are by the bridges."

Resurfacing (Station Lane and Gubberford Lane)

Cllrs Collinson and Atkinson have received adverse comments from a member of the public regarding the state of the above roads. It is felt that as more houses are being built and there is a trend for further development as well as the fact that both these roads are the main routes through the village, that the resurfacing of these should be requested. The clerk will contact Highways.

7. Playing field:

Progress report

None

Playing field inspection report & replacement equipment

Cllr Collinson requested that this should be put on the next agenda.

Playing field mowing

Cllr Collinson requested that this should be put on the next agenda in order to establish with school when and how often this is being done by the contractors.

8. Bikes & Barrows:

Cllr Collinson reported that the auction will be held on 17th April.

9. Correspondence/circulated items:

Refer appendix 1. Items to discuss are:

NALC – Changes to audit

The clerk stated that there is new legislation will come into effect from 01/07/15 meaning that parish councils must publish account information online. Online publishing replaces the external audit. The clerk has contacted the external auditor and they have stated that for at least for the next two years, the requirement remains for audit packs to be completed in the usual way because the government have not as yet removed this requirement.

The clerk has contacted Wyre Council to see if they would make the minutes she sends them available to the public. She received the following response:

“The Council won’t be able to publish this information for any parish council on our website. If we were to do so Wyre would become by default the Data Controller for the information published by each Parish/Town Council. This is not something that the Council wish to become. I understand that the idea is that each parish/town council must find a way of publishing their own data online. We don’t actually publish the parish council meeting minutes on the Wyre website they are published on our internal website Intranet which is accessed by Council staff only and not the public.”

The clerk asked Cllr Collinson to inform Joanne that more information will need to go on the village website because of this legislation.

10. Borough Council & Lancashire County Council matters:

Wyre Cllr Wilson reported:

- ❖ Council tax has been frozen.
- ❖ WC will fund the completion of the St Thomas’ Church Hall (which will become a hub of the community) from proceeds of the sale of the old council offices. Once sold, it is Wyre Council’s intention to ask parishes to suggest community projects in their area which they are willing to consider providing funding for.
- ❖ The Countryside Productivity scheme is now open to farmers, and land managers etc. who are being invited to apply for grants. This money can be used to invest in improved infrastructure. (She circulated the email.)

Lancashire County Cllr Sandra Perkins reported the following:

- ❖ She stated that the speed limit reduction on Gubberford Lane is now in place.
- ❖ She is seeing the police commissioner soon and invited the PC to raise any matters for his attention.
- ❖ There have been delays in reopening the tip but it is anticipated that these will be resolved soon.

11. Planning:

15/00092/FUL - Erection of agri building @ Old School House, Long Lane, Scorton

15/00069/FUL - Erection of replacement dwelling @ Ash Lea, Station Lane, Scorton

15/00185/FUL - External alterations to rear and side elevations @ Briar Cottage, The Square, Scorton

The PC had no objections to any of the above

12. Decision notices:

14/00675/FUL – (Erection of new dwelling with granny annexe @ Scorton Post Office, The Square, Scorton) **Permitted**

14/00937/FUL – (Installation of a play surface @ Scorton C of E School, Snow Hill Lane) **Permitted**

15/00066/AGR – (Prior no. for erection of agri building @ Webster’s Farm, Long Lane) **Prior approval not required**

13. Highways:

Blocked Gullies (Cleveley Bank & Springfield Gdns)

Following a report from the lengthsman, the clerk reported the response from Karen Cassar (Highways) on 22nd February:

“We believe there are tree roots within the gullies/pipes therefore are currently making arrangements to have them cut to enable the water to run freely. In the meantime we are erected flood boards to advise road users. I would anticipate these works being completed at our earliest available opportunity.”

Blocked gully (nr Wyreside Hall, Wagon Rd)

Cllr Gorst stated that he used to clear this but now it requires further attention. The clerk was requested to report this to Highways. Lancashire County Cllr Sandra Perkins will investigate a solution.

Street name signs (outside Pear Tree Cottage, Station Lane & on the Post Office)

The PC stated that both signs are in need of a repaint or renewal. The clerk stated that she thought this was Wyre Council’s responsibility. She will contact them and Cllr Wilson will also look into it.

14. Lengthsman:

Jobs undertaken

The clerk circulated the time sheet received since the last meeting.

Jobs to be done

The clerk was asked to report the following jobs:

- ❖ Mowing of the playing field.
- ❖ Re-fix reflector post (30m metres from Bridge on Gubberford Lane following an accident).

New lengthsman arrangements 2015/16

The clerk circulated the summary of the lengthsman interviews. This was signed as a correct record by Cllrs Collinson, Anderton & the clerk. Following discussion, the PC unanimously agreed to appoint John Slinger to the post. It was agreed that he should obtain public liability of 2 million. The clerk suggested that Cllr Collinson could go through the details with him including possible training. The clerk will prepare all the necessary paperwork and letter of acceptance. Other applicants will also be notified accordingly.

LCC PROW scheme

PC opted to remain in the scheme.

15. Village Hall:

No update received

Rear of village hall rubble

The PC agreed that correspondence should be sent to the homeowners of Oaktree Cottage (Factory Brow) to ask them to arrange for the building materials to be removed from the rear of the village hall.

16. Finance:

account update

The clerk confirmed remaining funds @ 02/03/15 as £10,862.01.

Items approved for payment in March:

War memorial handrail - £120

Beckett Rawcliffe (Clerk's PAYE) - £120

Community futures sub - £30

**Lengthsman PROW payments - £148 plus fix dog sigs and provision of poles etc
£16 total £164**

Scorton C of E Primary school (room hire) - £80

Cllr Collinson (advert) - £179.76

Items approved for payment in April:

LALC sub - £150.26

Lengthsman co-ordinator fee 2015/16

PC agreed to continue to pay the clerk the annual fee of £75.

Items for discussion:

Notice board - Cllr Collinson will chase progress.

17. Health & Safety:

No health and safety concerns raised.

18. Points of interest:

Nomination packs

These were handed out to Cllrs. The clerk stated that Joanne Porter at Wyre will inform her of the outcome in April and she has stated that members can act as Cllrs WEF 7th May.

Audit review

Arrangements for the internal audit were considered and approved.

Risk assessment

The PC agreed the format of the document.

Standing orders

The PC agreed the format of the document.

Financial regulations

The PC agreed the format of the document

19. Date of next meeting: **7th May 2015 including the AGM**

As there was no further business, the meeting concluded at 8.50PM

APPENDIX 1 – CORRESPONDENCE (EMAILED)

LCC – Winter service bulletins 22nd - 29th Jan, 3rd – 5th Feb, 5th – 12th Feb & 13th – 19th Feb, 19th -26th Feb, 26th Feb – 5th March & 5th -12th March

NALC – Changes to audit see item 9

BT – Green energy community project

Community Futures – E bulletin x 2

Rural Services Network – Digest 2/2 and Rural opps bulletin

WC – Schedule of executive decisions 3/2, 10/2, 12/2, 25/2, 26/2 and 27/2

LCC – Parish & town conference 21st March programme

WC – Portfolio holder decisions 29th Jan link

WC – Planning committee minutes 4th Feb link

Realise Futures leaflet

WC – Wyre Voice community e-newsletter Feb & March

Police – crime summary Jan plus February

Community Futures – Ron Pickup tribute

WC – Cabinet agenda 18th Feb link & deadline for questions agenda item 4

LCC – Bus service changes March & April

WC – Portfolio holder reports 12th Feb link

WC – Portfolio holder reports 13th Feb link

WC – Overview & scrutiny agenda 23rd Feb link

Wicksteed – Info leaflet

WC – Licensing committee agenda 26th Feb link

WC – Portfolio holder reports 12th Feb

LCC – Rd closure Gubberford Lane 26th May x 2

WC – Portfolio holder decision (transport masterplan draft)

LCC – Annual report

WC – Cabinet minutes 18th Feb link

WC – Planning Committee agenda 4th March link

WC – Full council agenda 5th March link & item 7 & 8 questions

WC – Overview & scrutiny committee minutes 23rd Feb link

WC – Portfolio holder report & decisions (resources) 26th Feb link

WC – Community funding from Jewsons emailed to Cllr Cottle

WC – Employment & Appeals committee 9th March agenda

WC – Licensing committee 26th Feb minutes link

WC – Audit committee agenda 10th March link

WC – Engaging with communities task group 9th March link

Clerks & Councils Direct magazine

WC – Wyre Voice freeze on council tax

WC – Full council minutes 5th March link

WC – Planning committee minutes 4th March link

WC – Portfolio holder reports 12th March links

WC – Employment & appeals committee minutes 9th March link

WC – Overview & scrutiny committee agenda 23rd March link

WC – Audit committee minutes 10th March link

WC – Central gateway funding for community groups

WC – Funding opps for farmers, game keepers etc

WC – Cabinet agenda 25th March link

LCR magazine

LALC – Three tier forum meeting Tuesday 24th March

LALC – April meeting

WC – engaging with communities' task group minutes 9th March link

WC – Licensing committee 26th March agenda link

WC – Portfolio holder report 18th March link