

KIRBY HILL AND DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

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

MINUTES of the parish council meeting held at 7.10pm 9 May 2022, in the Coronation Hall, Milby (Notice having been given). The meeting followed the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

PRESENT: Cllrs Lawson (Chairman), Dunderdale, Helliwell, Merson, Widdows, Wilkinson County Cllr Brown (from 7.25pm) and Martin Rae, parish clerk. One member of the public.

1. APOLOGIES for absence none

The chairman welcomed Jill Dunderdale as a new member of the council (for Kirby Hill parish) and recorded his and the council's thanks and appreciation for the valuable contributions and experience of Gerald Smailes, Ian Hick and Nigel Jones, who had all resigned from the council prior to the 5 May Elections.

2. CODE OF CONDUCT/DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS: none

3. Minutes of 14 March 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

4. FINANCE

The Clerk reported:

- a) Balance at 9 May 2022 **£6,647.41**
- b) **PAID £27.80** HBC Trade Waste bin (Milby Island) emptying x4 (Mar/Apr) *
- c) **PAID £4,565.45 (inc VAT)** TWM for VAS sign
- d) **PAID £424.00** YLCA sub (up from £317 as the number of electors has increased)
- e) **PAID £97.38** HMRC PAYE (Jan/Feb/Mar)
- f) **PAID £16.00** HSBC Bank charges (Mar/Apr)
- g) **TO PAY £318.73** Zurich Insurance + **£15.01** (for VAS cover) **PAYMENT AGREED**
- h) **RECEIVED £2,500.00** HBC Precept 1st half year

*Cllr Merson had contacted the clerk before the meeting to suggest that Langthorpe Parish Council share the cost of the trade waste (dog) bin, in the same way that they contribute 50% towards the grass cutting on Milby Island. The clerk had spoken to the Langthorpe PC chairman, who had agreed in principle to do this.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None

6. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS & MEETINGS

- a) **NYCC** Cllr Nick Brown, newly elected as the County Councillor for the Wathvale and Bishop Monkton Division reported that he now had 14 parishes to cover so could not, therefore, attend parish council meetings in the same way as previously. He proposed setting up a new system in which he would hold a 'forum', every 6-8 weeks for example, to which all the parish councils would send a representative. The Joint Parish Council would continue as this covered parishes and issues specifically in the Boroughbridge area, which straddled two Divisions on the new County Council. Cllr Merson proposed that Cllr Brown proceed to set up the new system and this was generally supported by the council. Cllrs Helliwell and Dunderdale suggested that the parish council's representative role on the new forum could be rotated among the councillors. The chairman asked for Cllr Brown's views on how the parish council might proceed to change the configuration of the Kirby Hill and District parish council to reflect the new balance of populations between its five parishes, Milby now being much larger than Kirby Hill, for example. Cllr Brown suggested that the parish council work out some proposals to send him so that he can take the matter up with Jennifer Norton in the Legal and Governance department at Harrogate. The chairman asked the clerk to produce a document outlining the various proposals. **ACTION CLERK** Regarding 'Commuted Sums' Cllr Merson asked Cllr Brown about the apparent lack of coherent management of the issue at Harrogate Borough Council and about the delays in monies becoming available for spending, even though some developments had been completed and all properties occupied, as at Evesham Place for example. Cllr Brown agreed that matters seemed to be in a state of flux, partly due to the transition to the new Unitary Authority and partly because of staffing

issues. He also worried that, across the District, problems might arise from some Developers becoming financially unable to meet their Commuted Sums commitments.

- b) **JPC Minutes** of the last meeting, produced by Boroughbridge Town Council, had already been distributed by Cllr Merson, who also reported on the new initiative to get the Aldborough Gate Sports facility off the ground and said that there was now a lot of local enthusiasm. Cllr Merson was now on the Aldborough Gate group's steering committee, which would feed into the JPC.
- c) **Safer Neighbourhoods Group** – No meeting since the last report.
- d) **Commuted Sums** (See also Cllr Brown's report above) The clerk had, prior to the meeting, sent councillors a document outlining the current position regarding Commuted Sums payments for the Evesham Place, Hockley Croft and Milby Grange developments. He reported that the Evesham Place development was completed and the monies already paid by the developer to Harrogate Borough Council. He had written to HBC to ask why these monies had not yet appeared on the parish council's 'balance sheet' as available for spending but had not yet had a reply. Harrogate Borough Council had not so far received any monies from the other two large developments. Cllrs queried the reasoning behind monies from developments in the parish being allocated to facilities in other parishes and asked who makes these decisions. Cllr Brown replied that it was Harrogate Borough Council who made the decisions at present, based on certain formulae. Cllrs also queried the allocation of £11k to green space at the Vicarage, which the clerk clarified as being the old Vicarage in Kirby Hill and not the new one on the Croft. The clerk had asked the Commuted Sums section at Harrogate to explain this but had not yet received a response.

7. ONGOING AND OTHER MATTERS – UPDATES

- a) **NYCC Highways issues** - The clerk reported. The parish council had agreed to pay NYCC £350 to instal a shield around the flashing part of the VAS to reduce the disturbance to neighbouring properties. NYCC had agreed to waive their site visit charge of £300 in this instance. NYCllr Windass had reported to the clerk that NYCC Highways had agreed to the parish council's request to move the 30mph speed signs from the entrance to Milby Grange farther north along the Dishforth road beyond the Milby junction. It would therefore also be necessary to have 30mph signs in Moor Lane on the approach to the junction with the Dishforth road.
- b) **Defibrillator** The future ownership of the Blue Bell Inn was still uncertain so no decision on siting a defibrillator on the building's gable facing the carpark could yet be made.
- c) **Co-option to vacancies arising out of uncontested election** The clerk explained that the parish council had 35 days from the date of the election to demonstrate that it was in the process of co-opting new councillors to fill the two vacancies, otherwise HBC would need to call another election. The fact that the council was actively advertising the vacancies on its website and elsewhere would, in the clerk's opinion, satisfy this requirement.
- d) **Financial Audit** The clerk reported that the 'peer review' internal audit had taken place and that Roeciffe parish council's RFO/Clerk had audited Kirby Hill and District parish council's accounts. With Cllrs' agreement the chairman signed the Certificate of Exemption, required by the external auditors (PKF Littlejohns) for all councils having revenue and expenditure less than £25k. The chairman also signed the Annual Governance Statement after completion by the council and he signed the Accounting Statements, confirming that they were correct. The clerk to send appropriate documents to the external auditors and publish all the AUDIT documents on the website.

ACTION CLERK

- e) **Electoral Register** The clerk gave details of the current register which showed that the number of *electors* in the grouped parish had grown considerably in the past year – to 889 in January 2022. The breakdown as follows:

Milby	430 electors
Kirby Hill	380
Humberton	33
Ellenthorpe	24
Thornton Bridge	22

8. PLANNING

- a) **21/03571/DVCON** Thornton Manor Farm Thornton Bridge
Application for Variation of conditions 1,3,4,5 & 6
The parish council had made a 'neither support nor object' submission with the comment that it did not feel technically competent to judge the proposals.
- b) **22/00791/FUL** Blue Bell Inn, Leeming Lane, Kirby Hill
Demolition of 2 outbuildings. Erection of dwelling house with detached two storey double garage.
PENDING
- c) **22/01465/OUT** Home Farm Church Lane Kirby Hill YO51 9DS
Outline application for the erection of two dwellings with access and layout considered.
The chairman invited the member of the public in attendance to speak. After speaking against the application on the grounds of access problems and privacy concerns the local resident then left the meeting. The council agreed to make a 'neither object nor support' submission with the comment that concerns regarding the privacy at neighbouring properties, especially Glebe House, would need to be addressed.
- d) **22/01236/FUL** 5 Burton Cottages, Thornton Bridge YO612RZ
Erection of a two storey and single storey extension and alteration of roof and fenestration to create annexe.
The parish council agreed to submit NO OBJECTION

NEXT MEETING 11 July 2022 7.00pm Coronation Hall

Meeting ended at 8.20pm

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