

Horton in Ribblesdale Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 11 March 2013

Present: Cllrs Sheila Fleming, Sheila Millman (Vice Chairman), Avril Palmer, Richard Pattinson

Clerk: Mr I Fleming

Also in attendance: County Cllr Richard Welch, Mr Gary Middleton item 6

In attendance: 9 members of the public.

Item 1. To receive apologies for absence

Cllrs Wilf Fenten and Hilary Bowman due to adverse weather conditions.

In the absence of the Chairman the Vice Chairman took the chair.

Item 2. To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest in agenda items and their nature and to receive, consider, decide and record members' requests for dispensations

Councillors were reminded to declare items as/if they arise during the meeting. The Chairman outlined the rules and statute governing the declarations of interest and reminded Councillors that they should have regard to whether any person or persons acting reasonably and in full possession of the facts would consider that a disclosable pecuniary interest existed for a Councillor on a particular matter.

A request for dispensation to participate in discussion and to vote on matters pertaining to quarrying and Horton Landscaping Ltd had been received from Cllr Palmer. **Resolved that** the request be granted for a period up to the date of the next parish council election

Item 3. Public participation

Several residents from Foredale and Helwith Bridge were present and expressed objections to the Council's plans to erect a height restricting barrier at the entrance to Sunnybank quarry picnic site. It was stated that no proper consultation had been carried out regarding these plans and that the barrier would prevent use of the site by users such as the 3 Peaks cyclo cross and an equine meeting as well as casual campers. Concerns were raised that preventing casual camping at the site would have a detrimental impact on the business of the Helwith Bridge Inn.

The Vice Chairman responded that several complaints had been received in recent years about nuisance caused by casual campers making unauthorised use of the site and the Council was concerned to ensure that the problems could be adequately mitigated and to ensure that the site was not available to travellers.

Two public meetings had been held at Helwith Bridge in the past eighteen months. The first on 28 November 2011 when an open meeting of the Council's Open Spaces Committee had considered the acquisition and future management of the site and had received representations from those present. The second on 9 July 2012 when the full Council had received a verbal report on the acquisition of the site, considered further actions and received further representations from members of the public present.

The Clerk explained that the barrier had been designed so that it could be opened to facilitate access for authorised users and that he was in contact with the cyclo cross organisers to ensure that the event could take place without hindrance. Other regular event users would also be contacted once they had been identified.

County Cllr Welch asked that the Council give further consideration to its decision to erect the barrier and it was concluded that the matter be placed on the agenda for the meeting of 8 April for further discussion.

A Newhouses resident raised again concerns about flooding and water damage to the green lane running from the hamlet towards Horton Scar Lane. The damage was now so severe that access to his property was compromised and he asked if the Council would make further representations on his behalf and perhaps write a letter in support of any action that he took to resolve the matter. Concluded that the Clerk should write again to YDNPA officers to encourage them to reconsider the actions that they might take to mitigate the worst effects of the regular flooding.

Item 4. To approve the minutes of the meeting of 11 February 2013

The minutes of the meeting of 11 February had been tabled in due time before the meeting. **Resolved that:** they be approved as a fair and accurate record and be signed as such by the Vice Chairman.

Item 5. To receive reports for information only

The Clerk reported that he had received confirmation from NYCC Highways that VA signs would not be installed in the village.

A substantial hand operated grit spreader had been purchased with grant money from Rural Action Yorkshire and was stored in the Sexton's hut. A high vis jacket would also be purchased and grit supplied from the Council's bin at Newhouses. It was recommended that local volunteers be found to operate the equipment after suitable training and a name was suggested to the Clerk who will approach the person concerned. The spreader would be used to keep open footways and paths in the village supplementing the snow clearance work done by the Council's contractors.

The Chairman of the YDNPA will attend the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

The Clerk had written to both Stainforth and Langcliffe Councils regarding the future of the local bus service. The Clerk at Langcliffe had replied confirming that the matter would be considered by councillors at their March meeting.

Serious potholes in the B6479 at Studfold had been repaired following notification by the Clerk.

Item 6. Finance and administration

6.1. To approve the Financial Statement and authorise bills payable

Cllr Fleming declared a pecuniary interest in a bill for expenses presented by the Clerk and left the meeting.

Resolved that: the Financial Statement for March 2013 as appended to these minutes was a true and accurate record of the Council's financial position and that all due payments be authorised.

Cllr Fleming returned to the meeting.

6.2. To consider any other financial matters

The budget and cash book entries for February 2013 were duly noted.

6.3. Administration

6.3.1. To appoint an internal auditor

The Clerk was instructed to ask Mr Frank Lane if he would audit the Council's accounts for a further year.

6.3.2. To revise dates for the annual parish and annual parish council meetings

Agreed to flip the dates of these two May meetings so that Mr Colin Speakman could present his report on the Visitor and Traffic Management plan to parishioners on 20 May.

6.3.3. To consider an application from Mr Gary Middleton to be co-opted onto the Council

The Vice Chairman called for any other applications or nominations for the vacancy and there being none forthcoming put the application from Mr Middleton to the vote. All councillors present voted in favour so

Resolved that Mr Gary Middleton be co-opted onto the Council following his signing acceptance of office at the next meeting. The Clerk to brief Mr Middleton as to his duties and provide him with all necessary documentation.

Item 7. Planning Matters

7.1. Applications

No applications received.

7.2. Decisions and other planning matters

C/44/260 – full permission for erection of agricultural barn, land to the north of Newhouses.

Application granted.

The Clerk informed Councillors that **C/44/257A – full permission for new link road, new bridge over Gayle beck and other works. Cam Woodland** had also been granted by the YDNPA planning committee, but that this was subject to S106 conditions and no formal announcement would be made until the legal agreements had been concluded.

Councillors were also advised that the YDNPA enforcement officer was to contact the Playing Fields Association regarding to shipping containers on the playing field site.

Item 8. Village Environment, Burials, Rights of Way and Highways

8.1. To receive a verbal report on a meeting with Quarry arts

The Clerk reported that councillors had met Quarry Arts to discuss projects that might be included in the proposed Ingleborough Dales Landscape partnership bid to HLF. QA are to respond soon with proposals which would include projects at Sunnybank quarry and throughout the parish. QA had also been put in contact with Horton primary school to explore the development of curriculum focused projects that could be included in the bid.

8.2. To receive a report on discussions with the organisers of Flying Scotsman rally

The Clerk had been in contact with the organisers of the veteran car rally due to pass through the village on 20 April. Additional marshals had been agreed and direct contact made with the organisers of the school trek event taking place on the same day to co-ordinate risk assessments and to organise a collection for school funds amongst rally participants. It was suggested that the collection might take place at Overlands if suitable arrangements could be made to secure unrestricted access.

8.3. To receive an update on progress with the Visitor and Traffic Management Plan

The research and development phase of the project was going well with a lot of constructive suggestions and comment from residents. The drop-in event had been successful and well attended. Because of the flip of dates of meetings in May it would now be possible to extend the time available for completion of the report and the Clerk will liaise with the consultant about this.

8.4. To further consider the provision of a location sign for Horton school

Councillors were shown the sign preferred by the school and asked the Clerk to contact the school secretary to ask that the school submit a request for a donation from the Council to help defray the cost of the sign.

Item 9. To respond to correspondence received

9.1. To note the conclusion of consultation on timber transshipment routes in North Yorkshire

Noted that there were three routes in the parish: B6255; B6479; and Newhouses lane. The latter was designated as severely restricted and the Clerk was awaiting information on the meaning of this designation.

9.2. Mr N Lamonby – access to his property

Dealt with under Item 3.

9.3. Mrs C Clarke and others – Height restriction barrier at Sunnybank quarry

Dealt with under item 3.

Item 10. To report matters of information not included elsewhere on this agenda and to raise items for future agendas

Cllr Fleming reported on meetings of the school Foundation Governors and Foundation Exhibition Governors. Both are running fairly well with some funds available. A large capital request is anticipated from the school governors in respect of urgent repairs to the school fabric.

Cllr Pattinson on behalf of the PCC extended an invitation to all councillors to attend a leaving party for the vicar on 21 March and invited councillors to contribute personally to a leaving present.

Cllr Palmer announced that there would be a table-to sale in support of school funds on 30 March and 1 April. All contributions to Mrs Woods.

Also, grant funding had been received by the netball team for repairs to netting at the playing field and team equipment.

Item 11. To confirm the date of the next meeting scheduled for Monday 8 April 2013

Duly confirmed. To be held in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 21.00.

Signed.....

Chairman

Date.....