

NORTON DISNEY PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Wednesday 18th January 2017, in the village hall.

Those attending were:

Parish Councillors

Vanessa Hall (Chair)

Terry Johnson

Clive Moles

Pat Gibson

And 18 members of the public

Apologies for absence

Mark Fearnley

Police

The Parish Council Clerk

M Salmon

District Councillors

Sue Howe

Pat Woodman MBE

Meeting opened

@7.30pm by Cllr Vanessa Hall

Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th November 2016 were accepted and signed as a true and accurate record.

Matters arising

The police report was read out, in which it was noted that a generator, cable and vehicle batteries had been stolen from Cemex' quarry.

A discussion then took place regarding Cemex' seeming unwillingness to engage with the Parish on matters concerning ongoing quarrying and restoration operations. It was suggested that a letter be sent to Lincolnshire Minerals Chief Planning Officer outlining the Parish's concerns and asking for his help and advice.

An update on the current situation regarding the village phone box was given.

District Councillors' reports

Sue Howe reported that although local devolution had faltered NK is committed to carrying out its own 3 year plan. TOTT (THE Terry O'Toole Theatre) has its usual spring/summer programme and The NCCD (National Centre for Craft & Design) hosts regular exhibitions and creative design courses.

Pat Woodman informed the meeting that the NK waste depot is moving to Woodall Spa, Latford Homes are building Affordable Social Housing in North Kesteven and that 1700 children per month were visiting Otters reach @ Whisby Country Park. It was reported that Council Tax may have to be increased by £5 this year.

The Gravel Industry

Stuart Ray from Breedon came to lay out the quarry's future plans for developing/expanding its' workings and subsequent restoration ideas adjacent to the village, but becoming predominately so in Stapleford's Parish. Subject to planning permission, they will continue for the next 13 years, restoration following closely behind extraction and then opened to the public. It will include natural habitats, small ponds/lakes with current footpaths/bridleways reopened.

Discussion took place on the possibility of creating sustainable employment from planting & subsequent management of woodland/grassland. However, Stuart pointed out that because soil levels cannot be raised, large areas will only be able to be restored to water/wetlands.

An additional planning application will be submitted within the next 6 months. A revisit is suggested in the autumn.

Planning application by Lincoln Diocesan Trust

All attending the meeting were aware of the above application and wanted to either voice their objections to it or support the actions already undertaken.

Following a full discussion on the way forward, and bearing in mind a separate 'Village Action Group' had already met and put their views on the website, it was agreed that a further meeting of the councillors should be held @ Norton Lodge on Tuesday 24th January to formulate a full response.

This duly took place and the relevant letter was taken to NKDC on 1st February, and subsequently appeared on the Parish notice board.

Village Signs

An open discussion took place, following an outline of the likely cost for 3 new signs which would be in the region of £4000+, or £1350 each +vat. There were 6 objections to spending money on new signs, and the consensus of opinion came round to the view that money would be better spent on more fauna and flora in the village.

Electronic & Any other Correspondence

10 e-mails of general information were read out none of which required comment.

Financial Report

A comprehensive financial report was made, comparing actual to budget items.

With regard to the 2017/18 Precept it was agreed that we should be seeking an increase of 2%.

Councillors comments & information

Cllr Johnson mentioned that the white fencing adjoining Clay lane and the road leading out of the village towards Stapleford, over the Internal Witham Drainage Boards' culverts ought to be repaired and painted and requested communication with the Drainage Board to that effect.

Attention was also drawn to the state of the village signs which needed cleaning.

Cllr Moles thought that the stile to the east side of the Diocesan field needed to be cleaned as it was unsafe for users due to it being very slippery.

Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was arranged for Wednesday 15th March 2017.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed @ 9.30pm

Signed _____

Dated _____