

NETHER WYRESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for the online PC meeting of 6th May 2020 (WEDNESDAY)

Feedback received from: Cllrs Atkinson, Drinnan, Kenyon, Collinson, Hantom and Cottle, responses provided by the clerk

1. Apologies:

None

2. Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Collinson item 10.

3. Minutes from last meeting:

Signed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising (from last meeting):

Village enhancement

Cllr Kenyon pointed out that the collar on the bottom of the street light appears to be a poor fit and questioned whether there are any additional parts to be fitted.

Cllr Drinnan reported the following:

The lighting scheme

“Commenced on site with various installations in place. Not sure whether work was suspended due to CV19. If not complete, scheme will recommence as LCC are to start to resume contract work w/c 04/05/20. New columns and painting should follow through due to improved weather conditions. Will get an update from LCC and circulate to councillors. Noted that the column outside Pear Tree Cottage is not installed as per agreement with extension section included, which makes the column seem over scaled relative to adjoining building. Payment for the scheme will be via Bikes and Barrows that will be invoiced on completion of the scheme.”

The broader enhancement scheme

“This has not progressed and a discussion should be had as to how this might be taken forward. The ‘ideas’ paper which I prepared could be placed on the website. Views about this would be appreciated.”

Grass area (Wyresdale Crescent)

Cllr Drinnan questioned whether this is owned by LCC.

B4RN

Cllr Atkinson referred PC to B4RN email update 30/4.

Millennium Way audit

Deferred until further notice. Cllr Atkinson has had no further contact with Alison Bowden (who confirmed she is not attending meetings due to Covid-19).

Inventory of benches in the parish (to ascertain their condition)

As above.

Hedges Station Lane (near 6 Arches)

Cllr Kenyon said this has been cut.

Hedges Station Lane (railway bridge)

The clerk reported the response from Highways on 12th February as follows:

“Logged under reference 210456 for investigation. Due to the fall-out from the recent storm we have yet to inspect Station Lane but will attend shortly. If the hedge is still causing a safety issue a letter will be sent to the landowner to cut it back and will then monitor to ensure it has been done.”

Blocked gullies (near Tuft Cottage, Long Lane)

The clerk reported the response from Highways on 12th February as follows:

“The gullies are on Factory Brow and when last checked, the gullies were running. We know that during heavy rainfall, the road is prone to flooding due to the nearby river at full capacity.”

Cllr Atkinson stated that this is not on Factory Brow, it is Long Lane, between Park Gate Farm and the junction with Cleveley Bank Lane and they are still blocked or partially blocked. It has nothing to do with draining into the river. The clerk has emailed Highways.

Blocked gullies (Tithebarn Lane)

The clerk reported the response from Highways on 12th February as follows:

“We cleared the blockage issue at the top of the hill but there is another blockage issue, which requires a dig down. Officers are trying to contact Cadent for permission as the area affects a high pressure gas main. We will continue to try them for their agreement so we can programme in the works.”

Request for dog Bin (Snowhill Lane)

The clerk has emailed and left a message for Wyre Cllr Jonny Leech.

Cllr Kenyon said it remained an issue and Cllr Cottle stated he walked over Nicky Nook recently and right round by Peddar's Wood. He counted 12 or more bags of dog excrement abandoned in hedge rows etc. Therefore, he fully supports provision of dog bins in appropriate places on the road side. He is aware that WBC will only install them on road side therefore, he believes the stile by Snow Hill would be a good site. Several members of the public have also raised this with him.

Blocked drains (Snowhill Lane, outside The Priory)

The clerk reported the response from Highways on 14th April as follows:

“As we continue to deal with Covid-19, our priority is on ensuring essential services to our most vulnerable residents are maintained. This means that we will only be prioritising responses to enquiries that relate to issues of public safety, including safeguarding. All other enquiries, such as your report of blocked gullies on Snowhill Lane, will be dealt with when we have capacity to do so. I'm sure you will understand why we have taken this decision and I appreciate the parish council's ongoing support during these unprecedented times.”

Drains (Lower Dolphinholme)

The clerk to report the response from Highways on 5th February as follows:

“I have logged your report and attached the 7 photographs under reference number 228016 for investigation. We will add this onto our reactive gully cleansing programme and will attend at our earliest opportunity.

Historically, we visited every highway gully in Lancashire every 12 months as part of our gully cleansing programme. However, as many of these gullies were clear, our jetting crews often did not need to carry out any work.

To make our service more cost effective, we developed a cleansing programme based on officers' considerable local knowledge, the findings of our jetting teams, and reported problems.

We now attend highest priority gullies every 12 months. These are gullies which are normally full, or close to full, at the annual clean, or which have a history of blockages. We attend the next highest priority gullies every 24 months; these are gullies that benefit from routine cleansing as they are likely to block if not cleansed after this period.

The remainder of the county's gullies, like Wagon Road, no longer receive routine maintenance. This is because, historically, they never had any reported blockages or needed cleansing. Of course, we will still attend these gullies on a reactive basis when notified of any blockages.

The priority order of our cleansing programme is not fixed, and we continue to monitor its effectiveness. Should local conditions change, we will change the priority of any gully where necessary.”

Blocked gullies (Gubberford Lane near railway bridge)

The clerk reported an update from Highways on 12th February as follows:

“The gullies have been added to our reactive gully cleansing programme and we will attend the section of Gubberford Lane as soon as we can.”

Snowhill Lane request for resurface (motorway bridge to T junction with Higher Ln)

The clerk reported the response from Highways on 12th Feb as follows:

“Logged under reference 227084, we will investigate and repair any potholes that meet our investigatory level. The investigatory levels for carriageways potholes are 40mm deep or greater and 150mm wide.

Our annual resurfacing programme is compiled using video surveys together with a number of key considerations including: the asset's strategic importance, the number of reported defects, the volume and speed of traffic and its proximity to major utilities, such as hospitals. We repeat this survey and assessments each year to capture any ongoing changes to ensure we prioritise schemes effectively.

This aligns with our long term maintenance plan, which takes a proactive approach and helps ensure we carry out preventative maintenance at the most appropriate time, using the most cost-effective solution. This in turn reduces the rate of deterioration, preventing the need for more costly maintenance sooner than would normally be required.

Unfortunately, previous assessments have identified higher priority schemes for the resurfacing programmes above Snowhill Lane. In the meantime, we will continue to monitor its condition to ensure it remains safe and serviceable.”

Cllr Drinnan noted the response but stated that this is normally a key access route to Nicky Nook and is in a dreadful state, not only seriously potholed, but the margins are suffering significant erosion which is effectively reducing the carriageway width. He stated he would like this to be raised again. The clerk has contacted Highways.

Parking problems (Higher Lane)

Cllr Drinnan agreed with Cllr Cottle's comments. Cllr Cottle stated that he is unsure whether any discussions have been had with James Whewell but now that they have cleared much of that woodland opposite the bottom of the Nicky Nook he wonders whether something could be done to enable cars to be parked off the highway at minimum cost. He said visitors actually obstructing the road is not acceptable.

Cllr Atkinson stated that she did not manage to get around to seeing the Whewell's about this before the lockdown, so Cllr Collinson said she would try to deal with this. She stated that they do need to remove the Café Parking signs from the wall at the top of Snowhill and if this is not done, the PC should pass it on to LCC for their action.

Cllr Kenyon stated that Apple store parking signs on the road side wall encourages parking and suggested removal.

Website Accessibility

The clerk confirmed that PC documents can't be uploaded to Wyre Council's site.

The clerk has prepared an accessibility statement and sent this to Steve Elliott for him to amend as required and email back.

She has also prepared a word document of the AGAR (annual return form) which can be completed to create a PDF which is accessible without the need to purchase Adobe Pro.

Tree planting scheme

Cllr Collinson has spoken to Lea green farm enquiry and they will pursue on their own.

5. Open forum:

None

6. Playing field:

No report

7. Bikes & Barrows:

No report

8. Correspondence/circulated items:

Refer appendix 1.

9. Borough Council & Lancashire County Council matters:

No reports provided.

10. Planning:

20/00304/FUL - Conversion of existing outbuilding to provide one holiday let @
Lea Green Farm Long Lane Scorton

Notification of no objections sent 28/4 regarding the above plan.

11. Decision notices(status):

20/00011/FUL – (Extension to existing front dormer, proposed rear dormer and single storey rear extension @ Daffodils Station Lane Scorton) **Permitted**

18/00610/DIS – (Siting of one holiday chalet @ Park Brook Long Lane Scorton. Approval of details reserved by condition 4 (construction environmental plan) & 9 (contamination desk study) **Split decision**

12. Highways:

Hedge (between The Crescent & the M6 bridge)

Cllr Atkinson stated that the PC need to chase up to ensure these are cut next season.

Station Lane

Cllr Drinnan requested whether there has been any update on this. The clerk has confirmed there is not.

13. Lengthsman:

Jobs undertaken

The clerk circulated the latest time sheet via email.

Jobs to be done

The clerk has emailed Cllrs Collinson and the lengthsman re the following:

- ❖ Can it be checked if there is some cross over with the council on grass cutting particularly the 2 grass areas before the Arch opposite the shop.
- ❖ The 'gateway' displays need some attention. Approval was expressed that he has worked on the war memorial.
- ❖ A request was made to cut back the area around the entrance to Scorton Hall Park overhanging the small area of green space/memorial bench to reveal the historic stone wall – a matter raised before.

Cllr Collinson stated that LCC normally cut the grass at the bottom of Scorton Hall Park and said it may be useful to know how often this is done but she does not know who to ask. She also suggested writing to the owner of the Lodge, Scorton Hall Park requesting her to cut back vegetation. The clerk will await feedback from the other cllrs before proceeding.

14. Village Hall:

Update from Joanne Golton

Village hall maintenance

"as everyone is aware the village hall is now closed until the govt permits activities in local community centres once again. During this period of closure, we will use the time to give the hall a spring clean and throw out some junk. I've also approached a couple of builders to see about repairs to the front concrete path. Inside the hall the joists have been repaired and we await the joiner to replace split floorboards and then will get the floor sanded and varnished so it will sparkle when we reopen. all work is been done within government guidelines on social distancing etc.

website

the current scortonvillage website is on an old platform which uses flash. many web browsers are now not supporting the technology, so I hope to move it to wordpress in the coming weeks. most people use this now and it is easier to use

social media

the village is served by a facebook page called Scorton Village which has 1800 followers from the area and further afield, also a new Scorton Life facebook group which has about 60 local members currently. Also, there is a twitter account @scortonvillage which has over 800 followers.”

15. Finance:

Account update

Balance as per end of year statement (see AGM minutes).

Items approved for payment:

PC insurance Community Action Suffolk - £428.40

Lengthsman invoice (March) - £286.00

Lengthsman invoice (April) – Not received yet.

Lengthsman grass cutting - £80.00

16. Health & Safety:

No concerns raised.

17. Points of interest:

Covid-19 Standing orders

The PC approved the document.

Wyre Council bin service

Cllr Collinson stated that regarding the new service, when it was mentioned that red top recycling bins were being introduced, there appeared to be no reference to the fact that this was on a reduced service (ie blue one week, red next). With regards to the green bins, she queried when they will be back up to speed on this. Bin wagons currently get round in record time with no traffic on the road. Also during the last 4 weeks, everyone has been gardening yet WBC are not emptying the bins. The clerk has left a message for Wyre Cllr Jonny Leech and emailed him about her comments.

18. Date of next meeting: **18th June 2020**

APPENDIX 1 – CORRESPONDENCE (EMAILED)

WC – Consultation re district limited pilot scheme

LALC – Spring conference

WC – Press release: inspiring Wyre’s young people & children

WC – Council minutes 9/1 link

WC – Planning agenda, supplement and minutes 5/2 link

LCC – Budget consultation 2020/21

Community Futures – Information bulletin

B4RN newsletter

Broxap play info

LCC – Winter stakeholder bulletin 31/1, 7/2, 14/2, 21/2, 28/2, 6/3,13/3, 20/3, 27/3, 3/4, 9/4, 16/4

WC – ACT awareness poster

WC – Overview & scrutiny minutes 27/1 link

WC – Council agenda & minutes 6/2 links

RSN – Rural bulletin 28/1, 11/2, 18/2, 25/2, 3/3, 10/3 , 17/3, 24/3, 31/3, 7/4, 15/4

WC – Flood Forum agreed standard of service 2020

WC - Buying Wyre community lottery tickets

WC – Licensing minutes 30/1 link

WC – Items published 4/2 links

WC – Cabinet agenda & minutes 12/2 links

RSN Rural funding digest Feb, March & April

WC – Flood Forum dates

Eibe play info

WC – Items published 6/2 links

LCR magazine

Battle of Britain 80th celebrations

LALC – Annual conference 25/4

LCC – Bus service changes March & April

WC – Flood Forum minutes 9/1

Community Futures info bulletin

LALC – Safer road user event plus subsequent cancellation of event

WC – Employment & Appeals agenda & minutes 24/2 link

WC – Items published 14/2 links

WC – Schedule of executive decisions 14/2, 18/2, 28/2, 4/3, 17/3, 3/4

LALC – Meeting 29/1

WC – Wyre community lottery tickets on sale

WC – Items published 18/2 links

WC – Licensing agenda, supplement & minutes 27/2 links

LCC Parish & town council conference documents

RSN – Rural strategy

WC – Press release: Garstang walking festival

WC – Planning agenda & supplement 4/3 links

WC – Items published 4/3 links

WC – Council agenda & minutes 12/3 link

WC – Standards agenda & minutes 12/3 link

WC – Press release: Wyre's budget for the year ahead

WC – Overview & scrutiny agenda 16/3 link

WC – Planning decision 6/3 x 2 links

WC – Flood forum agenda 12/3

LCC – Rd closure Higher Lane 1/6

WC – Press release: using nature to boost wellbeing

LCC – Rd closures North West Stages Rally 21/3 plus subsequent notification of cancellation of event

WC – Flood forum extra documents

WC – Coronavirus update

WC – Items published 12/3 link

WC – Portfolio holder decision agenda 28/3 link

WC – Portfolio holder decision agenda 19/3 link

Community Futures - Info bulletin March

WC – items published 16/3 links

WC – cancellation of June flood forum meeting

WC – Items published 17/3 links

WC – Cabinet agenda & minutes 26/3 links

WC – Wyre Council meeting events & facilities

WC – Licensing agenda & supplement 26/3 links

WC – Portfolio holder decision agenda 25/3 link

WC – Portfolio holder decision agendas x 3 19/3 links

WC – Wyre's response to Coronavirus

LCC – Rd closure Higher Lane 1/6

WC – Portfolio holder decision agenda 27/3 link

LCC – Coronavirus and scams

WC – Items published 24/3 links

LALC – Annual conference reschedule to 17/10

Community Futures information bulletin

WC – item published 24/3 link

WC – Portfolio holder decision agenda 31/3 link

B4RN – Message to all B4RN champions re Covid-19 outbreak

LALC – Rural bus enquiry deadline extension

LCC – CAB consumer update March re Covid-19

WC – Portfolio holder decisions x 2 25/3 links

WC – Press release: Making a difference to those most vulnerable

WC – Portfolio holder decisions x 4 27/3 links

LCC – Queens award for voluntary service nominations for Lancashire

WC – Supporting those in need

LCC – Covid -19 help for residents

WC – Coronavirus briefing re waiving legal requirements around LA meetings

LALC – Notification of cancellation of meeting

WC – Portfolio holder decisions x 2 31/3 links

WC – Items published 3/4 links

LCC – Funding offer for Covid-19 actions from Community Foundation

WC – LA meetings and elections

LCC – Rural community Energy Fund

LALC – Toilet tax

LCC – Trading Standards consumer alerts April

LCC – Grants for community groups supporting the vulnerable in response to Covid-19

WC – Supporting local businesses

WC – Portfolio holder decision agenda 16/4 link

WC – Licensing agenda 22/4 link