

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in Stainforth Village Hall at 7.00pm on Tuesday, 10 April 2018

Present: Cllrs Blackburn, Otway, Sharp & Warren. Also, two parishioners and County/District Cllr R C Welch together with the Clerk.

The Chairman of the Council, Cllr Blackburn acted as Chairman of this meeting and welcomed all present.

- 1 Apologies** - PCSO Jayne Grace sent her apologies. She had intended to attend this meeting but was diverted to a RTC on the A65.
- 2 Police Report**

In the absence of a representative of the local police, the Clerk reported advice received by e-mail from the Police & Crime Commissioner to the effect that she had approved an investment of £3M into North Yorkshire Police's Force Control Room over the next two years. This will provide for new accommodation at Fulford Road in York; improved training, 32 additional full-time staff, new IT equipment and a new Crime & Occurrence Management Unit.
- 3 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday, 11 April 2017**

The minutes were circulated before commencement of the meeting and following approval, were signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.
- 4 Matters Arising**

Packhorse bridge – repairs had been undertaken during the last 12 months but the bridge continued to sustain damage. The Chairman advised of the recent meetings with interested parties and the preventive measures agreed with NYCC, Highways. These include the provision of posts which will limit the width of the road to 9ft thus limiting the size of vehicles which will be able to use the road. The proprietors of Stainforth Caravan and Camping Park have agreed to provide the materials, NYCC having agreed to install them.
- 5 County/District Councillor's Report**

NYCC – Finance continues to cause concern as by 2020, provision by central government will be £200M less than in 2008. Cllr Welch said It had been the worst year since he was elected in 2009. Two schools had closed. People are living longer and retiring to North Yorkshire. The largest part of the budget is for elderly care. Craven Area Committee - to be reorganised into a Constituency Committee with six extra members from Ripon.
Community Library – doing well with over 60 volunteers.
£2000 has been granted to Castleberg Scouts for renovating the drill hall;
Station Road playpark, Hellifield - £1000 for new equipment;
Christmas fireworks etc, £1000 granted to Settle TC;
Settle Church - £1000 for portable stage for functions.
Litter picking by volunteers – provided a vehicle is registered, this can be used to take litter etc to the HWRC.
In this last year, 91% of pupils in NY schools were rated Good or Excellent.
Coniston Bridge – a report is to be presented to the next meeting of the Area Committee on 31 May 2018.
CRAVEN DC – finance is a major concern, CDC entering into a joint venture with a construction company to utilise assets for mutual benefit.

Continued/

Stainforth Parish Council – Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 10 April 2018 continued

In two year's time, funding from central government will cease. CDC has just been awarded £500K for releasing land for housing. The Local Development Plan is now with the Inspector for approval. Collection of Garden Waste, charge increased to provide for a new wagon. Revenues and Benefits Dept to undertake a joint partnership with Bradford Met to help develop cost savings and more professional approach. Craven Museum and Gallery in Town Hall, Skipton has been awarded £1.5M for redevelopment.

Ward Member Grant - little interest so donated to Castleberg Scouts for refurbishment of their building.

Civil Parking - new 5 year agreement entered into with Harrogate BC.

YDNPA – more roadside barns are being converted due to a change in planning policy – local occupancy or holiday lets. Rates increases for second homes (not holiday lets) – put on hold. Parish Forums held in several parishes but take-up very low with only 19 out of 60 or so PCs taking part. NP Officers to attend meetings with parishes to discuss matters of mutual interest.

In conclusion, Cllr Welch advised that he was still a member of the Planning Committee which can be very challenging at times. PC Chairman, Cllr Blackburn then thanked Cllr Welch for his report.

6 Clerk's Report

Number of meetings: 11; Membership of Council: 4 (one vacancy)

Finance Balance at end of financial year (31.03.18): £8386

Balance at start of financial year (01.04 17): £6242

Increase: £2144

This was occasioned by the receipt of £2824 government funding for assisting in implementation of the Transparency Code.

Precept: increased to £8040 for 2018/19. (£7190 for 2017/18).

The council's operations continue to change. The Transparency Code has now been enacted. Annual Audit regulations are now changing and the General Data Protection Regulations Act takes effect on 25 May 2018.

Agendas and Minutes are posted on the village website as required and thanks are due to Mr Frank Woodhams for his help in this regard.

Packhorse Bridge – see Matters Arising.

Street lights – repaired as required. Mr Noel Barker retired during the year, after maintaining the Council's street lights for a number of years. The Council is grateful for his help and wishes him well.

Highways – potholes continue to be a problem.

Policing – the Council is grateful for the continuing vigilance of the local police.

7 Parishioner Concerns

Enquiry re the maintenance of green outside Stainforth House. The greens in general are maintained by volunteer members of the Environment Group, a neighbouring resident dealing with the green in question.

Street lights – two lights were reported as requiring adjustment – to be checked and reported to the contractor for attention.

Membership of PC – a parishioner expressed interest; this will be progressed.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 7.50pm.

PFL

15.04.18