

NETHER WYRESDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for the PC meeting of 29th June 2023, 7.30PM @ Scorton Chapel

Present: Cllrs Elliott, Gledhill and Stephen, the clerk and two members of the public

1. Apologies:

Wyre Cllr Charlotte Walker

Cllr Atkinson

Cllr Collinson

Andrew Thompson

2. Declarations of Interest:

None

3. Minutes from last meeting:

The AGM and ordinary minutes were signed as a correct record. Spelling error on page 3 of ordinary minutes will be corrected prior to publishing.

4. Police report:

None

5. Matters arising (from previous meeting/s):

PC vacancy

The PC approved the co-option of Andrew Thompson. The clerk will inform him accordingly and issue the relevant paperwork.

Parish council paperwork

Cllr Steven signed the Acceptance of Office form and Cllr Gledhill filled in his paperwork.

Change to bank account

Following discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Steven should look into available banking options to replace the Lloyds account. He will provide more information at the next meeting.

Village lighting scheme

The clerk confirmed that Lancashire County Cllr Shaun Turner has looked into it and stated that LCC remain adamant that a parish contribution towards works like this is the policy which has been adopted over the past few years and feel they have been very fair in terms of costs. As well as covering the fitting costs they also covered the LED conversion for each unit @ circa £100 each. They provided Lytham as a recent example of somewhere where they have done similar work on this basis. He concluded that it

seems to him that any work previously completed with no costs to the Parish is not something that would be done now therefore, he thinks the previous quote given for costs is fair.

The PC agreed to pay the invoice (refer finance item 15).

Tree planting (Church field)

The PC discussed following an email from Cllr Atkinson where she stated that she had discussed with the Woodland Trust and that they give away packs of 400 trees and that the PC could request an advisory visit from a representative. Alison Boden has also expressed interest in attending a meeting and she has stated that she has been liaising with the Wyre River's Trust for their input. She was planning for tree planting to take place during or just after National Tree Week in December.

Following discussion, it was agreed to contact the Woodland Trust. The clerk will supply Cllr Gledhill with the relevant contacts for the Trust as well as Alison Boden for him to take forward.

Tithebarn Lane road surface

The clerk reported the further response on 9th June from Highways as to intended action. They confirm that they have attended the site in order to jet and cleanse the gullies, they have also conducted further exploratory works using camera equipment. During their visit, they removed approximately 80% of the root ingress, which greatly improved how the drainage system was running. They were unable to remove any further ingress due to the nature and shape of the system, and its location next to high pressure gas main. They will continue to monitor the situation here and will of course reattend if they are made aware of any further problems.

Plan 20/00182/FUL (Land East Of Ghyll Wood And North Of Snow Hill Lane)

The clerk reported that she has submitted the form to Wyre Council for enforcement action (16th June) and she is awaiting further update.

Market Garden business (Tithebarn Lane)

The clerk reported that planning enforcement had stated (26th May) that unless there is development on site or it is up and running without planning permission (if required) no breach has occurred. (Refer planning application submitted since this reply.)

The Barn Entrance

The clerk received an update from Mark O'Donnell (Highways engineer) to confirm work was starting on 12th June and would take 4-5 evenings. This work is now complete.

LALC Wyre Area representative

Cllr Elliott agreed to act as the Wyre Area representative.

6. Open forum:

Overgrown Hedge & fallen branch (Springfield House)

The clerk confirmed she had received an email from a member of the public. The PC requested the clerk to contact Wyresdale Anglers for their attention.

Scorton Defibrillator signage

The clerk explained that the notice outside the Wesleyan chapel does not give the location of the defib and this has been a concern of the North West Ambulance Service who have raised it previously. They are of the opinion that this can be confusing and that valuable time may be lost looking for it.

The PC have removed the notice and requested the clerk to respond to confirm this and that the notice will be replaced with an accurate location sign.

Highway matters

A member of the public reported the following:

Verge on Station Lane beside the railway: He states it is grossly overgrown with grass nettles and brambles sticking out over the road. He said it is important to cut not just the grass but also all the brambles that come out through the fence from the jungle on the embankment. When cutting verges LCC tend to mow a strip of grass close to the road, leaving brambles and other rubbish that sticks out at a higher level to continue sticking out over the road often at face height for passing pedestrians and cyclists. This is a major walking route from the village to busses on the A6 and from Six Arches Caravan Site to the village.

The PC requested the clerk to report to Highways and Network Rail regarding the above.

Gullies on this section of Station Lane: He confirmed that some time since, they cleared three of them but left the other three with mud or rubbish blocking them.

Blocked gullies on Gubberford lane between the toilets and the railway bridge: He said that several were standing full of water after the last significant rain. A number of gullies between the railway bridge and the drive to Broad Fall have been filled with mud and are invisible under the verge. They will need investigation to find them but they need clearing.

The PC requested the clerk to report to Highways regarding both of the above.

Rd surface on Station Lane between the railway bridge and the Square: He complained that the surface is deplorable. It has had no proper maintenance in the fifty years he has lived in Scorton.

The section of Gubberford Lane from the River Bridge to Green Lane East: He states that the surface is very dangerous for both pedestrians and cyclists because of slumping. the ruts and ridges are enough to cause a pedestrian to sprain an ankle or to deflect a bicycle causing it to crash. It is not in the parish but it is a vital route from Scorton to Garstang and the A6. It is a very busy walking and cycling route.

Hedge on that same section: He confirmed that the old hedge on the inside of the bend outside the new houses has been retained. The householders cannot cut it. He believes it would be dangerous to try to trim that hedge by hand with vehicles travelling at speed round the corner on the very edge of the narrow road. He feels that as the builders have put in a high fence, the hedge should be removed to improve visibility (It is not a good birds nesting site). He has noted on a few occasions he has seen pedestrians trying to walk up the hill facing the traffic on the inside of the bend which he considers dangerous.

The section from Green Lane East and the A6: He confirms that this has dozens of badly filled utility trenches and other holes. It also has badly overhanging hedges particularly near the A6.

The PC requested the clerk to report to Cabus Parish Council as these latter 3 are in their area.

Hedge (Station Lane 50 yards from railway bridge)

It was reported that this requires cutting back. A member of the public will try to establish ownership.

7. Playing field:

Commemorative benches

It has been confirmed that one bench has been located opposite the shop, the other has not been positioned yet.

Broken dog sign

Refer finance item 15. The clerk gave the signs to James Cottle.

8. Bikes & Barrows:

James Cottle reported that there is £1542.36 remaining in the account following transfer to funds to the PC.

There is the intention of replacing MUGA goal posts at a cost of £200.00.

It has been suggested that funds could be transferred to the PC account (once the PC has opened a new account).

9. Correspondence/circulated items:

Refer appendix 1. Items discussed:

Best Kept Village information

No further action for this year.

WC – Public Open Spaces Survey

Cllr Elliott will complete the survey and circulate.

10. Borough Council & Lancashire County Council matters:

See appendix 2 for Wyre Cllr Charlotte Walker report.

No representative present for LCC.

10. Planning:

Application number	Description	Resolved PC comments
23/00455/FUL	Change of use of agricultural access point to allow entry and exit from Wyresdale Park and improvement works to access point including widening and resurfacing @ Wyresdale Park Snowhill Lane Nether Wyresdale	No objections
23/00363/FUL	Erection of an agricultural building, 2 x polytunnels, 2 x seed storage containers 1 x welfare unit, creation of hardstanding, and creation of new vehicular access off Tithe Barn Lane. @ Greenark Woodland Nursery, Tithebarn Lane, Scorton	Nether Wyresdale Parish Council object to the application making the following observations: The traffic access is inappropriate and dangerous as it is close to a blind bend. There is no onsite off road parking. The height and weight restrictions on the approach roads make the route unsuitable for large delivery vehicles.

11. Decision notices(status):

Application number	Description	Decision
23/00190/FUL	Replace existing UPVC, polycarbonate roofed conservatory with new larger brick built, flat roofed with lantern roof conservatory. @ Sunnydale Station Lane Scorton	Permitted

12. Highways:

Parking issues (Gubberford Lane)

This was discussed and new cllrs were appraised of the position taken by Highways.

SpID

Cllr Gledhill thought it would be a good to have speed indicator devices therefore the clerk stated she would give him the contact details of Rennie Pinder who has assisted Nateby PC with theirs so he can obtain more information. The clerk confirmed that they cost around £3000 and would have to be precepted for. Nateby will have the SP11 model.

13. Lengthsman:

Jobs undertaken

The clerk circulated the latest time sheet via email.

Jobs to be done

The PC agreed to discuss PRow jobs at the next meeting.

Lengthsman contract (revised) 2023/24

To be signed. The clerk gave this to Cllr Elliot to pass on to Cllr Collinson.

Lengthsman hours 2024/25

This was deferred until next meeting as Cllr Collinson was absent.

14. Village Hall:

No update

15. Finance:

account update

The latest balance as at 21/6 is **£37,831.16**. Since the money has been transferred from the B & B account towards the end of June (£9,508.00 for village lighting scheme), the balance is **£45,291.93**

Items approved for payment:

P/F dog signs x 2 (payable to clerk) - £46.77

Gift for accountant payable to clerk (per parish) - £5.60

Gift for James Cottle (payable to Cllr Collinson) - £50.00 Cheque given to Cllr Elliott.

Lengthsman invoice May - £795.00

Lengthsman grass cutting x 3 P/F May - £240.00

Lancashire County Council village lighting scheme - £15,009.60 (incl VAT)

Item paid:

Reformation LTD (Sloane and Son's) 2 Benches and teak oil – £1423.00 paid 01/06/23

16. Health & Safety:

The PC raised any health and safety concerns.

17. Points of interest:

PC meeting dates 2024

The PC discussed and approved final list as follows:

January 25th, March 21st, May 23rd (includes AGM), June 27th, Sept 5th, Oct 17th & Nov 28th (Precept).

Clerk's salary review

The PC discussed and approved increasing the clerk hourly rate from £11 to £12 per hour.

Flower beds

The PC deferred discussion until the next meeting.

Green book article re Cat Smith MP

The clerk stated that over the summer she is replacing her regular in-person surgeries with pop-up "Chats with Cat" including in Scorton. Each venue will be confirmed on her website. She has found out in the latest issue, that Cat is due in Scorton Village Hall on Saturday 15th July 10AM-12 Noon.

Hedge cutting

The clerk received confirmation from Cllr Atkinson that having met the appropriate person, she has arranged for the hedge to be cut in early August (once bird nesting has finished) along the front of Springfield Gardens.

18. Date of next meeting: **7th September 2023**

As there was no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.50PM

APPENDIX 1 – CORRESPONDENCE (EMAILED)

NALC – Newsletter 10/5, 17/5, 24/5, 31/5, 7/6, 14/6

Rural Services Network (RSN) – Rural bulletin 10/5, 16/5, 23/5, 31/5, 13/6

LCC – Trading Standards Safe Trader Scheme

WC – Licensing minutes 25/4 link

WC – Council agenda & supplement 18/5 link

WC – Press release: Dementia Action Week

NALC – Chief executive’s bulletin 12/5, 18/5, 25/5, 1/6, 8/6, 15/6

WC – Council agenda supplement x 2 & minutes 18/5 link

WC – LALC Wyre Area Committee model Standing Orders (16/5)

Member of the public – Generic email re access to cash in rural communities (to all parish & town councils)

WC – Planning Policy newsletter (children’s homes)

WC – Press release: Wyre’s mayor appointed

WC – Licensing agenda & minutes 30/5 link

WC – Portfolio holder decisions agenda 26/5 link

LCC – Rd closure Long Lane, Scorton 13/7/23

WC – Unauthorized campsites

LCC – King’s award for voluntary service 2024

WC – Flood Forum details

WC – Portfolio holder decisions x 2 26/5 link

LCC – Trading Standards consumer alerts June

WC – Item published 30/5 link

WC – Cabinet agenda & minutes 7/6 links

WC – Planning agenda & supplement 7/6 links

WC – Items published 1/6 links

WC – Schedule to executive decisions 1/6

WC – Portfolio holder decisions agenda 8/6 link

WC – Regenda Homes Newsletter May

WC – Flood Forum documents for 8th June meeting

WC – Overview & Scrutiny agenda 12/6 link

LCC – Rd closure Long Lane, Scorton 13/7

RSN – Rural Funding Digest June

LALC – D Day 6th June

WC – Planning Policy parish & town councils public open spaces survey (9/6)

WC – Portfolio holder decisions x 2 8/8 links

WC – Press release: Win a green waste collection subscription for free

LCC – Closure of footpath 0219017

WC – Press release: Schools tackling antisocial behaviour

LCC – Bus services changes July

LCC – Cosy homes in Lancashire

APPENDIX 2

Cllr Charlotte Walker Report for Nether Wyresdale Parish Council

As you can imagine the best month or so since being elected as the Wyresdale Wyre Councillor has been very busy. I attended the Rose Queen Crowning alongside MP Cat Smith last month, as well as attending my first Parish Council meeting with yourselves. Since then Parish Councillor Steve Elliott has kindly driven me around the area - pointing out badly worn verges, building plots and much more, as well as introducing me to the headteacher of Scorton C of E Primary School, with whom I am sure I will have much more contact with over the coming period. Many thanks Steve for your time, it is greatly appreciated.

Wyre Council have sent out a survey of public open spaces in the Wyresdale area, which I am aware the Parish Council also have a copy of. This needs to be completed and returned at the beginning of July, and I appreciate the Parish Councils support in sharing information for this document, so that we have coordinated information returned to the council.

Unfortunately I am unable to attend this months Parish Council meeting due to mandatory councillor training but will be in attendance at the next one.

I can be contacted via phone or email should any issues arise with which I can be of support, for both the Parish Council and local residents.