

Conisbrough Parks Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 3rd 2019 IN THE CHURCH, CHURCH LANE CLIFTON.

PRESENT: Cllrs. Manning, North, Gran, Peat and Cliff

Also present: the Clerk to the Council P. Wilkinson and DMBC Councillors Ian Pearson and Nigel Ball

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

Cllr Manning declared a personal interest in agenda item 9.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON JULY 16th 2019

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 16th July 2019 be approved and signed by the Chairman

4. MATTERS ARISING

Minute No. 4. *The Clerk informed Councillors that RBS Bank had sent a mandate for a change of signatory. As the intention is only to change the contact address for receipt of statements and other information, it was agreed that Cllr North, as an existing signatory, will request that all correspondence is sent to him.*

Minute No. 6. *The details of the local PCSO are not yet known. Cllr Ball reiterated the fact that the SY Police are undergoing a restructure which will result in more Officers but less PCSOs over the next 18 months or so.*

Minute No. 6. *Cllr Manning reported that New Road had now been resurfaced after he had met with an Officer from DMBC to bring the matter to their attention.*

Minute No. 10. *The Clerk informed Councillors that the photo was now on the Home page of the website and that Cllr Cliff's name had also been added to the list of Councillors.*

Cllr Manning enquired about the possibility of recording the number of 'hits' and the Clerk will forward the email from the webmaster regarding this issue.

Minute No. 16. *Cllr Cliff reported that the hedges at Beacon Ridge on Common Lane had now been cut and that DMBC had also cut the grass verges.*

5. POLICE AND CRIME REPORTS

There were no reports of any incidents since the last meeting.

Cllr Pearson reminded Councillors that there was an open invitation to attend the PACT (Police and Community Together) meetings.

6. REPORTS FROM DMBC WARD COUNCILLORS

Cllr Pearson reported on the following:

- Clifton Hill is currently closed due to under-surface problems which have resulted in the collapse of the road. Investigations and repairs are underway but the extent of the closure is not certain at the moment. The stealing of materials has created problems.

Signed.....Chair

- some of the metal posts supporting road signs have been stolen and the policy is now to gradually replace them with plastic ones.
- gullies have been checked locally and colour marked according to their condition. Some heavy duty covers have been replaced with lightweight ones. Cllr Cliff suggested that the pipework may also require checking.
- DMBC have sent out letters to landowners regarding the need to cut their hedges/trees for safety reasons
- DMBC Streetscene is being ‘overwhelmed’ by the increasing number of fly-tipping reports.
- the spherical recycling bins which were to have been removed from some locations as a cost saving exercise will now be retained.

Cllr Ball reported on the following:

- the hedges bordering the golf course on Common Lane have been cut and DCLT have been requested to keep them pruned back.
 - Sections of the stone wall which borders the golf course are in need of repair and DCLT will ascertain the costs.
 - there are overhanging trees bordering the golf course which need cutting and DCLT will look at the costs of implementing the work.
 - local Councillors have opposed a planning application for a housing development off Clifton Hill on the grounds of the safety issues regarding access to the site.
 - DMBC is looking to buy covert cameras as a deterrent to fly-tipping and other illegal/anti-social activities. Their use will require careful control and the support of other parties to be effective.
 - the Doncaster Local Plan is now out to consultation and he asked that if there were any issues identified by the Parish Council these be also brought to the attention of the Ward Councillors for their support. He suggested that a Neighbourhood Plan involving Clifton and Old Denaby will be done at a later stage.
- Cllr Manning noted that there was little mention of conservation areas, given that Clifton falls into one of these. Cllr Ball responded by saying that the Local Plan cannot impinge on conservation areas as they are already subject to certain protections and therefore they are not prominent in the Plan.
- the maggot farm is now closed and, as a brown field site, could be attractive for potential development. He suggested that local people listen for rumours and asked that any such information be also passed to the Ward Councillors.

Cllr Manning said that he was aware that the Planning Officer responsible for the Clifton area had now left the position and no replacement had yet been appointed, so who should the Parish Council contact regarding any planning issue? Cllr Ball advised that the new Head of Planning is the appropriate person.

Cllr Manning raised concerns about the apparent nonsensical approach to clearing rubbish, with some being picked up whilst others in the same vicinity are left. Cllr Ball explained that there are different teams working in specific areas and that each team deals with a set list of reported rubbish, such that any deviation may cause problems. He acknowledged the concerns and admitted that the system may be too rigid. Cllr Gran suggested that the senior managers need to be more strategic, show more understanding and apply more common sense.

Signed.....Chair

7. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk had forwarded the following items of correspondence since the last meeting:

NALC – Chief Executive Bulletins July & August

YLCA – White Rose updates July & August

YLCA – Elections 2019. Request to complete survey

YLCA – New Councillor training courses

YLCA – NALC Legal Topic Note 22 – update re Disciplinary & Grievance arrangements

DMBC – Information on flooding & road closures (01.08.2019)

DMBC – Reminder about publishing Councillors' Register of Interests forms on the website

DMBC – Doncaster Talks update

DMBC – Permanent Traffic Regulation Order – waiting restrictions Church St/West St Conisbrough

DMBC – Notice of Polling Review

SY Police & Crime Panel Annual Report 2018-2019

Customer Insight Conference 21st November

Press Release re. Doncaster/Sheffield Airport

8. CONFIRMATION OF PAYMENTS

The Clerk confirmed that one payment had been made by cheque since the last meeting. This was for £299.40 to New Media 4 Schools as payment for hosting and managing the Parish Council website during the last year.

RESOLVED: That the payment be approved.

Cllr Manning expressed concerns regarding the expenditure given the limited financial resources of the Parish Council. A number of questions were asked e.g. who owns the domain? Is there a contract? Is it necessary for the Parish Council to have a website? It was agreed that the Clerk will make some investigations and report back at the next meeting.

9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS/ISSUES

This agenda item was moved so that it was the last item to be discussed at the meeting.

Cllr Manning declared a personal interest in this item and left the meeting prior to any discussion.

The Clerk informed Councillors that the cladding of the front wall at Hall Farm was currently being monitored by the DMBC Conservation Officer. It was a condition of the planning permission that the look of the wall should be in keeping with the other stone walls in the vicinity.

The Clerk informed Councillors that planning permission had been granted on 23rd August 2019 in respect of application 19/00215FUL (Division of site into two, conversion of barn into single residential property and new two storey extension to front of barn following demolition of existing lean to extension at The Beeches, Common Lane). Councillors studied the documents made available on the DMBC website and noted the following:

- The statement that 'The piece of land between the drive and the public highway is jointly owned by the neighbour and the applicant' is not correct. The applicant does not part own this piece of land.
- The south facing windows on the ground floor and on the first floor are to be obscured. However, there is mention that those on the first floor are to remain permanently so, but this is not stated as the same for the ground floor windows.

It was agreed that the Clerk will write to the DMBC Head of Planning expressing concerns.

Signed.....Chair

10. DONCASTER LOCAL PLAN

Cllr Manning reiterated his comment that there was little mention in the Local Plan about conservation areas. See item 6.

11. REVIEW OF THE GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SLA

Cllr Manning informed the meeting that he, Cllr Gran and the Clerk had met with two grounds maintenance Officers from DMBC and been given a map of the village showing the areas of grass that were cut on 13 occasions throughout the year. In simple terms, those within the 20mph zone were paid for by the Parish Council and the others were paid for by DMBC. The following issues were also discussed:

- a small number of extra areas that required cutting
- treatment of the moss on the playground MUGA area
- cutting the shoots off at the bottom of the trees
- limiting the use of glyphosate where possible and whenever it is deemed necessary, ensuring that only a very thin strip is sprayed. This will help to avoid the unsightly bare patches where grass and weeds have been killed off.
- reinstatement of the areas that have been unnecessarily sprayed with glyphosate
- strimming the edges and round posts/trees etc. where possible
- where cars are parked alongside grass banks the grass cutting cannot occur
- where dog mess is visible no strimming will be undertaken in the vicinity.

It was suggested that DMBC may be able to provide a notice regarding dog fouling, such that any perpetrators could then run the risk of being prosecuted.

The Parish Council is still awaiting a report from DMBC confirming the above and it was agreed that the Clerk will chase it up.

12. DMBC PARISH COUNCIL JCC MEETING

Cllr Gran explained that she will be attending the next DMBC Parish Council JCC meeting in November at which a Planning Officer will be in attendance to talk about the interface between Parish Councils and the Planning Department. Attendees have been asked to identify any questions that they may wish to ask. Councillors discussed the possibilities and agreed the following:

- can Parish Councils be notified in advance of any planning applications in their area and just as importantly, the outcomes?
- can Parish Councils be informed in advance of any visits into their area by the Conservation Officer regarding planning issues so that a representative can be present if thought appropriate?
- can Parish Councils be notified of any pre-applications so that they can offer input where appropriate?

13. TREE OUTSIDE THE CHURCH

Cllr North informed Councillors that he had removed the dead tree and in doing so found that the root ball was still intact and the lifting strap still wrapped around it. An offer has been made by two village residents to donate a Himalayan birch free of charge and Councillors welcomed this.

Cllr Peat said that the shallow soil will have contributed to the demise of the tree and suggested that a wooden surround be purchased within which the tree could be planted. It was agreed that he would ascertain the cost of such a surround. Cllr Manning said that a grant from the Community Fund would be available if the cost was acceptable.

Signed.....Chair

It was agreed to discuss the matter further at the next meeting.

14. PLAYGROUND

Following notification from the Parish Council's insurers that one of the conditions for all aspects of the playground insurance being covered was a recorded weekly visual inspection, the Clerk had circulated a draft checklist obtained from DMBC.

RESOLVED: That the weekly visual inspections of the playground and its equipment will be carried out by the Chair of the Parish Council during their period of office.

15. DEFIBRILLATOR

The Clerk informed Councillors that he had made enquiries about funding sources for a defibrillator and ascertained that there were two possibilities:

- The British Heart Foundation who provide part funding. £600 donation required plus the purchase of an external cabinet. Total outlay approximately £1,100.
- Yorkshire Ambulance Service. The 999 scheme requires fund raising of £999 and this is boosted by a contribution of £414 from the YAS charity. All of the money goes to the YAS charity and then an entire cPAD is purchased by the charity and gifted to the community.

Connection of the defibrillator to an electricity supply is not required.

Councillors discussed the matter, Cllr Cliff agreed to seek further information regarding funding and Cllrs Manning and North agreed to look at the possibility of using the income from community events as a source of funding.

The matter will be discussed again at the next meeting.

16. ISSUES/COMMENTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cllr Manning raised the following issues:

- satisfactory outcomes as a result of meeting the DMBC Highways Routine Maintenance Manager on site. Highways work on Beacon Lane, Shipman Balk, Green Balk, Beacon Square and New Road, and improvements to the passing places on Beacon Lane with the use of road planings have been carried out. Work on the Common Lane/Clifton Byers junction is scheduled but not yet done. The Clerk will chase this up. In addition, verges on Common Lane have been cut, as have the golf course hedges.
- all households have had a letter regarding supply pipe cleansing by Yorkshire Water
- a power cut on 3rd September lasting approximately 6 minutes
- loose gravel on Common Lane just before the Clifton sign as approaching the village. The Clerk will report this to DMBC
- a dog fouling notice is required on one of the walls at the end of the gennel. However, concerns have been expressed by a resident regarding placing such a sign on private property.

Cllr Gran raised the following issues:

- a complaint regarding a dog at a property on Clifton Byers was resolved satisfactorily by the DMBC Environmental Section.
- a new X6 bus service between Sheffield and Doncaster/Sheffield Airport apparently has no stops between Bramley and Rossington. Cllr Gran will get more information from Stagecoach about the possibility of having request stops for local people.

Signed.....Chair

Cllr Peat raised the following issues:

- a barn being erected in North Ward at Woodview Stables on Carr Lane and questioned whether the appropriate consents had been obtained. The Clerk will make enquiries with DMBC Planning Department.
- concerns about paying for surface water discharge when it doesn't drain into the sewers.

17. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No items were raised

18. DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Meeting will take place on 8th October 2019 at 7.00pm

Signed.....Chair

