**LITTLE SMEATON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES**

**For the meeting held 21 November 2018**

**Present –** Chairman, Cllr G Ivey, Vice Chair, Cllr T Murgatroyd, Cllr M Stewart, Cllr L Glendinning, Parish Clerk, Adele Curnow. No members of the public were present.

1. **Apologies**

Apologies received from Councillor R Brown who has continuing back problems and is awaiting surgery.

1. **Declarations of interest**.
   1. Cllr T Murgatroyd declared an interest in item 9.3 regarding the footpath at the side of his property.
   2. Dispensation granted to Cllr Murgatroyd.
2. **Minutes from previous meeting**

Minutes from the previous meeting held on 27 September 2018 were signed as a true and correct record.

1. To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary.
   1. **Traffic matters**. Email received from Gary Lumb North Yorkshire Highways, with regards to the results of the speed survey. It was decided that the average speeds were reasonably low for a 60-mph speed limit. However, Gary will discuss the results with the police traffic management officer to gain his support to introduce a 40-mph limit or extending the existing 30 mph limit. A works order has been submitted to have the warning signs for accompanied horses installed on New Road. Cllr Murgatroyd will chase up North Yorkshire Highways for a progress report and outcome.
      1. It was suggested that maybe the Parish Council could consider installing wooden gates at the entrance to the village on New Road, similar to the gates on the A19 at Askern, coming from Doncaster. With the thought that it might slow the traffic down. Cllr Murgatroyd will discuss this with Gary Lumb and take advice.
   2. **Hodge Bridge Area**. The native bulbs were purchased and recently planted by Cllr Murtgatroyd and his wife. The Parish Council thanked them both for taking the time to plant the bulbs.
      1. **Hodge Bridge Project** it was confirmed by Cllr John McCartney that LSPC have been awarded a £500 grant for the refurbishment of the telephone box. The Clerk will contact Clerk at Hensall Parish Council who are having their telephone box refurbished in March.
   3. **Little Smeaton Seat Review**. Clerk spoke with Geoff the window cleaner and he is happy to take on the spring cleaning of the benches in April, supplied him with a map and he is going to forward a price.
   4. **Hanging Baskets.** Apparently, no planning permission is needed for fitting the brackets to the lamp columns! Received confirmation from First Impressions Ackworth of the 2019 prices for hanging baskets, previously we had £14.00 for brackets, this price is now £24.00, for supply and fitting. The summer baskets are still £55.00 each. The order needs to be placed before April 2019. Enclosed a map showing all lamp columns in LS, Cllr Stewart and Cllr Glendenning will walk the village with the map and decide which columns will be used for the hanging baskets.
2. **Public Forum.** No members of the public were present at the meeting.
3. **To receive the following planning applications**
   1. Application from Netherwood House, LS. Change of use of single storey outbuildings to residential. No objections from the Councillors.
4. **Matters requested by Councillors.**
   1. **Facebook page.** Suggested that LSPC should have a Facebook page. Clerk will construct a page. It will be linked to the website and email. There will not be any access for the public to post on the Facebook page, if anyone needs to contact the Parish Council this will still be done via the website or email. Information referring to the village will be posted on the page, including meeting Agendas and Minutes.
5. **Financial Matters**
   1. To approve the following accounts for payment.
      * 1. Cheque 500090 Clerks Salary £125.00
        2. Cheque 500091 Petty Cash £ 50.00
   2. To note the following payments previously authorised.
      * 1. Cheque500085 L Glendenning compost £ 17.98
        2. Cheque 500086 Clerks Salary £125.00
        3. Cheque 500087 Rospa Playground Insp £ 84.00
        4. Cheque 500088 A Curnow Bulbs £119.95
        5. Cheque 500089 Royal British Legion Wreath £ 25.00
   3. To receive a bank reconciliation as at 21 November2018 signed as true and correct.
   4. Current finance sheet up to date as at 21 November 2018 signed as true and correct.
   5. Budget Papers for 2019/2020, attached.
      1. It was decided to keep the precept the same for 2019. Councillors decided that there needs to be a contingency in the funds for any necessary repairs that need to be done at Hillside Cottage. Also, the playground needs a number of repairs.
6. **Correspondence Received**
   1. **Playground Safety Report** The safety report was received from Rospa for the playground. Various items within the playground are in need of repair.
      1. **Agility Trail – Fantasy Fun Run** the metal core is just starting to show through on the rope walk. Suggested repair is to bind it with protective tape or shrink wrap to extend the life, because the tape used is worn. Needs to be monitored. **Risk level is VERY LOW.**
      2. **Grassed Area within the enclosed park** the surface is very uneven, it needs to be made good. **Risk level is MEDIUM.** Clerk to contact ROSPA to find out what kind of surfacing is acceptable to replace the grass, to cut down on maintenance, possibly bark.
      3. **Balance Beam** the timber requires sanding and sealing, its not in a good condition. **Risk level LOW.**
      4. **Swing, Junior 1 bay 2 swings** some chain wear, needs to be monitored and replaced before 40% wear. **Risk level LOW**
      5. **Swing, Toddler 1 bay 2 swings** some chain wear, again needs to be monitored and replaced before 40% wear. **Risk Level LOW**
      6. **Goal Posts** item is rusting in places and needs repairing. **Risk Level LOW**
      7. **Multiplay – Junior, with serpent bars** there is laminate damage, it needs rubbing down and the damaged edges need treating. **Risk Level LOW**
      8. **General area inside the park** moss is present on the matting and needs removing. **Risk Level LOW**
      9. **Surface area inside the park** is cracking and needs to be repaired. **Risk Level LOW**

Councillors decided that the items with a low risk will be monitored, a further inspection will be carried out in the spring, by Councillors to check the equipment.

* 1. **Hillside Cottage, mid-term review.** The Letting Agents have confirmed a review has been made of the cottage and they are happy to report that the property is in fantastic condition throughout and is been well maintained. Clerk to check with letting Agents if the chimney has been swept this year.
  2. **Footpath problems** A message was received from the Secretary of West Riding Area Footpath Committee, Ramblers Association with concerns for some of the footpaths in the area. Further to information obtained from the North Yorkshire County Council website it was ascertained that it is the responsibility of the landowners to maintain the footpath and the Local Authority to put up the marker posts and deal with noncompliance.
     1. **Little Smeaton to Womersley** problems with some of the markers and one marker is off the definitive line, possibly a diversion to use the vehicle bridge instead of the badly maintained little bridge crossing the drain, if this is the case the proper steps need to be taken to get the line diverted.
     2. **Womersley to Little Smeaton** no sign when leaving Willowbridge Road to Walden Stubbs, no way markers on the footpath. No sign of a break in the hedge near Churchfield Lane and the definitive line has disappeared. Crops in the field where the path should run and no restoration of the footpath and the erection of an electrified horse fence. The footpath is then obscured and fully over grown coming into the village onto Main Street, between the properties, its also missing a sign.

Councillor Ivey will respond to the Ramblers Association and suggest further ways to make the footpaths more accessible.

Minuted that Councillor Murgatroyd didn’t have any input into the decisions made about the footpaths.

1. **Matters for inclusion on the next agenda.**
   1. Suggestions from the public for any ideas that they may have for our village. A lot of time has been spent making the area at Hodge Bridge tidy and planting new bulbs etc. Also, a defibrillator was acquired and installed in the centre of the village. Plans are underway to have hanging baskets from next year. If anyone has any ideas that they would like to put forward, please come along to the next meeting 16 January 2019.
2. **Date for next meeting**
   1. 16 January 2019 – Wednesday 7.30pm
   2. 20 March 2019 – Wednesday 7.30pm
   3. 8 May 2019 – Wednesday 7.30pm including Annual Open Meeting