



Sutton on the Forest

Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Sutton on the Forest Parish Council held on Thursday 16 May 2019 at 7.45pm in the Grey Village Hall.

Present: Councillor Anderson
Councillor Gray
Councillor McMeekin
Councillor Matthews
Councillor Rankin
Councillor Shearman (Chair)

In Attendance: Sue Bracewell (clerk)
County Councillor Patmore (NYCC)

Two members of the public.

It was proposed by Cllr Shearman and seconded by Cllr McMeekin that the a resolution to exclude the press and public from Item 16 due to the confidential nature of the business, be approved. This was agreed. Cllr Shearman suggested that we should report progress on the Moor End easement request to the parish meeting when residents could air any concerns.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Di Watkins.

Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

19/31 Minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2019

31.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2019 had been circulated. These were proposed as a correct record by Councillor Shearman and seconded by Councillor Rankin.

19/32 Matters arising

32.1 Land at the rear of The Green. The clerk confirmed that the registration documents had been received from the land registry together with all the documentation. The £900 service charge monies from the Burgess's had been transferred to the Parish Council account. An invoice had been received from Barbara Jacobs for the conveyancing work she had done and this was in line with the estimate that had been agreed. It was agreed that the clerk should write to all the tenants advising them of their new landlord and making arrangements for the payment of the service charge of £90 per year to be made to the Parish Council. **Action: clerk**

32.2 Defibrillator – the clerk reported that delivery had been delayed due to a supplier issue with the cabinets, it was now expected week ending 25 May. We had received a voucher to enable us to get the red paint for the phone box free of charge and this had been collected. A quote for the installation of the defibrillator and a new

light was expected week ending 17 May. It was also expected that a grant of £600 towards the costs would be forthcoming from Easingwold Lions. Clerk to advise John Barrass and Caroline Mytum once it was installed.

32.3 RCAF service. The Service will be held on Saturday 18 May. Alan Dolding had everything in place. RAF Leeming and Linton are to be represented.

32.4 Public Participation

32.5 Paul Phillips raised concerns that the vehicle access issue on Moor End was being discussed in private business without the knowledge of the village. I was agreed that once a licence agreement had been negotiated it would be shared with the village before being signed off. It was suggested that this could be at the Annual Parish meeting.

19/33 Report from North Yorkshire County Council

19/34 County Cllr Patmore precise'd her annual report from North Yorkshire, her full report is attached to these minutes.

19/35 Report from Hambleton District Council

35.1 District Cllr Watkins had sent apologies.

19/36 Finance

36.1 The Governance statement was proposed by Cllr Rankin and seconded by Cllr Anderson. Five Councillors were in agreement, one abstained.

36.2 The Asset register was proposed as correct by Cllr Rankin and seconded by Cllr Mcmeekin. All were in agreement.

36.3 The following payments were approved, proposed by Cllr Shearman and seconded by Cllr.Rankin All were in agreement.

12.4.19	BACS		Heartbeat Trust	Defibrillator	2,466.00
1.5.19	BACS	210/19	Easingwold Town Hall	RCAF advertising	96.00
1.5.19	BACS	30/19	D S Marwood	Grass cutting	100.00
1.5.19	BACS	170/19	Jorvik Web design	Web hosting and domain	150.96
7.5.19	265	140/19	Inc Dot	Newsletter	139.95
16.5.19	266	80/19	S M Bracewell	Clerks expenses	192.34

36.4 The audited accounts for year ending 31 March 2019 had been circulated. These were approved, proposed by Cllr Anderson and seconded by Cllr Rankin. All were in agreement.

36.5 The submission to the external auditors had been circulated. This was approved by Cllr Rankin and seconded by Cllr Anderson, all were in agreement.

36.6 The insurance renewal documents had been circulated. It was agreed to take out the three year offer with our current insurers, Inspire. Proposed by Cllr Matthews and seconded by Cllr Gray. All were in favour.

36.7 With the change in Councillors, one more signatory was required for our bank account. Cllr Matthews had agreed to do this.

- 19/37 **Information held by Councillors.** If it is sensitive and confidential it needs to be destroyed. Cllr Shearman proposed and it was agreed unanimously that we write to retiring Councillors reminding them to confirm they have destroyed any sensitive data. **Action: clerk**

37.1 Cllr Shearman also reminded councillors that we do not pass on contact information to anyone without permission from the person concerned.

- 19/38 **Annual Parish Meeting**

38.1 It was agreed to hold this year's Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 10 July. The Parish Council meeting will be moved to Wednesday 3 July. **Action: clerk**

- 19/39 **Dog fouling**

39.1 This was becoming a concern for residents. It was agreed to purchase some signs for the playing field to remind people that dogs must be on a lead and that dog poo should be cleared up. It was agreed we should contact the dog warden and ask them to come to the village and talk to people.

39.2 Cllr Anderson raised an issue of parking at the entrance to Jacobs Court, needs investigating. Cllr Anderson agreed to ask Pam Murray about ownership of the grass verge concerned. **Action: Cllr Anderson**

- 19/40 **Planning**

40.1 The planning update as circulated was noted.

- 19/41 **Reports from village organisations**

41.1 Newsletter. Cllr Shearman reported that he needed a volunteer to help with the delivery of newsletters. Cllr McMeekin volunteered to do this and Cllr Gray volunteered to be a backup when needed.

- 19/42 **Date of next meeting**

Next meeting **Wednesday 3 July 2019 7.30pm in the Grey Village Hall**

Annual Parish Meeting will be on 10 July in the Grey Village Hall.

NYCC REPORT 2019/20

This is a snapshot of the work at NYCC for the stated year, starting with the items of concern:

SOCIAL CARE

Care of the disabled and older people. NYCC on the whole does a good job in it's Extra Care Housing which now has a centre in most of the market towns in the County, but concern has been expressed in some quarters about the actual care delivered. This is being monitored and improved where needed. Money is at the root of this service's difficulties and this must be addressed in the near future by national government as it is country wide issue.

SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION

Education in the County isn't producing the results in our schools that it was in the past. Again a careful eye is watching this and plans put in place to bring about the improvements needed. Of course we now have several primary and secondary schools that have taken on the status of academies and these are no longer controlled or supported financially by the Authority. School heads feel that again more money is needed to help raise standards, and more money has been paid into their budgets. But remember all salaries have also risen substantially in the last few years.

HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT

Also home to school transport, particularly for young people with learning and physical disabilities. A lot of consideration and time has been put into this by the County professionals, and careful consultation with the parents and carers of these young people is taking, and has taken place. I feel it is now moving in the right direction. The costs of delivering this transport are massive because of the size and rurality of our County. I am pleased to tell you that very recently work has been done by the House of Lords, and the report just published recognises that rural counties such as ours, have been substantially under-funded in the past by all governments. What will be done about this is still to be seen.

HIGHWAYS, POTHoles AND SPEEDING

These problems take place in most of our villages and always seem to be at the top of local councils' agenda, and very understandably in this Division. Many of our roads are hazardous to users and this is being regularly drawn to the attention of the Highways Department by both the parish councils and myself. Any work done to maintain our highways and byways has to be considered across the County as a whole, and prioritised by the professional engineers. This is frustrating locally, but we will get our turn before long.

OTHER COUNTY BUSINESS

Devolution has, as you may have noticed or read, has been kicked into the long grass for the time being, and it won't return until Brexit is settled one way or another.

We still have big savings to make year on year due to the lack of government grants,

but we are now finding profitable ways around this, which is enabling us to remain one of the lowest taxing county councils in England.

This leads however to what the Authority has and is doing well. We are now working in partnership with Selby and Ryedale District Councils and also Scarborough Borough Council on several new levels which is saving council tax, and it is hoped that other districts and borough councils will eventually understand the benefits and the savings this can deliver.

Further, and connected to this work are several teckle companies set up by NYCC to take forward building affordable housing, deal with waste and deliver Broadband phase 3. These are not all new, but the benefits from working this way are becoming more understood by other authorities. Work on delivering other services this way is underway and the profits raised will be fed back into the teckle companies to benefit the council tax payers.

Just before I finish I would like to say a word or two about VAS – Vehicular Activated Signs. These can now be purchased by parish councils through NYCC if there is a speeding problem in the parish area. These are expensive and the costs of insulation and maintenance will have to be borne by the parish.

This is the second year out of four in this council term, and I personally think it has gone well and has a lot of promise for the future.

And finally, the 2 grants, Locality Budget Grants, that I hold for this Division are again to be awarded this year. One is for the social and economic benefit of villages and their inhabitants, and the other is for the benefit of our environment. Both these grants are mainly dealt with through the parish councils. The grants I hold are each for £5,000 and sums over £300 can be applied for by contacting myself, they are then scrutinised by NYCC and if OK awarded. They are also time limited because they must be spent within the year.

Thank you.

Caroline Patmore

May 2019