

## **NORTON AND CUCKNEY PARISH COUNCIL**

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Norton and Cuckney Parish Council

The Meeting of the Norton and Cuckney Parish Council held in the Norton and Cuckney Village Hall on the 13<sup>th</sup>. of April 2016 at 7.30p.m.

Minute

No.

192/16

Present: Cllrs. M.Smith (Chairman), D.Alvey, J.Reynolds, L.Morton, S.Brailsford and K.Barlow.

Others Present: Darren Ridout, Welbeck Estate, and Mrs. S.J.Penarski, local resident.

193/16

To accept and approve apologies for absence

Accepted and approved from D.Collins, G.Smith and BDC Cllr. K.Dukes.

194/16

To receive and record any declaration of interest from members in any item to be discussed.

Cllrs. D.Alvey and J.Reynolds declared an interest as school governors in any business affecting Cuckney School.

195/16

To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup>. March 2016.

Min.184/15. Cllr. D.Alvey said that we had agreed to use Playdale to carry out the inspection of the playground equipment and not Wicksteeds. Subject to that correction the Minutes were accepted as a true record, (D.Alvey/J.Reynolds) and signed and dated by Cllr. M.Smith as Chairman.

196/15

To discuss Parish matters with D.Ridout, representing the Welbeck Estate.

Cllr.D.Alvey drew attention to the state of the site of the hydro electric power apparatus (since removed) at the dam near the playing field

boundary, which he felt presented a hazard to youngsters. Mr. Ridout agreed to have a look, and to make further enquiries into who might be responsible for any further work which might be needed.

Cllr.M.Smith asked whether it was envisaged that there would eventually be a public footpath to link the top end of Donkey Lane with the tip once the latter is restored. Mr.Ridout thought that it might be another two years before restoration work is complete, but when it is there will be a perimeter pathway and no boundary fence so access from Donkey Lane should not be a problem.

Mr.Ridout was asked about the barn in Baker Lane, which has been in a poor state for years, and told of a plan to turn it into a bungalow, with concurrent drainage and landscaping works for the adjacent surroundings.Cllrs welcomed these proposals.

Cllr.M.Smith said there had been complaints about mud on the A60 and the footpath there, where a field belonging to Park House Farm has access to that road. Mr Ridout said that the tenant farmer is primarily responsible, but he would “have a word” with someone about it.

Cllr.M.Smith referred to the proposed village car park, saying that the council would like to take a lead on this, in partnership with Welbeck and Cuckney School. Mr Ridout said that the car park is included in the Neighbourhood Plan, and that he could see no reason why Welbeck would not wish to go forward with it.

Cllr.M.Smith thought it would be a good idea to arrange a joint meeting, the p.c., Welbeck and the school.

Cllr D.Alvey mentioned that he had sent an email to Welbeck asking their agreement to a small notice being affixed to the railings where pavement parking is a problem, requesting motorists to leave the pavement clear for pedestrians. Mr. Ridout, who is now, he said, Head of Land Regeneration and Planning at Welbeck, is to look into the matter of the Notice.

197/16

To discuss co-opting a new member to fill a vacancy.

Mrs. Sharna Jade Penarski, who was present, had made application to be co-opted as a member of the parish council. Mrs. P. withdrew while members discussed the application, and, there being no objection, she was duly co-opted (D.Alvey/K.Barlow) and so joined the meeting from this point on without further formality.

198/16

To receive any updates from the Minutes held on 9<sup>th</sup>. March 2016.

Min 495/15. It was reported that in view of the lack of any response from the Post Office, B.D. Cllr K.Dukes is to raise the matter with our M.P., John Mann.

Min.095/15. Cllr.D.Alvey said that the initial quotation for the cost of work to the Mill Hill path exceeded our funding. However he will meet with Chris. Godley of Groundwork to see what might be arranged.

Cllr.Alvey will also speak with Tony Pepperday regarding clearing and repairing the fencing at the dam.

Cllr M.Smith confirmed the approval of the grant for the work at the spring and stone troughs. However the contractor requires an advance deposit of one third of the cost, £2682.00.

Cllr. Penarski asked about time scales, as no grant monies will be released until the work is complete.

Min.165/15 A course of instruction in the use of a strimmer could not be found at present, as there is little to trim at this time of year.

Cllr.S.Penarski offered to investigate Health and Safety requirements regarding power strimmer operation.

Min.167/15. The County Council has declined to provide a salt bin for Norton. Members agreed that the next meeting should have the provision of such at p.c. expense as an agenda item.

Min.168/15. Good news inasmuch as the beacon has been located at Park House Farm. Cllr.S.Brailsford advised of a picnic to be held in the church grounds on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>. June from 11a.m. onwards, at which all are welcome. People should bring their own picnic, but tea and coffee will be provided. The event will relocate to the village hall if the weather is unkind.Cllr.M.Smith agreed to liase with Cllr.D.Collins about setting up thr beacon.

Cllr.D.Alvey asked whether members might feel it appropriate to help finance the cost of commemorative medallions for the pupils of Cuckney School. 150 of these are ordered at £2 each. After some debate regarding the number pupils who actually live within the parish, it was nevertheless proposed (L.Morton/S.Brailsford) that we fund the cost of 20 of these, and accordingly send a donation of £40 to the medallion fund.

Min186/15. Cllr.D.Alvey said that there was nothing to report as yet about the continuation by the Notts. C.C. of the Lengthmans Scheme. A skip will be available for the convenience of Norton residents on 23<sup>rd</sup>.and 24<sup>th</sup>. April.

Cllr.M.Smith said he would speak to Cllr.D.Collins about a litter picking session to take place at around the end of April.

Min.189/15. Cllr.D.Alvey drew notice to the fact that the lamp outside 17 Creswell Road had not been attended to.

Open session for members of the public to speak

No member of the public was to be seen.

200/16

Finance

In the absence of our Clerk, Cllr.D.Alvey had volunteered to prepare the budget statement ,copies of which were duly distributed.

Cllr.M.Smith suggested that rather than take any immediate action in relation to budgetary items, members should study the figures set out before the next meeting. Councillors agreed, and so further discussion was postponed accordingly save for one or two points of clarification which were as follows:

The council has charge of the Neighbourhood Plan funding, which has to be spent for N.Plan purposes only, with any surplus presumably being returned to the govt. dept. which provided the funds.

Figures for street cleaning are based on the new minimum hourly rate of £7.20, and 12 hours per week, rising to 14 if the Lengthsmans Scheme continues.

Play Area expenses should cover inspection fees and provision of Cushionfall shavings.

201/16

Approval of payment of wages etc.

The following invoices were presented and payment approved

(J.Reynolds/S.Penarski)

(a) Mr.S.Pemberton, £385.40

(b) Mr.R.Wass, £126.10

(c) HMRC,£31.40

202/16

Approval of the use of parish funds for payment of deposits.

This item related to the request by a contractor, R.M.Eaton, that one third of the amount of his quotation for work at and surrounding the village spring and troughs should be paid in advance. As no grant monies would be forthcoming until the work was complete, there had to be interim recourse to parish funds. It was agreed (D.Alvey/S.Penarski) that we should advance the required sum, £2,628.00.

Cllr.D.Alvey said that he will send his fellow cllrs. copies of this quotation by email.

203/16

Discussion of wage increases for council employees

There was a legal requirement, effective as from 1<sup>st</sup>. April 2016, that a minimum hourly rate of £7.20 should be paid to our streetcleaners.

This was agreed accordingly (D.Alvey/M.Smith)

204/16

Planning.

There were no applications to consider, and no more had been heard of the silver birch tree mentioned at 187/15.

205/16

Highways and Service faults.

Cllr.M.Smith drew notice to the Notts County Council's website, which has a facility whereby anyone can report a fault directly without having to go through the parish council.

Cllr.J.Reynolds said that the faulty light illuminating the 20 mph speed sign relating to the school had not been fixed. She said that she would contact the county council herself.

206/16

Items for the next Agenda

This to include the provision of a salt bin for Norton

207/16

Date and Time of next meeting.

It is important to note that there will be two meetings, the Annual Parish Meeting timed for 7.p.m. followed by our monthly meeting at 7.30p.m.

The date for both is the 11<sup>th</sup>. May 2016.+