

Kirklington Parish Council Meeting

Minutes for Parish Council meeting held on 8th January 2024 7.30pm

Attendees: Cllr Bob Radford (RSR)(Chair), Cllr Ian Woolridge (IW), Cllr Graeme Wheatcroft (GW), Cllr Andrew Twidale (AT), Cllr Sarah French (SF), Cllr Patrick Mitchell (PM), District Cllr Penny Rainbow (PR), Helen Cowlan (HC)(Clerk)
Public: Nigel Chattin, Colin McGarrigle

1. **Apologies for absence**

None.

2. **Declarations of interest**

None.

3. **Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6th November 2023 were approved as a true record. Proposed IW, seconded RSR.

4. **Adjournment for matters to be raised by the public for future consideration, and County/District Councillor items**

Speeding along A617 – concerns were raised about the speed of traffic coming through the village – previous efforts have included temporary speed checkers, road strips, requesting more regular speed checks, and other measures / options for aiding crossing – unfortunately, it seems that larger projects would not be feasible due to the need to maintain the flow of traffic along the A617. **Action – HC to email residents to ensure they are letting us know of any accidents so they can be tracked; IW will send a reminder on WhatsApp; HC to add update to website (22-10).**

Church – formal and grateful thanks were given for the Village Hall being available for use alongside Church services. A suggestion was made that additional gravel could be added to areas within the Churchyard to improve walkways / paths. It was decided that this would not be pursued at the moment due to the wet weather potentially undoing any works – it will be reviewed in the future.

District updates – no meetings held since Christmas with the next big update being the budget process. PR has been chasing for cameras on the A617 – NCC have advised to liaise with Highways. **Action - PR will speak to BL about what can be done (22-10).**

5. **Planning**

- i) 23/01760/TWCA The Red House, Southwell Rd – felling of one silver birch tree. **Outcome – permission granted (info only).**
- ii) 23/02109/TWCA WINGS School, Main Rd – fell two trees and removal of deadwood from one tree. **Outcome – permission granted (info only).**

6. **Flooding**

The Flood Action Group has 15 members who meet monthly, and actions have been circulated already. At the last Parish Council meeting it was agreed that monies be set aside / ringfenced to be put towards a formal survey of the village being carried out – charts to be circulated. Three key issues have been identified, and addressing them will make a big difference:

- i) A617 gullies – IW is working with Highways to try and find solutions; lack of funding has been acknowledged but pressure needs to be maintained to drive action from NCC.
 - ii) Flow to the west of the village – there is a need to slow the flows in this area and possible solutions are being considered.
 - iii) Ditch to north side of the village – there is a shallow ditch that currently doesn't function well causing water to go over the A617 instead of feeding into the northern dyke.
- The northern dyke needs extending to help the drainage of water – NCC need to take action on the ditch on the field side, which will feed into IDB's drainage dyke. Tim Farr is liaising with IDB to agreed a way forward to speed the process up,
 - Last week the biggest problem was the overflow from the field and down the road into the Church grounds – grids were overwhelmed and not working. The drain goes under the footpath, but it's end point / output, needs to be established. Additionally, a grid has collapsed (since Christmas).
 - RSR acknowledged and recognised the great community spirit and enquired if a flood pump could be held at the Village Hall. GW confirmed that it is hoped to look at what flood resilience equipment could be identified and stored.

- In terms of the footpath at the back / southern side, the landowner is reviewing available options to possibly move / rebuild the bridge. Potentially, some sort of footboards or scaffolds could be placed. The decision to temporarily close the footpaths was made with the intention of doing a temporary fix to enable it to re-open, and this is being followed up with the landowner.
- It is important that a co-ordinated approach be agreed for managing actions and updates.
- A planned site visit had to be rescheduled due to NCC having to move quickly on major flooding issues. Formal and grateful thanks were given to Severn Trent who have been pumping water to take it out of the village – approx. 0.5million litres every 24hours at one point. To clarify, the pumps had not failed but were discharging more than they should have been doing.
- A proposal to buy hi-vis vests (for use for flooding and speeding related work) was formally approved so GW will purchase and submit a claim for repayment.

7. Action points review

Number	PC member	Subject	Date Raised	Status
19-57	RSR/IW	<u>School Playing Field</u> RSR and IW met with the School's Head; now awaiting update from NCC legal team; School has no issue with PC insurance (PLI) but does have concerns about unauthorised usage; PC offered to fund a combination lock with number only given to locals who are 'authorised' to use the field (not hardstanding areas). Action: HC chase NCC for response and follow up on user agreement.	Nov-19	ongoing
20-25	GW/IW	<u>Flooding / drainage projects</u> see agenda item 6 (Jan) for full update. GW and IW continue to lead and co-ordinate the flood group and provide updates via WhatsApp and email as urgency requires; updates also to be brought to each meeting. Action: PR to speak to BL to establish if any additional funding is available; HC to speak to NSDC (AH) about grants / funding for projects that may fit, and also see if NALC have any advice.	Oct-20	ongoing
20-26	HC	<u>Potholes/road issues</u> Eakring Rd remains a concern as also highlighted in agenda item 12. Repairs made approx two weeks ago are now failing. There are a number of potholes between the village and Hexgreave. ST have added a new drain cover but the tarmac has failed causing noise. The Church footpaths will need attention. Action – HC to ask BL to ring AT to review, and find details of how to claim for damage to car/tyres. HC to report issues as per agenda item 12 (Nov).	Oct-20	ongoing
21-22	HC	<u>National Grid</u> Action - HC to chase up contact from office of Chairman of National Grid; also request a speed check / speedwatch in the area; see if the local Policing Team can offer help.	Sep-21	ongoing

22-10	IW/HC/PR/CMcG	<u>Speeding in village</u> Monitoring strips were due to be placed during Sept - none have been seen as yet. Action - IW to chase plans to monitor traffic on A617; HC to email residents to ensure they are letting us know of any accidents so they can be tracked; IW will send a reminder on WhatsApp; HC to add update to website; Mr McGarrigle to look into Speedwatch scheme; PR will speak to BL about what can be done about cameras.	Apr-22	ongoing
23-04	IW/PR	<u>The Mill</u> Recent site visit from NCC included a review of the area; possibility of interactive speed signs is being reviewed. Action - IW is still monitoring / cashing for updates; PR to chase possibility of interactive speed signs	Feb-23	ongoing
23-05	HC/all	<u>CIL Funding</u> Due to recent flooding, it was agreed that there should be a refocus of attention with the potential to use (some) CIL funding on related projects. Some funding may also be allocated to Belle Eau Park (to be confirmed) Action - updates will be added as proposals are received for review.	Feb-23	ongoing
23-09	HC/PR	<u>Belle Eau Park issues</u> Contact has been made with site manager who made suggestions for actions that can be taken including clarification of site, directions and expectations. HC liaising with local residents / Bilsthorpe PC. Agreed to review at next meeting to see if any progress made. Also re-establishing contact for Nobles. Action - HC to continue to chase Lineage for progress and contact NSDC to see if any funding would be available to support BEP residents e.g cameras for monitoring parking and staying 'illegally'. Need to establish overnight policy. Arrange meeting if possible.	Apr-23	ongoing
23-11	HC	<u>Policy Review</u> Action - HC to amend 'last reviewed' dates on policies and ensure up to date on website.	Jul-23	ongoing
23-13	HC	<u>Village Welcome Letter</u> Action - HC to find and circulate / review at future meeting	Sep-23	ongoing
23-14	HC	<u>Footbridge surfaces</u> Action - HC will chase Footpaths Team to see if anything can be done to improve slippery surfaces.	Oct-23	ongoing
23-15	HC	<u>Vacancy</u> Action - inform NSDC of vacancy being filled by co-option, and arrange relevant paperwork to be completed.	Oct-23	ongoing
23-16	IW/SF	<u>WINGS</u> Meeting held and update given - nfa for now.	Oct-23	closed
23-17	HC	<u>Dog Fouling</u> Action - HC to chase NSDC for advice and support.	Nov-23	ongoing
23-18	HC	<u>Meeting dates</u> Action - HC has booked Hall for PC meeting dates (May date tbc).	Nov-23	closed

8. WINGS

Issues raised included trying to establish responsibility for a boundary wall and its repairs, for which Historic England require consultation. Students who were involved in previous incidents have been found new placements are no longer attend the school. Information about plans for an open day will be shared upon receipt, and there has been positive feedback about the sign on the A617.

9. Financial matters

- i) Balances – current account £6143.58, deposit account £20983.50 inc CIL £13938.30.
- ii) Clerk payment – payment for November, December and holiday pay approved - proposed RSR, seconded PM.
- iii) Precept 2024/25 – at the last meeting it was agreed that £1500 of CIL funding would be allocated to expenditure relating to the flooding issues. After acknowledging that the suggested minimum increase in precept, under normal circumstances and in line with increases in costs, be £300 / 4%, consideration was given to requesting additional funds over the next two years that could be ringfenced for allocation towards the flooding project – this could mean an increase of approx. 30%. As with any expenditure, not all residents would directly benefit, but it was felt vital for the safety of residents that either are, or potentially could be, affected. A suggestion was also made that some CIL funding could be allocated for installing cameras to resolve issues at Belle Eau Park (once research had been completed). Consideration was also given to the potential for further fundraising.

Key discussion points included the potential to reduce the precept in the future, and to divert CIL funding for more immediate / emergency use, but then look at income via fundraising or precept funds in the future. It was felt that there may be additional council / government funding going forward but that nothing was certain and plans would need to be made in the meantime and while costs were being assessed. There was a very conscious acknowledgement of the need to balance the cost to the community with effective delivery of solutions.

After thorough discussion it was unanimously agreed to increase the precept to £9000 (an increase of £2300 – allocating £2000 for flooding, and the rest for standard costs in line with budget review).

- iv) Flooding survey – as previously approved, a payment of £830 has been made for a satellite survey mapping the village, to help understand levels/positions for aiding risk assessments (to help prevent and manage future flooding issues). Proposed RSR, seconded SF.
- v) Review any payments due – none due other than NALC subs which will be added to a future agenda as received.

10. Traffic Report

- 6/12 early morning – car off road Osmanthorpe Road bridge due to ice – Police attended.
- 6/12 mid morning – car skidded at Belle Eau Park/A617 – Police & ambulance attended.
- 6/12 evening – car off road at Osmanthorpe Road bridge (other side) due to ice – Fire Brigade attended. No known injuries although people were trapped in vehicles.
- 16/12 mid/late morning – container fell off lorry onto car, two cars hit it – near Belle Eau Park junction – air ambulance attended and road closed for approx. 4 hours.

It was suggested that handheld speed checks be carried out – NSDC can carry out training and loan equipment. It was felt that a regular and consistent approach would help to retrain regular commuters. Four key problem areas were identified – outside towards Newark, Mansfield, The Green entrance, The Moor (either way). **ACTION – Mr McGarrigle will look into this further and look for volunteers.**

11. Parish Council Vacancy

The vacancy was advertised in line with NSDC procedures, and who confirmed that no election would be required – this means the vacancy could be filled by co-option. IW proposed Nigel Chattin, which was seconded by SF – it was unanimously agreed to co-opt Nigel Chattin to the Parish Council. **ACTION – HC to contact NSDC and arrange paperwork / correspondence accordingly (23-15).**

12. Road surface issues

- i) Eakring Rd including Give Way sign at A617 junction – AT advised that the sign needs resetting, that much of the road surface is in need of attention, and especially near National Grid which doesn't appear to have been attended to.
- ii) Potholes on A617 and Southwell Rd – there are a number of deep / wide potholes going up to Lockwell Hill. **Action – HC to report (20-26).**

Additionally, it was identified that Kirklington Hill, coming into the village, also has issues. It is not known whether or not the app used to report issues has a scoring system that prioritises cases based on number of reports received, but it could certainly be helpful for as many people as possible to report as many issues as possible to try and drive action.

13. Correspondence

- i) *Christmas Tree – formal thanks received for Church Christmas Tree.*
- ii) *Police & Crime Commissioner – consultation on precept (emailed already).*

14. Date of next meeting

5th February 2024 at 7.30pm

Meeting ended 9.15pm

.....Signed (Chair)

.....Date