

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held Tuesday 14th January 2020 at Ovington Village Hall

Present:

Nigel Parkes--- Chairman
Patricia Hanson – Vice Chairman
Peter Levett – Councillor
Shaun Hanson – Councillor
Julie Parkes – Councillor
Amanda Wilson – Clerk

Apologies:

None

One Village Resident

Others – Kate Nichols (Hillcrest Park)
Ross Patterson (Historical Yorkshire)

The minutes of the last meeting on 8th October 2019 were approved and subsequently signed by Nigel Parkes Chairman.

All present as above.

Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

Matters Arising:

i) Broadband – With no progress on the issue of getting a viable broadband service into the village from either Openreach or Digital Durham, our Chairman has now written to our new MP Dehenna Davison (email 13th January 2020) to express our frustration and concerns of this lack of service to our village with no end or resolution in sight. We await a response. **Action - Nigel Parkes to continue writing to them.**

ii) Maypole Plaque: No progress has been made on this for over 2 years.

We have approximately £1,000 in the reserves that we could spend on it. Nigel Parkes has spoken to Sam / John and they are still prepared to build the small wall but are now on holiday until 12th April 2020. **Action NP to contact again on their return to progress and contact DCC to see if a) they will contribute or pay for the plaque and b) if we need planning permission for this**

iii) Maintenance of trees on village Green

As far as we are aware DCC have not checked the trees for 5 years. NP has secured a grant of £150 from DCC (As part of National Tree Week) for the purchase of trees for the village and on receipt of these monies he will attempt to find out who is responsible for this. **Action - Nigel Parkes to chase DCC**

iv) Northumbria in Bloom – OPC agreed unanimously to pay the entry fee for 2020 of £45 with a separate workforce to take this forward. **Action – Nigel Parkes**

v) Conservation Area Classification – Following the response to the leaflet drop, OPC will now organise an initial meeting to form a working group to move this forward. **Action – Shaun Hanson**

vi) Whorlton Bridge Closure – Proposed reopening date to be February 2020.

Consideration of any current Planning Application

- Land to the north of Moor View – planning submission for an additional 3 houses submitted and then subsequently withdrawn just before Christmas. **Action – Monitoring on-going ALL**

Financial Report:

Julie Parkes as the current Responsible Financial Officer informed the meeting that there had been two bills paid since the last meeting: £85.00 to Garden Centre (?) for the Four All's Christmas tree (Cheque 395 dated 05/12/19) and £186.00 to ? for Trees for planting around the village (Cheque 396 dated 10/01/2020)

Receipts – £1000 transferred from the savings account to current account on 23rd November 2019.

As of Tuesday 14th January 2020 the Parish Council had £1,011.85 in the current account and £3,432.16 in the savings account.

Invoices to pay – 2 x £10 VHC – Hall rental

2 No. Invoices were agreed and authorised to pay by the Councillors.

Future expenditure to end of financial year (April) 2020 (excluding the 2 x invoices to pay above) – Display Board rental - £50, Planters etc - £200, Printer - £212.99

Future income - £150 grant from DCC for the purchase of trees for planting around the village.

VAT claim form completed and submitted by NP on 1st October 2109. Hopefully we'll reclaim approx. £685.00 ?????

Precept 2020/2021 – agreed as current years expenditure equals income that this years Precept is to be left unchanged.

Correspondence:

a) None

Any other Business

- A)** Village Green Access Road – concern was raised that an increasing number of Pot Holes on the access road around the Village Green is becoming an issue, specifically in front of Maypole Cottage. Historically residents agreed with the owner of this property not to place any chippings in the vicinity of this property due to the owner's concerns over increasing flooding potential. It has been agreed that both Nigel and Patricia will call on Maypole Cottage with the hope of finding a mutually agreed resolution to this concern. **Action – Nigel Parkes and Patricia Hanson**
- B)** Ross Patterson from Historical Yorkshire came along to enlighten us on his campaign to change and/or install Historical Yorkshire signs on the border crossings over the River Tees e.g. Winston Bridge. It was agreed that this would be handed over to the Village Hall Committee who offered financial help to enable this to happen locally. OPC having no more input into this subject.
- C)** Kate Nichols owner of Hillcrest Camping Nr Caldwell also came along to update the Councillors on the current planning application submitted by Agricore of Hilltop Farm, Winston to gain permanent planning consent for Industrial Recycling/Waste Handling of Class B2 waste. OPC agreed that this was for village residents to submit comments and not a Parish Council matter.

Next Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 21st April 2020 @ 7.45pm

The Hall has been booked with Mr P Levett