

NORTON DISNEY PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Wednesday 15th March 2017, in the village hall.

Those attending were:

Parish Councillors

Clive Moles (Chairman)

Terry Johnson

Mark Fearnley

Pat Gibson

And 4 members of the public

Apologies for absence

Vanessa Hall

Police

The Parish Council Clerk

M Salmon

District Councillors

Sue Howe

Pat Woodman MBE

Meeting opened

@7.30pm by Clive Moles

Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th January 2017 were accepted and signed as a true and accurate record.

Matters arising

The police report was read out, in which it was noted that electric fencing batteries had been stolen, and that tools had been taken out of vans, possibly using skeleton keys to gain access.

A phone box update was given. Subsequent to this meeting, on 28th February the Parish was informed by NKDC that the consultation period had ceased and that they had informed BT of our interest in adopting the Kiosk.

The meeting was informed that the Diocesan Trusts' planning application to build 3 houses on 'Church field' had been rejected at the NKDC planning meeting on 21st February. The Trust has 6 months from then to appeal.

Following the Parish meeting in January, correspondence had taken place with Lincolnshire Highways regarding the state of repair of the white fencing over the Witham Internal Drainage Boards' culverts in the parish. Highways are of the opinion that, at present, such matters are not high on their agenda due to budgetary constraints.

The field stile and bridge leading from 'Church field' and all the village signs have been cleaned, as requested.

It was decided that the Parish should buy £40 worth of daffodil & crocus bulbs ready for planting in the autumn.

District Councillors' reports

Sue & Pat reported that the NK 3 year plan had been approved, directing investment to deliver the Council's priorities. Council Tax bills are being sent out following formal approval of a 3.3% increase.

The Garden Waste collection scheme can be joined @ a cost of £30 + £12 for additional bins.

Residents have until 27th March to comment on proposed MP constituency boundary proposals.

The Brant Broughton Affordable Housing scheme should be completed this spring.

Planning application in relation to Norton Lodge

Pertinent parts of the application were read out, highlighting the change of use to a specialist school for autism. Emphasis was made on the potential employment prospects should the scheme go ahead and that only a relative small area of the existing building layout would need to be modified/altered/added to.

Access to & from the site was discussed. It was noted that there would be staggered arrivals & departures during a 24 hour period thus minimising the impact of traffic flow. It was also noted that the applicants were well known locally, having a background in the specialist education and care sphere to which the establishment would be put, if the application were successful.

There was a positive response to the proposal and a unanimous vote in favour of the application was given.

Electronic & Any other Correspondence

9 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 subsequent to which the yearend figures were prepared up to 31/03/17.

A very big thank you to Charlie for all his work in carrying on the financial work of the parish since his retirement as Clerk last year was endorsed, and a request made that this be conveyed to him. This has been done, not only for the above work but also for his help and advice to the present Clerk.

Councillors comments & information

Cllr Moles drew attention to the flooding in the Parish cemetery due to a blockage in the adjoining dyke caused by a buildup of leaves and other debris. It was agreed that Cllrs Moles & Fearnley would meet on site on Friday March 17th to assess the problem and carry out remedial work if possible. Subsequently the necessary work was carried out to alleviate the problem in the short term. A letter/report has been sent to the Clerk by Cllr Fearnley recommending additional work & the planting of trees which needs to be discussed at the May meeting.

Following on from earlier Parish meetings when Peter Smeaton/Cemex attended in November last, where it was agreed a Liaison committee be formed, a lack of progress was reported on this front, wholly due to the seeming unwillingness of Cemex to cooperate. However, Cllr Johnson produced an original document drawn up by Lincolnshire CC minerals when planning permission was granted to extract minerals from Low Wood, expressly stating that a Liaison committee should be set up. Thankfully, reason has prevailed and a meeting between all parties took place on 10th April.

Cllr Johnson raised the question of the large area of brambles causing a hazard to vehicle users on Newark road near the turning to Norton Disney Hall. It was agreed that this issue be taken up again with Lincolnshire Highways in the hope that, now their reorganisation has taken place, progress can be made. This has been done.

Next Meeting

The date of the Annual & next parish meeting was arranged for Wednesday 17th May 2017.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed @ 9.00pm

Signed _____

Dated _____