

HARMBY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD IN HARMBY VILLAGE HALL

ON MONDAY 7th DECEMBER 2015 AT 7PM

Present: Mr A Partridge - Chairperson
Mr N Cannell - Vice Chairman
Mr J Lindsay
Mr C Payne - Clerk

1. **Apologies for absence** - Miss L Peacock.
2. **The minutes** of the meeting held on 30th September 2015 were agreed as an accurate record.
3. **Matters arising:** -

Planning Applications

Farrows Yard

Mr Partridge reported that planning permission for two houses had now been granted.

Dale Garth

Mr Partridge attended a recent site meeting and reported that the legislation regarding planning permission outside of parish development areas had changed in recent years and now planning permission was being considered by councils subject to local conditions. He believed that the application would go ahead possibly subject to minor changes.

Safety Checks and Repairs

There were no problems to report. The next inspection was due shortly.

Street Lighting

The obscured light near the cemetery had now been attended to.

4. Newsletter

Mr Partridge agreed to draft a winter letter shortly as there were important matters that villagers should be informed of (see items 7, 9 and 10).

5. Children's Play Area

A Rospa inspection had taken place and the report had been received since the last meeting. There were several items that had needed urgent attention, these included the swings which were considered to be dangerous due to rotting wood. Mr Payne reported that the urgent work had been completed at a cost of £435. This included taking the swings down and using the good timber to replace other rotten timber in the area. However this now left the play area without any swings. Mr Payne had obtained several quotations showing that replacements could cost in the region of £4000+. A discussion took place and it was decided to leave the decision regarding replacement until the next meeting when funds to replace them may have been found.

It was noted that rabbit damage was still occurring and that it was necessary to repair the holes with something that could not easily be dug out again. This was a priority to avoid accidents. Volunteers would be asked for in the newsletter.

6. Defibrillator

Training sessions on resuscitation were available free if there were sufficient numbers that would attend. This would be broadcast in the newsletter.

7. Grass cutting

It was agreed that the quality of grass cutting had been very good this year since Shire Country Services had been completing the work. Mr Payne was requested to ask Shires to tender for next year and also whether they would agree to a three year contract.

8. Accounts

The accounts were reviewed and unanimously accepted as representing a true and accurate record.

9. Waste Transfer Station

Councillors had been made aware that a Waste Transfer Station had been proposed on the scrap yard site at Hillcrest on the A684 near the top of Harmby Bank. Very little was known about what sort of waste would be held there and what the impact on the village would be. It was understood however that a building 30m x 24m x 10m high was proposed to store the waste, plus an office and toilets. There was also to be approximately 10 HGVs a day using the site.

Although councillors understood the necessity of such sites, it was felt that the prominent position near the brow of the hill just before arriving in Leyburn (The Gateway to The Dales) was totally unsuitable. They were also concerned about the traffic dangers.

There was to be a Drop in Session at Leyburn Library on the 8th December to which Mr Partridge and Mr Payne would be attending. It was agreed that villagers must be made aware of the proposals as comments had to be received by 16th January. This would be done via the news letter.

Note

Subsequent to the meeting Mr Payne and Mr Partridge attended the Drop in Session. Although the site had been identified as a "preferred site", there was very little information available and no decision had been made concerning the type of waste that it would be used for. It was thought likely to be commercial rather than domestic waste. It did appear however that the NYCC staff agreed that the proposed site was in an "unusual" position! The site would be run by the current owners and not by NYCC.

10. 2016/17 Precept

Due to increased cost of grass cutting it was felt that the precept should be increased for 2016 by 6% (£318) representing approximately £1.09 per elector.

11. Other Business

Mr Partridge reported that the hedge in the Play Area needed cutting again and it was agreed to arrange for the work to be completed.

Mr Partridge reported that the ivy hedge at Puzzle Cottage, Hillfoot was very overgrown and this was affecting the vision for motorists both at and approaching the nearby junction. He was reminded of the fatal accident that occurred at the junction some years before. Mr Payne agreed to write a letter to the owner.

12. Date of next meeting: Date to be agreed.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm