

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 29 February, 2016, in the Coronation Hall, Milby (Notice having been given)

PRESENT: Cllrs Helliwell (Chairman), Lawson, Lister, Smailes, Widdows, Wilkinson, DCllr Brown, NYCCllr Windass and Martin Rae (Clerk). Mr and Mrs Murphy of the School House, Kirby Hill attended for item 7a.

1. APOLOGIES for absence: Cllrs Merson and Parr

2. CODE OF CONDUCT/REGISTER OF INTERESTS: Cllr Lister – 8c, Cllr Wilkinson 5b

Item 7a was taken at this point (see details below)

3. MINUTES of the meeting of 11 January 2016, having been distributed previously, were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman. No matters arising.

4. FINANCE

Clerk reported:

- a) Balance at 29 February 2016 **£3,519.35**
- b) Coronation Hall rent of room: **£8.00 payment agreed**
- c) HBC Ground Maintenance Grant **£396.19 Received (Feb)**

5. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) **Boundary Commission** - Electoral Review Harrogate District. Public consultation ends 4 April. DCllr Brown confirmed that Kirby Hill and District Parish is not affected by proposed changes which might have an impact on Newby Ward.
- b) **HBC – Local Plan - Land Availability Initial Sites List** - Confirmation that the list was published for information only at this stage and that it does not indicate that the land was necessarily suitable for development. There will be a public consultation later in the year. The clerk had also received a letter from HBC outlining changes to the timetable for the Local Plan. Adoption of the plan was now scheduled for Autumn, 2018.
- c) **HBC – Changes to external audit procedures for 2017/18** – Parishes are required to decide by 31 March 2016 whether or not to *opt out* of the proposed new procedures for audit procurement. No action is required if the parish decides *not* to opt out as the parish would automatically be opted in to the new system from April 2017. Clerk has investigated the options and spoken to clerks of other parishes and **recommended against opting out** of the new arrangements. This would mean that the parish would not need to procure its own external audit as this would be arranged through the 'Sector Led Body' being set up jointly by the Dept for Communities and Local Government and the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) and in most cases there would be no fees. **RECOMMENDATION AGREED**

6. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS & MEETINGS

- a) **NYCCllr Robert Windass** reported that a recent meeting had ratified the recommendation that council tax be increased by 1.99% with a further 2% added for the provision of adult social care. He explained that many more ways of saving money and increasing revenue needed to be found by 2020, when central government funding would end. Attention would mainly be given to discretionary services, where further cuts could be made or charges increased.
- b) **DCllr Nick Brown** reported on discussions the council was having regarding devolution and on the slow progress towards a decision on which 'grouping' Harrogate would join. There were three options for Harrogate District: to go in with North Yorkshire, East Yorkshire and York; to become an associate member of the Leeds City Region; or to become fully part of the Leeds City Region. Regarding the garden waste collection service, DCllr Brown explained that no decision had been made yet on charging for the service. The possibility of a charge of £39pa had been discussed.
- c) **Boroughbridge Library:** Cllr Helliwell reported that progress towards securing the library's future as a 'community library' was very slow and he was now concerned that there could be

insufficient volunteers to make a go of it. He was also disappointed by the lack of support from Boroughbridge Town Council.

- d) Emergency Committee:** Cllr Helliwell reported that no review meeting had yet been held following the recent flooding. There were still issues with Yorkshire Water regarding flooding in the town. He considered that the co-operation and resolve shown by YW left much to be desired in comparison with that shown by HBC's Emergency Planning Dept.
- e) Joint Parishes Consultation Meeting 8 March:** Agendas had been distributed earlier in the week. Cllr Helliwell would be unable to attend but Cllr Smalles agreed to go as the parish council's representative.

7. ONGOING AND OTHER MATTERS – UPDATES

a) Village Green

Tree at School House – Mr and Mrs Murphy attended for this item which was taken at the start of the meeting. They had asked the council to consider the matter of the village green maple tree which was blocking light to their property but had hoped that a solution would involve some kind of cutting back rather than removal of the tree. Councillors had inspected the site since the last meeting and their view was that complete removal should be undertaken since the alternative would involve regular maintenance of the tree in future years at the council's expense. Cllr Lawson kindly volunteered to remove the tree at ground level, leaving the root, pro tem.

Village Green Grass cutting – The clerk had spoken to Aidan Foster regarding the collecting of grass cuttings after the first cut but had been told this was not possible as his mower does not have the necessary attachment. Aidan's solution to dealing with the long grass, which had continued to grow apace through the winter, was to do two cuts in quick succession, the first at a high setting. He had done this at Aldborough Village green with good results.

- b) Parish Council Website** The clerk had received a quotation from 'Parish Council Websites' for £260 for the setting up of the website in accordance with the new Transparency Code requirements and £10 per month thereafter for its maintenance and update. The alternative solution of obtaining access for the clerk to the Kirby Hill village website had already been explored with Gareth Owens, who is responsible for that site, but there were too many practical difficulties to make it feasible. Cllrs agreed that the clerk should proceed with the 'Parish Council Websites' offer and also investigate the possibility of securing some grant funding which is available through the Government as part of its introduction of the Transparency Code for Parish Councils.

ACTION CLERK

- c) Elections 5 May** The clerk reminded councillors that the deadline for submission of nomination and consent forms was 7 April and that he would be hand-delivering some to HBC Elections Office on 31 March, if anyone wanted him to include theirs in that batch.

9. PLANNING

a) 6.36.6.D.DVCON 12/03921/DVCON

Thornton Manor Farm Cottages – Variations following work commencement

ONGOING

OUTLINE GRANTED -AWAITING DETAILED APPLICATION – RESERVED MATTERS

b) 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

PENDING

c) 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.

PENDING

d) 6.47.21.1.FUL 15/05422/FUL

The Bungalow, Blue Bell Caravan Park, Kirby Hill

Conversion of garage with existing bedroom into self-contained flat

GRANTED

e) 6.47.46.X.FUL 16/00564/FUL

School House Church Lane Kirby Hill

Mr Roger Murphy

Erection of single storey side extension

CLLRS SUPPORTED THE APPLICATION

Other Business: Cllr Widdows raised the matter of parents' parking at the Church end of Millings Lane, causing tractors and buses etc. to mount the verge to get past, with consequential damage to the verges. The clerk would write to Vicki Farby in the hope that she would urge the parents to park with greater consideration in the future.

2016 Meetings **2 May 23 May (AGM) 11 Jul 12 Sept 7 Nov**

Meeting ended at 8.05pm

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