

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 14 March 2022, in the Coronation Hall, Milby (Notice having been given).

PRESENT: Cllrs Lawson (Chairman), Helliwell, Jones, Merson, Smailes, Widdows, NYCCllr Windass and Martin Rae, parish clerk. One member of the public (for item 7a)

1. APOLOGIES for absence Cllrs Hick and Wilkinson, DCllr Brown

2. CODE OF CONDUCT/DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS: none

3. Minutes of 17 January meeting, having been distributed previously, were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Merson seconded by Cllr Helliwell. Duly signed by chairman. **Matters arising** None

(ITEM 7a was taken at this point in order to accommodate the local resident who wished to address the council – see 7a below)

4. FINANCE

The Clerk reported:

- a) Balance at 14 March 2022 **£9,802.77** (Expected end of year c/f balance c.£9,400)
- b) **PAID £6,95** HBC Trade Waste bin (Milby Island) emptying January
- c) **PAID £600.00 (inc VAT)** NYCC for VAS signpost POLE
- d) **PAID £97.38** HMRC PAYE (Oct/Nov/Dec)
- e) **PAID £16.00** HSBC Bank charges (now £8.00 p. month for small business a/c)
- f) **TO PAY £119.99** M S Rae (clerk) refund AMEX payment for McAfee software **PAYMENT AGREED**
- g) **TO PAY £145.00** Parish Council websites annual fee **PAYMENT AGREED**
- h) **INVOICE DUE £4,565.45 (inc VAT)** TWM Traffic Control Systems (VAS) **PAYMENT AGREED**

5. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. HBC Notices of Election 5 May 2022. The clerk reported that these notices had now been posted on the parish council website and noticeboard – inviting nominations.
- b. Electoral Commission – Nomination Forms and Expenses Claim forms. The clerk distributed the nomination forms to councillors. Cllr Lawson agreed to deliver one to Cllr Wilkinson and Cllr Merson agreed to deliver one to Cllr Lister. **ACTION CLLRS LAWSON AND MERSON**
Deadline for nominations to be with HBC by 5 April 4.00pm. The clerk asked that Cllrs completing nomination forms should get them to the clerk by 1 April for hand delivery by the clerk to the returning officer. **ACTION ALL CLLRS**
- c. HBC – Queen’s Platinum Jubilee GRANTS. Grants of £200 to £1,000 available for events and activities taking place over the Jubilee Bank Holiday. Deadline for application 8 April. Anyone with ideas to contact the clerk by the end of the month (March) **ACTION ALL CLLRS**

6. COUNCILLORS’ REPORTS & MEETINGS

- a) **NYCC** NYCCllr Windass reported on the progress towards the new Unitary Authority from 23 April 2023 and the changes that would occur following the elections on 5 May 2022, including the fact that he would no longer have any responsibility for the parishes north of the River Ure.
In the absence of DCllr Brown he reported on the successful opening of the new swimming pool in Ripon and the proposed changes at Knaresborough’s pool and the Hydro in Harrogate. He also reported that a trial was underway in part of the District for the use of ‘wheelie bins’ for household recycling. With regard to Council Tax he confirmed that the HBC and NYCC elements would both increase by 1.99%. There would also be a further 2% increase for adult social care.
- b) **HBC** No report. DCllr Brown had presented his apologies.
- b) **JPC** No recent meeting. Minutes of the last meeting had already been distributed by Cllr Merson
- c) **Safer Neighbourhoods Group** – No meeting since the last report. Cllr Helliwell had distributed a summary and the official minutes had also been distributed.

7. ONGOING AND OTHER MATTERS – UPDATES

- a) **VAS** The new sign had now been installed and was working effectively. There had, however, been a complaint from a local resident about the intrusion caused to their property by the flashing sign and about a perceived lack of diligence by the council in handling the issue. The complainant was present at the meeting and at the chairman's invitation explained the problems, particularly the visual impact and the disturbing flashing of the 30mph sign. The complainant also included the claim that the council had not consulted residents, said that there had been no planning application and requested that the sign be moved to another location. NYCCllr Windass, who had already been in contact with the complainant, explained that the sign had not needed planning permission, that the location was on NYCC property and was chosen following expert technical advice from Highways. Regarding consultation he explained that this type of installation did not require it but that in some cases it was appropriate for nearby residents to be informed as a matter of courtesy about what was planned. The clerk confirmed that he had informed the complainant's neighbour and had called twice at the complainant's property but that there had been nobody at home. NYCCllr Windass said that he would find it unacceptable to spend £750 of council tax payers' money to move the sign from its optimal location to a less suitable one. Cllr Merson asked if something could be done, for example shielding the flashing sign and painting the box unit to make it less intrusive. The complainant acknowledged the receipt of an email from NYCC apologising for the inconvenience caused and offering to make some changes to mitigate the effects of the sign on the complainant's property. NYCC would investigate whether it would be possible to lower the flashing part of the sign and could also arrange to shield it so that the flashing would be obscured from the complainant's property. NYCCllr Windass told the complainant that he would continue to work with the clerk and NYCC Highways to secure these changes, but repeated that moving the sign was not an option. The chairman thanked the complainant for attending the meeting and complainant was content to proceed with the proposed course of action. **ACTION CLERK**
- b) **Outstanding NYCC Highways issues** NYCCllr Windass reported on the slow, if any, progress on the matter of moving the 30mph signs in Dishforth road north from the entrance to Milby Grange. Several local residents of the two new developments in this area had expressed concerns about the dangers of drivers speeding towards Boroughbridge on this stretch of road and that the existing positioning of the 30mph signs was too close to the Milby Grange entrance/exit. Others had expressed concerns about pedestrians crossing the road between Milby Grange and Hockley Croft. NYCCllr Windass reported that he had raised the matter with NYCC Highways many times and that all that was needed was the attention of a highways engineer to make a decision. He intended to escalate the matter through Melissa Burnham at NYCC Highways, having made little progress so far in his many efforts to achieve action on this issue.
- c) **Defibrillator** The clerk reported that the landlord at the Blue Bell, while sympathetic to the idea of a defibrillator in the pub car park, was not prepared to commit at this stage due to the negotiations being in progress for the sale of the pub. Deferred.
- d) **Litter picking** Dishforth road. Cllr Merson asked for a vote of thanks to be given by the council to local resident Clare Slator for the recent litter pick she had carried out on the Dishforth road between Milby junction and Church Lane. She had been particularly concerned by the amount of one litre glass vodka bottles strewn in the verges, causing dangerous fragments when the grass cutting is done. Mrs Slator had also contacted the clerk about the equally bad state of the road leading north from the Church Lane crossroads towards the airfield and had wondered if an approach to the base commander could be made, to involve his personnel in a community litter pick. The clerk reported that he had happened to meet the base's padre at a function and had broached the subject with him. The padre, Chris Withers, had thought that it would be worth raising the matter with the base commander, but not at the present time when the Army Logistics personnel were obviously very occupied with other matters. There was a perception that the road in question had now improved and it was thought that a litter pick must have been undertaken recently. The whole issue would be held for raising at a future meeting but in the meantime the council expressed its gratitude to Mrs Slator for her valuable contribution in the endless battle against roadside littering.

8. PLANNING

- a) **21/04104/FULMAJ** The Old Goods Yard, Milby
Change of use to Builders Merchant
GRANTED
- b) **21/04526/FUL** 11 St John's Avenue, Kirby Hill
Erection of first floor extension.
WITHDRAWN
- c) **21/05323/FUL** The Old School, Church Lane, Kirby Hill
Conversion of garage to form residential annexe.
GRANTED
- d) **21/05292/FUL** Treblesykes Farm Thornton Bridge
Retrospective application for siting of three generators
GRANTED
- e) **21/05455/FUL** 20 St John's Walk, Kirby Hill
Erection of single storey orangery and external steps
GRANTED
- f) **21/05377/FUL** Display of five Battle of Boroughbridge Interpretation Boards
*(Parish council not a statutory consultee in this case as none of the boards in the parish.
Cllr Merson and Clerk had met Langthorpe council's Mike Collins to discuss siting of board at
Milby Lock, in an area that is within Langthorpe parish).*
- g) **22/00791/FUL** Blue Bell Inn, Leeming Lane, Kirby Hill
Demolition of 2 outbuildings. Erection of dwelling house with detached two storey double garage.
*The clerk was asked to submit that the parish council neither objected to nor supported the
application but had some concerns about the viability of the Inn's business with a significantly
reduced car park.*
ACTION CLERK

NEXT MEETING 9 May 2022 (Including annual meeting)

Meeting ended at 8.25pm

Signed.....Date 77.....