

KIRBY HILL AND DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

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

MINUTES of the parish council meeting held at 7.30pm 24 May 2021, in the Coronation Hall, Milby (Notice having been given). The meeting was held according to the hall's COVID 19 risk assessment and was socially distanced with councillors wearing face masks.

PRESENT: Cllrs Lawson (Chairman), Helliwell, Hick, Jones, Lister, Smailes, Widdows, Wilkinson, Cllr Windass, DCllr Brown and Martin Rae, parish clerk.

1. APOLOGIES for absence: Cllr Merson

(The reports of NYCCllr Windass and DCllr Brown were taken at this point – see 6a and 6b below)

2. CODE OF CONDUCT/DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS: Cllr Wilkinson 8a, Cllr Lister 8e

3. Report for March 2021 (In lieu of March meeting), having been distributed previously, was accepted as a true record. Duly signed by chairman.

4. FINANCE

The Clerk reported:

- a) Balance at 24 May 2021 **£6,784.83**
- b) **PAID £317.00** YLCA subscription
- c) **PAID £130.00** Parish Council Websites annual fee
- d) **PAID £316.51** Zurich Insurance
- e) **PAID £34.37** HBC Trade Waste 5x emptying Milby Island waste bin
- f) **PAID £97.38** HMRC PAYE (Jan/Feb/Mar)
- g) **RECEIVED £3,650** HBC 1st half year parish precept

5. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) **HBC** re LGA (Local Government Authority) *Model Code of Conduct for Councillors*. HBC advised parishes to adopt this Code to supersede any earlier ones. It had itself adopted the Code. The clerk had distributed the Code to Councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Helliwell proposed adoption of the Code, seconded by Cllr Jones. Agreed by the council and the Code was duly adopted.

6. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS & MEETINGS

- a) **NYCC**– Cllr Windass reported that from mid-June the road maintenance work carried out by Highways Area 6 would be brought 'in-house' when the 10 year contract with Ringways was due to end. He considered that this would be an improvement and that a new regime for pothole repair would be more effective. NY Highways might also in future be working with Leeds City Council and this would bring economies of scale.

Regarding the Kirby Hill MSA Application and subsequent appeal Cllr Windass had requested an investigation into the matter of emails sent by an HBC officer before the 2019 Planning Committee meeting which indicated that a landscape report had been 'massaged' to show a reduced landscape effect. He considered the outcome of the investigation very unsatisfactory as it had more or less denied that such 'massaging' had taken place. He said that he intended to take the matter further.

As far as the North Yorkshire local government re-organisation was concerned Cllr Windass expected that the Minister for Housing and Local Government, Robert Jenrick, would make an announcement in July.

- b) **HBC** – DCllr Brown reported. He fully supported Cllr Windass in his quest to obtain the truth about the 'massaged' landscape report prior to the 2019 Planning Committee meeting to discuss the MSA application. He voiced frustration at the lack of transparency within HBC. He stressed that the role of planning officers was to give advice but that it was entirely up to the elected planning committee to make decisions on planning matters, yet there had been cases where the committee had been put under pressure to defend their decisions.

He recommended the 'Stray Ferret' as a source for sound and objective news about affairs in the Harrogate District.

On the proposed North Yorkshire re-organisation he now considered that the single North Yorkshire

unitary authority proposal was stronger for parish councils than the alternative East and West proposal that involved two unitary authorities.

- c) **SNG** - Cllr Helliwell reported that because of the continuing pandemic there had been no meeting.
- d) **JPC** - Nothing to report.

7. ONGOING AND OTHER MATTERS – UPDATES

- a) **AUDIT papers 2020/21.** The chairman signed the Certificate of Exemption, councillors having agreed that the accounts fell below the £25k. threshold. The clerk will send the certificate to Littlejohns, external auditors. The clerk also reported on the Internal Audit, which had been carried out by Patrick Sanderson of Marton-le-Moor Parish Council and the clerk in turn had done the audit of Langthorpe parish council's accounts. The chairman signed the Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statements (AGAR Annual Governance and Accountability Return).
- b) **Vehicle Activated Signs** The chairman had been asked by Langthorpe Parish Council to consider a joint proposal between the two parishes for the installation of vehicle activated SLR (Speed Limit Reminder) signs in Leeming Lane. The clerk had subsequently met with Brian Horner of Langthorpe PC and Darren Griffiths of NYCC Highways to identify two suitable sites, one near the entrance to Ascot Place and the other opposite the Grange in Kirby Hill. He then obtained quotes from two companies recommended by NYCC Highways, both in the region of £7k - £8k for two signs. Cllrs questioned the need for the signs considering the lack of evidence that speeding was a problem in Leeming Lane and the lack of evidence that residents wanted such signage. By a majority they voted not to proceed with the proposal. The chairman did ask the clerk, however, to find out from other local councils what convinced them to go ahead the scheme (eg. in Boroughbridge, Minskip and Ferrensby). The clerk would also inform Langthorpe PC of the decision not to proceed.

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- c) **Milby Island 106 monies** The clerk confirmed that none of the 106 funding had yet been released to HBC by Miller Homes but that the first instalment of £40k was overdue for release. In the meantime Cllr Merson had been investigating some possible projects for use of the money and had received quotations for improvements to paths on Milby Island and the canalside walkway facing the Canal Garage. He would report on these at the next meeting.
- d) **MSA Decision and Update** (see also 6a and 6b above) The chairman expressed the shared feeling of acute disappointment with the outcome of the recent public inquiry and spoke of a kind of 'psychological trauma' within the community. He acknowledged that the community must now accept the result, but ensure that it made its voice heard in the coming stages of the construction of the MSA, through a local liaison group for example. The clerk explained that a new planning application for 'reserved matters' would need to be made by Applegreen, the permission so far being only 'outline' and that the parish council would be asked to comment.
- e) **Defibrillator** Cllrs had agreed at the meeting on 14 September 2020 that the clerk should look into the various possibilities, following a request from a resident. After consulting two providers the clerk obtained quotes, both in the region of £1200. Provision had been made in the current year's budget. After some questioning about the need for a defibrillator (a suggested location being the pub car park) Cllr Helliwell proposed that the council should not proceed with the installation, seconded by Cllr Smailes. By a majority it was therefore decided not to proceed.
- f) **Potholes and road improvements** The chairman referred to the ongoing disgraceful state of parts of St John's Walk. He contrasted this with the recently resurfaced of parts of Millings Lane and other less used lanes such as Soursikes Lane at Aldborough, yet no progress in St John's Walk despite so many complaints being made to NYCC Highways by the council and by some residents. The clerk was asked to send an email to his contact at NYCC Highways, Chris Blackburn, to request a meeting between the chairman and Chris at the Stump Cross offices to discuss the potholes and poor road surfaces, not only in St John's Walk but in other parts of Kirby Hill.

ACTION CLERK

- g) **Yorkshire Water Strategic Update** The chairman reported that the Zoom meeting attended by himself, Gareth Owens and DCllr Brown had not been satisfactory. The update had been very much an overall strategic one having little relevance to local problems with sewerage etc. He suggested, however, waiting until the minutes were available before taking the matter any further.
- h) **Localised flooding update** Surface water flooding due to blocked drains continued to be a problem and several requests had been made to NYCC Highways to take action, usually with little effect. The surface water flooding at and adjacent to the new developments (Hockley Croft and Milby Grange) was mostly due to the drainage infrastructure being uncompleted and the solution remained in the hands of the respective developers.

- i) **Battle of Boroughbridge signboard funding – 2022 700th anniversary** The clerk reported that funding (possibly £15k) had been made available from Miller Homes for interpretation panels for the 700th anniversary of the battle. Following discussions with Langthorpe parish council it had been agreed that the funds for the two Milby Island boards would be held by Langthorpe, but Kirby Hill and District parish council would be involved in decisions regarding the siting of the panel at the Milby Lock area. The funding was for a total of 5 boards in and around Boroughbridge.
- j) **Public Bridleway application DMMO Kirby Hill/ Marton-le-Moor** The clerk reported that he had written to the Definitive Map Team at NYCC to give the parish council's support to the application by 'Boroughbridge Welcomes Walkers' to have a couple of routes close to the windmill re-classified as public rights of way. These are Moor Lane and the 'Coach Road', currently used by walkers but not 'officially' public rights of way.

8. PLANNING

a) APP/E2734/W/20/3245778

Land comprising OS Field 3300 Marton-le-Moor - Applegreen Plc - APPEAL under Section 78

Outline application for a proposed Motorway Services Area (MSA) on west side of A1(M) with vehicular access over bridge from and to southbound carriageway and partial diversion of A168, with associated infrastructure and staff access from B6265

GRANTED following public inquiry

b) 21/01107/FUL Keeper's Cottage Church Lane Kirby Hill

ˆ Raising roof and erection of dormer extension at rear (revised scheme)

GRANTED

c) 21/01266/FUL 10 St John's Walk Kirby Hill

Erection of single storey rear and side extensions

PENDING The parish council submitted 'no objections'

d) 21/00412/FUL Ellenthorpe Lodge YO51 9HJ

Installation of 'bagtank' slurry system

PENDING The parish council submitted 'no objections'

e) 20/05125/FUL 1 The Grange Kirby Hill

Removal of existing conservatory glazed roof and replacement timber joist roof and 2 skylights

GRANTED

f) 21/02003/FUL Pebblethwaite Leeming Lane Kirby Hill

Erection of front porch and first floor rear extension. Installation of roof lights and alteration to fenestration.

The parish council agreed to submit 'no objections'

NEXT MEETINGS - 12 July 13 Sept 8 Nov (all at 7.00pm Coronation Hall Meeting Room)

Meeting ended at 9.00pm

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