

KIRBY HILL AND DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

(incorporating Kirby Hill, Milby, Thornton Bridge, Humberton & Ellenthorpe parishes)

MINUTES of the parish council meeting held at 7.00pm on 13 March 2017, in the Coronation Hall, Milby (Notice having been given).

PRESENT: Cllrs Lawson (Chairman), Helliwell, Hick, Jones, Lister, Merson, Smailes, Widdows, Wilkinson, NYCCllr Windass, PC Jan Powell and Martin Rae (Clerk).

The chairman welcomed PC Jan Powell to the meeting

1. APOLOGIES for absence: DCllr Nick Brown

2. CODE OF CONDUCT/REGISTER OF INTERESTS: Cllr Lister 8b (ownership of part of field); Cllr Wilkinson 8e (farms the field)

3. MINUTES of the meeting of 16 January 2017, having been distributed previously were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman following proposal by Cllr Lister, seconded by Cllr Helliwell. **Matters arising** not covered in agenda – none

Police Report - Owing to PC Powell's limited time he was asked at this point to say a few words and answer any questions.

He introduced himself as the Community Beat Manager, based at Boroughbridge and covering a wide area including Ouseburn and as far south and east as Nun Monkton. Regarding reported crime in the Kirby Hill area in the previous two months he said there had only been three, including a burglary in Kirby Hill and an internet fraud against an elderly lady. Cllr Hick asked him about the potentially dangerous parking in Leeming Lane on the brow of the hill next to the St John's Walk junction. As many as six cars are sometimes parked there, obscuring the sight line for drivers emerging from St John's Walk. Cllr Hick considered that this was illegal parking as that part of the road had a central double white line. PC Powell suggested that the complaint should be addressed to HBC's civil enforcement officers since the police do not generally get involved in parking issues, even where restrictions are in place, unless there are road safety issues. He said, however, that he would investigate further to ascertain if there were any such safety issues.

Cllr Lister asked about the increasing problem of hare coursing and 'lamping' on farmland. PC Powell explained that much of his weekends are spent on this and that a task force has been set up to target known areas. This has resulted in some high profile prosecutions. In response to Cllr Wilkinson's query about whom to contact when encountering this crime PC Powell suggested calling 999 if there was danger to persons or property, otherwise 101.

PC Powell finished by giving an update on the current policing situation in Boroughbridge, explaining that the town's police station was earmarked for closure later in the year, after which he would most likely be transferred to Ripon. He said that several local parish councils had written to the Police Commissioner, Julia Mulligan, urging retention of the police station in Boroughbridge. Cllr Merson proposed that Kirby Hill and District PC should do likewise. Seconded by Cllr Lister.

ACTION CLERK

Regarding item 7e, the road safety issue at Thornton Bridge, PC Powell explained that while this was not in his area he would support the campaign to have the traffic lights re-instated or, failing that, to have the priority signage made more clear.

4. FINANCE

Clerk reported:

- a) Balance at 13 March 2017 **£3,416.98**
- b) HMRC PAYE (Oct/Nov/Dec) **£97.38 paid**
- c) Coronation Hall rent of room – **payment agreed**
- d) YLCA Planning Seminar fee 15 March **£86.25 paid**

5. CORRESPONDENCE

a) NYCC – Public Rights of Way Consultation. The clerk had previously distributed to councillors information about the new proposals and it was agreed that he should complete the questionnaire on the council's behalf on the basis that the council agreed to become involved in assessing the 'community value' of the footpaths in the parish.

ACTION CLERK

b) HBC – Parish Grass cutting grant. Following HBC's decision in January to end the grant, a number of parish councils had complained that they had not made budget provision for the cut. HBC

will therefore pay the grant as usual in 2017/18 but seek certain information from councils about their grass cutting regimes before making a decision on the grant's future. **ACTION CLERK**

6. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS & MEETINGS

- a) **NYCCllr Windass** had previously submitted a written report to the Joint Parish Council on 2 March and this had been forwarded to all councillors. He picked out the main points as being the increase in council tax due to the additional 2% for adult social care (which now took up 42% of the total budget), the HGV restrictions soon to be imposed in Boroughbridge and surrounding villages and the Allerton Waste Recovery Plant, where trial burnings were to take place in July/August. He also said that this was a quiet time when, in the lead up to elections, the council was in a sort of 'purdah' and that he hoped to stand for re-election.
- b) **DCllr Brown - In DCllr Brown's absence** Cllr Windass reported briefly on HBC items. The sale of the council's many office buildings was going successfully, circa. £1m having been received for Victoria House and many offers in the pipeline for Crescent Gardens, where negotiations were still in progress with the preferred bidder. The new offices at Knapping Mount were due to open in the summer. The consultation on the use of the Stray had been completed with a majority of respondents being in favour of keeping things the way they are. Cllr Windass explained that any major event on the stray (such as the recent Tour de France) needed permission from the Duchy of Lancaster, as owner. He reported that fly-tipping across the District was up 38% from two years ago and that the vast majority of items being illegally tipped were actually eligible for disposal at the county council's waste sites.
- c) **Joint Parish Council** – Minutes of the two meetings, 19 January and 2 March, had been distributed to councillors and the chairman asked for any questions. Cllr Hick asked about the possibility of the parish council producing a neighbourhood plan, since this would render the council eligible for 25% of the parish's portion of funding through CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) rather than the 15% that parishes without such a plan could potentially receive. The clerk and chairman explained that the council had several years ago tried unsuccessfully to formulate a plan but had run into difficulty when trying to identify the 'neighbourhood' because of overlaps with other parishes. It was also uncertain as to when the CIL arrangements would come into force so the major developments currently or imminently under way in the parish would probably not fall within their remit. It was agreed keep the matter on the 'back burner' and raise it again in a year's time. In the meantime the council was awaiting information about the 'commuted sums' under 106 agreements that might accrue from the new developments.
- d) **Boroughbridge Community Library** – Cllr Helliwell had earlier distributed to councillors a briefing note entitled "Start of a new era" which outlined the history from 2012 and the BACLA initiative to keep the library open using volunteers to the critical date 1 April 2017 when the library will become the *Boroughbridge Community Library and Resource Centre* run entirely by volunteers. He was very confident of the library's future. He paid special tribute in his briefing note to the two NYCC library staff, Maggie and Peter, who had been unfailing in their support and who would be greatly missed.

7. ONGOING AND OTHER MATTERS – UPDATES

- a) **Milby Island Management Project** – Cllr Merson reported on progress which was slow but steady, with more people with a genuine interest coming 'on board'. He explained how large sums of money were becoming available from the two [Gladman] developments for surface water drainage into the canal/river and hoped to try to have some of this funding used for general improvements on the island. The parish council fully supported this initiative. At the very least Cllr Merson hoped that the landscape on the island could return to its 2009 state, with more open space and cleared viewpoints across the river. He planned to obtain a costing for this level of annual maintenance. He reported that Cllr Lister had offered to help by lending heavy-duty farm equipment to remove some of the large heaps of flood debris and that a scout group in Ripon had offered to help by taking on a specific area. The Brighter Boroughbridge group had also been keen to support the project, subject to the availability of volunteers, and a visiting NYCC Footpaths officer had also expressed an interest. The chairman thanked Cllr Merson for the work and effort he was putting into this project. **ACTION CLLR MERSON**
- b) **NYCC Highways issues** – the clerk had received a final costing from NYCC on future vehicle activated signage for Leeming Lane. £1,500 per sign per annum. Cllrs agreed that this should no longer be pursued. **ACTION CLERK**
- c) **Village green complaint** Cllr Lawson had dealt with a complaint from a resident whose property overlooked the green and who was concerned about the wear and tear on part of the green due to

a visiting dog walker who repeatedly used the same piece of grass for ball games with the dog. Cllr Lawson had also had a chance to speak to the dog walker, who would hopefully from now on vary his ball throwing activity by alternating his chosen stretches of grass. The clerk will report back to the resident who complained. **ACTION CLERK**

d) Land at the corner of Leeming Lane and St.John's Walk Cllr Hick had spoken to John Goss of 'Brighter Boroughbridge' and had tried to contact Alan Jencks of HBC Open Spaces dept. about the possibility of some grant funding. He had not received any reply from the latter. In the meantime some improvement at the site had taken shape due to the work of a local resident. It was assumed that the land was 'verge' in the ownership of NYCC but not thought necessary to seek their permission to improve the area. It was agreed that Cllr Hick would pursue the idea of local 'self-help' to keep this small plot of land in good order. **ACTION CLLR HICK**

e) Thornton Bridge Safety Issue – Brafferton parish council had asked for support in their campaign to have the traffic lights re-instated on the bridge. This had followed several incidents of near misses and 'road rage' at the blind summit of the bridge. Councillors agreed that the clerk should contact Brafferton PC with their support. **ACTION CLERK**

f) AGM Date changed from 8 May to 3 May, along with Annual Parish Meeting and Ordinary meeting.

8. PLANNING

a) 6.22.74.A.OUTMAJ 15/04164/OUTMAJ

Gladman Developments Ltd

Outline applic for up to 145 dwellings with access considered, at land comprising field at 439826 457466 Milby

OUTLINE GRANTED – AWAITING DETAILED APPLICATION – RESERVED MATTERS

b) 6.57.66.A.REMMAJ 15/05451/REMMAJ

Reserved matters application under permission 6.57.66.DVCMAJ for erection of up to 176 dwellings at field 439448 467406 Milby. Harron Homes.

RESERVED MATTERS GRANTED

c) 6.47.30.C.OUTMAJ 16/02152/OUTMAJ

Land South of Home Farm Church Lane, Kirby Hill

Outline Application for residential development of up to 34 dwellings with access considered Mr and Mrs P Ellis

GRANTED

d) 6.36.8.A.FUL 16/05560/FUL

Treble Sykes Farm, Thornton Bridge

Sowray

Erection of agricultural building for poultry accommodation

GRANTED

e) 6.47.22.HEDGE 17/00354/HEDGE

Removal and replanting of 237m hedge. North Millings Lane.

J Wilkinson and Son

Parish council did not object

REFUSED

On the matter of hedge removal Cllrs Lister and Wilkinson queried why there had been no application to remove a long stretch of roadside hedge at Thornton Bridge which was presently wrapped to prevent bird nesting, presumably prior to removal. The clerk will investigate and seek advice from HBC planning. **ACTION CLERK**

Next Meetings (2017) **3 May (incl AGM) 10 Jul 11 Sept 13 Nov**

Meeting ended at 8.15pm

Signed.....Date.....