

Minutes of the Clarborough & Welham Parish Council meeting held 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7pm in the Clarborough Village Hall, Main Street, Clarborough

**Present:** Cllr Gibson (Chair), Cllr Avery, Cllr Baines, Cllr Bowler, Cllr George, Cllr Hardie & Cllr Willcock

**Others:** Mrs Davies (Clerk), District Cllr Kath Sutton and members of the public

**819/18 To receive apologies for absence**

No apologies received.

**820/18 To receive any Declarations of Interests in any items on the agenda**

No Declarations of Interests received.

**821/18 To suspend the meeting for open session for members of the public to speak and to receive reports from the District & County Councillors, PCSO Airey and Mr Oates Footpath warden**

The meeting was suspended the following reports were received:

District Cllr Kath Sutton reported on the new General Data Protection Regulations.

Mr Oates sent in his Path Warden's report as follows:-

- Bridleway No.3 – No further progress to report despite chasing up Notts County Council on several occasions. It is disappointing that these matters are not followed through once initiated. Parking at the Main Street end is still posing a problem.
- Byway No.22 4x 4 problems – Having discussed the matter with senior officials at Notts County Council, I am very disappointed that no action appears to have been taken nor any policy guidelines issued in respect to the 4x4 problem. This problem is not going to go away without some positive action and/or changed to national or local legislation. On the plus side, the lock on the gate has been replaced and the gate is currently closed. It will reopen at the end of April

PCSO Airey - The Clerk previously circulated a copy of PCSO Airey's crimes of interest report.

**822/18 To approve the minutes of the meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

Cllr Willcock proposed to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018; this was seconded by Cllr Bowler and resolved by the Council.

**823/18 To receive updates on any actions from the previous meetings**

**803/18** The Chair has tightened up the step on the climbing frame.

**813/18** The Chair has spoken with the grounds maintenance contractor regarding spraying the weeds on the footpath, around the village hall and to mark up the football pitch.

They will monitor the grass cuts and confirmed that the grass cuttings will be blown off the paths onto the road and the posts will be trimmed around.

**814/18** The Chair reported that 12 volunteers turned up to the Community Litter Pick on the 25<sup>th</sup> March; 26 bags of rubbish were collected. The Chair will contact the Scouts Leader to see if they will be carrying out any litter picks during the year.

**817/18** Cllr Baines reported on the balance sheets previously circulated. A donation of £2,000 has been left in a resident's will to put towards the W.I's senior citizen's Christmas party.

Cllr Bowler reported that an article on the WW1 Centenary event has been put in the village newsletter, on the website and in the church. Volunteers are still required to come forward to help with the event. The W.I will be helping out.

County Cllr Tracey Taylor joined the meeting and gave her County Council report. It was noted that the budget has been increased to deal with pothole. Cllr Taylor has met with the Highways Manager to discuss highway issues and noted that the on line reporting system's flaws still exist. Cllr Taylor thanked the Parish Council for cutting the hedge on Smeath Lane.

The Chair reported that all the strategic stock of grit has been used in topping up the grit bins.

**824/18 To receive reports from any other meetings attended**

No meetings attended.

**825/18 To receive play area inspections reports**

Cllr Bowler submitted his play area inspection reports with no additional actions.

The Chair submitted his half yearly ancillary routine inspection report. All the grit bins have been topped up and the hedge on Gypsy Corner was trimmed back on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – no other actions required.

**826/18 To consider planning applications, note any planning correspondence and decisions**

No planning applications received.

**827/18 Finances – to approve payments and receive financial update**

The Clerk circulated copies of the financial update as at the end of February 2018, budget figures and bank statements for the Councillors to view.

Cllr Bowler proposed to approve the followings payments; this was seconded by Cllr Willcock and resolved by the Council.

- a) Parish Clerk's March wage £150.39 (2018)
- b) HMRC – p.a.y.e £37.40 (2019)
- c) Mrs Palfreyman – beacon rent £10.00 (2020)
- d) P Gibson – expenses £59.70 (2021)

**828/18 To consider donation toward the CDCA for the village hall phone line**

After consideration; Cllr George proposed to donate £108.00 towards the village hall phone line for this year; this was seconded by Cllr Baines and resolved by the Council.

**829/18 To receive update from the Parish Pasture Group and consider/approve associated expenses**

Cllr Willcock gave the following report regarding a meeting with the potential developer on the Broad Gores housing land:

**Background** - The meeting was asked for by the Parish Council to seek out the intentions of the potential developer of the Broad Gores housing land currently owned by Bassetlaw District Council. It was predetermined by the Parish Councillors that it was a listening exercise. The meeting was attended by the Chair, Cllr Willcock, Cllr Avery and Cllr George; the developer and a designer for the site.

**Discussion** – the developer outlined the vision for the site.

Cllr Willcock and Cllr Avery responded with the Neighbourhood Plan outline for the site, emphasising that this was the vision of the community after much consultation.

There followed a discussion of different aspects of the proposals and how these could fit with the Neighbourhood Plan requirements including how social housing could be accommodated.

**Follow-up** - Further contact with the developer by email suggested that they had found the meeting useful.

The developer suggested and subsequently provided a 'schematic' of the proposal to Cllr Willcock. Cllr Willcock expressed some concern that the schematic did not relate to the actual land but did show potential housing styles. The developer promised a further, more site related, schematic but this has not yet been received.

**Further** - As this is a major event in the life of Clarbrough I would like to propose that:

"The Parish Council establishes a formal sub-committee to engage in contacts with the developers and with the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group".

The nominated members of the working group will be the Chair and Cllr George from the Parish Council, Paul Willock, Andrew Avery and Steve Walker representatives from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Cllr Willcock then gave a report on the Parish Pasture Group:

**Land Transfer to PC** - No further progress known.

### **Hedge Planting**

Due to the 2 heavy snow falls the planned planting dates were missed.

7 members of the charity Muddy Fork (mentioned in the last report) came on 23 March, planting between 10.45 am and 2 pm. A total of 228 whips were planted. On 24 March a further 168 hedging 'whips' were planted by 3 members of the public and the FoPP group. In addition 46 tree 'whips' supplied by Cllr Avery though the Retford Rotary Club were planted across the Pasture. This makes a total of 442 'whips' planted in the 2 days.

### **Further plantings**

Further hedgerow 'whips' will be used to start to fill 1 or more gaps in the existing hedging. A range of spring flower bulbs which have been purchased will be planted in the next few days.

### **Tree Officer**

The BDC Tree Officer visited the site and examined the large Ash tree. He declared it sound and healthy but suggested it could benefit from a 1m reduction all round to reduce its wind resistance.

Unfortunately amongst the self-set saplings around the east of the tree there is evidence of Ash Dieback disease. We have reported the presence of the disease to the Forestry Commission. We are starting removal this week and will burn the diseased cuttings on site as soon as all diseased saplings are removed.

### **Finance**

- a) We have received confirmation that the application for £500 to the Canal & River Trust has been successful. This is for the purchase of 2 seats and 2 picnic tables alongside the canal, which will be purchased as soon as possible and placed on site, fastened down of course.
- b) We should receive information on the success or otherwise of our grant bids to Greggs Foundation for £2,000 and the Local Improvement Scheme by NCC for £6,000 during April.
- c) We were invited by the Local Conservation Officer of the Notts Wildlife Trust to apply for a grant of £100 to purchase Pollinator plants to encourage early insects. This was done on 21 March 2018.
- d) I recently collected 2 pot grown Hornbeam trees and 2 bare rooted Oak trees from the National Memorial Arboretum.

- e) The local farmer who quoted for land on the Parish Pasture has changed his mind due to the weather which leaves us needing to find someone else to do the essential work.

### **Email & Website**

We now have an email address: friendsofpp2018@gmail.com but no website as yet.

### **Vandalism**

There has been a repetition of the removal of boundary stakes – supposedly impossible - and one of the footpath marker stakes. The boundary stakes have disappeared but I replaced the footpath stake. We hope this doesn't spread to the planting.

In addition, there is still some fly tipped tree prunnings on the Pasture at the south end of the site. This will also be burned with the Ash saplings.

Cllr Willcock would like to thank everyone involved with the planting of the whips; and also enquired if a contribution could be made to the Muddy Folks organization for their help.

## **830/18**

### **To receive update from the Allotment Group and consider/approve associated expenses**

The Chair gave a report on the Allotment Association meetings 5<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> March:

- Rent for allotments agreed at £35 per annum
- Public liability plus member protection insurance agreed £65
- Car parking area to be put on hold until next year when it is hoped the developer may help
- Allotment marker posts to be obtained. A budget of £300 was agreed
- A local farmer to plough and harrow the allotment field at a cost of £300
- Allotments to be measured and marked after the field have been prepared
- National allotment funding forms completed
- Further funding avenues are being explored
- Bank account set up with the Cooperative Society
- Association were advised that the Parish Council have agreed on the Lease & Plot holders' agreements
- Some allotment holders have signed their Plot holder agreement and paid the 1<sup>st</sup> years rent
- Quotes are to be obtained for an access gate to the allotments site
- Association was advised the old play park notice board could be used by them if required
- Eighteen people have applied for an allotment this leaves two full or four half ones available

**831/18 Proposal to discuss a safeguarding policy for the Parish Council**

Previously Cllr Willcock enquired if the Parish Council should have a safeguarding policy in place as one was requested (if applicable) on a funding application. The Clerk has looked at other Parish Council policies and reported because the Parish Council doesn't have its own facilities and does not directly provide care of supervision services to children and vulnerable adults; a safeguarding policy is not required.

**832/18 To consider a consultation response to the proposed renewal of the Public Spaces Protection Order**

In September 2015 the District Council introduced a three year Public Spaces Protection Order aimed at controlling anti-social behaviour related to dogs and dog ownership.

The Public spaces (Dog Control) Order 2015 stated that:-

- Owners must pick up their dogs' faeces on any land to which the public have access
- Owners must keep their dogs on leads in specified burial ground cemeteries and churchyards (this covers St John the Baptist's Churchyard, Clarborough)
- Dogs are banned from specified fenced children's play areas (this covers the Children's playground to the rear of the Village Hall, Main Street, Clarborough and the Children's Ball Park, Smeath Lane, Clarborough)

The District Council are seeking the Parish Council's views on the following suggested significant addition to the existing Order: -

**3A. Means to Pick up Faeces**

If within the administrative area of the Authority at any time on land to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or virtue of an express or implied permission, a person who is in charge of a dog fails to produce a device for or other suitable means of removing dog faeces and transporting it to a bin (whether or not the dog has defecated) when asked to do so by an authorised officer, that person shall be guilty of an offence unless

- a) He has reasonable excuse for failing to do so; or
- b) The owner, occupier or other person or authority having control of the land has consented (generally or specifically) to his failing to do so

The Chair proposed to approve the extension to the Order and the suggested addition as above; this was seconded by Cllr George and resolved by the Council.

### **833/18 To receive updates on the Flood Prevention and Flood Management Strategy**

Cllr Avery reported on a meeting with Bassetlaw District Council and Notts County Council Flood Officers. The planned work for improvements to Howbeck in 2012/22 is to be re-evaluated. A working group of Cllrs Gibson, Willcock and Avery will continue to meet with the Flood Officers to identify the resources available, the options for flood prevention work and engagement of parishioners. The original plans had concentrated on improvements to Howbeck below Main Street. However, the working group would identify other options including reducing the rate of water flowing into the village by action in the catchment area.

Cllr Avery reported that the national funding was calculated on the basis of houses at risk and the modelling work currently underway did not identify the same number of properties as flooded in 2007. However, there was no definitive record from that time and he asked Councillors to identify properties they knew to be flood.

### **834/18 To report any Highways/Right of Way or Service faults**

- The Chair has spoken with Sarah Hird at Via regarding the trimming of the hedge on Smeath Lane.
- The fly tipping on Howbeck Lane has been reported to Litter Busters and a faulty street light in Welham has been reported.

### **835/18 To receive any correspondence for information and future agenda items**

A request from the Village Venturers to use the field again for their festival on the 20<sup>th</sup> May; the Chair confirmed that this was okay and a copy of their insurance will be sent prior to the event.

Items for the next agenda:

- WW1 centenary event
- General Data Protection Regulations

### **836/18 Time and date of the next Parish Council Meeting**

The **Annual Parish Meeting** will be held at 7pm on the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018 in the Clarborough Village Hall.

The **Parish Council meeting** will be held at 7.20pm following the Annual Parish Meeting in the Clarborough Village Hall, Main Street, Clarborough.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

