

LITTLE SMEATON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Little Smeaton Parish Council meeting 20 November 2019 137

Present – Chair, Cllr G Ivey, Vice Chair, Cllr R Brown, Cllr C Atkinson, Cllr A Hancock, Clerk Mrs A Curnow, 2 members of the public

1. Apologies

No absences from today's meeting.

2. Declarations of interest.

Cllr A Hancock declares an interest in Item 5.3, the gullies/soak aways will be positioned outside her property.

3. Parish Councillor Vacancy

Mrs Maureen Stewart has resigned as a Parish Councillor, as of 7 November 2019. There was a vote of thanks to Mrs Stewart for her years as a Councillor and also her time as the Chair of the Parish Council.

The vacancy notice is on display, the deadline for electors to request an election is 5 December 2019. If no election is called the Parish Council will be requested to co-opt a suitable person at the next meeting in January.

4. Minutes from previous meeting

The minutes were from the meeting held 2 October 2019 were confirmed and signed as a true and correct record by the Chair, proposed by Cllr Brown and seconded by Cllr Atkinson, all Councillors in agreement.

5. To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary.

Previous agenda items and ongoing issues

5.1. Wentedge Road Quarry Planning Application

5.1.1. A letter has been forwarded to Councillors with regard to further environmental information received. The letter was posted on the village WhatsApp group and can be found on the LSPC website and the KS Facebook page. It is pointing residents to view the information on the County Councils Online Planning Register.

5.1.2. Cllr McCartney has confirmed that the site visit has not been agreed, and the Planning meeting arranged for 21 January has not yet been confirmed to take place on that date. Cllr McCartney is preparing a flyer for distribution.

5.2. Little Smeaton Village Map

An A3 copy of the map has been placed inside the telephone box, also A4 copies have been placed on the notice boards. If any delivery drivers need to find an address resident can redirect them to the notice boards or the telephone box. Thanks again to Helen and Colin Atkinson for all their hard work producing the map.

5.3. New Road, traffic signs update

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The proposals to change the speed limit to 40mph have been advertised and letters have been sent out from NYCC, who have to formally consult with all interested parties on the proposal. Responses are requested within 21 days (26 November 2019) giving approval, or any objections to the proposal and any observations. Clerk to check with Highways if residents affected should have received a letter. Also, to check on the query raised about the speed limit signs on Quarry Road changing from the national speed limit down to 40mph to match New Road.

5.4. Playground repairs.

- 5.4.1. We have finally received a quotation from Wicksteed for the replacement parts for equipment in the playground. The cost is £429.40 for supplying the new parts, with delivery. Councillors have agreed that the order can be placed.
- 5.4.2. Play Lane Services at Knaresborough can carry out quarterly inspections of the playground, it covers compliance to the relevant standards and will look for any obvious maintenance and is always been checked for safety measures. The cost of this service is £42.00 incl vat. If we just wanted a one-off inspection the price would be £100 +vat. Councillors agreed to go to quarterly inspections due to the age of the equipment, giving us a chance to keep on top of anything that needs repairs or work.

5.5. Fallen trees over the river at Hillside Cottage

The clerk attended a meeting with Planning regarding the willow trees which are in the conservation area, in the garden of Hillside Cottage. Planning were keen to save the trees if possible, however, once he saw the trees, he agreed that they both needed to be fully removed. Yorkshire Wildlife Trust are interested in using some of the smaller branches for the work to be carried out near the bridge. The cost of the removal and disposal of anything not needed by YWT is £350, and the contractor will carry out the work once the area has stopped flooding and dries up.

5.6. Verge on Main Street LS adjacent the playing field.

The daffodil bulbs have been planted in the verge. The area will be tidied up and the roots will be removed as much as possible.

5.7. Parish Council land near Mount Pleasant/Windy Ridge

The fruit trees have been ordered and will be delivered week commencing 25 November 2019. Once delivered they will be planted.

5.8. Hanging Baskets

NYCC Street Lighting is going to carry out formal structural testing of the lamp columns, unfortunately the programme hasn't started yet. Apparently, it is a County wide project involving over 50,000 street lights and it is taking some time to organise. Street Lighting are not able to provide a schedule or timescale at the moment. Therefore, they will let us know about additional baskets as soon as they have been able to carry out the testing in our village.

The supplier of the baskets has forwarded information about year-round baskets including prices etc. The Councillors felt that the cost would be too high a percentage of the total budget for 2020/21 and will be declining the offer for this coming year.

5.9. **Bench Hodge Bridge Area**

Touch up paint has been purchased for the bench near the river at Hodge Bridge, which was damaged when the swing was over the river. Once the river stops flooding the bench will be cleaned and the paint touched up.

5.10. **Planters**

New winter flowers and bulbs were purchased and planted in the village planters. Thanks to Cllr Brown, Cllr Atkinson and Cllr Hancock for their continued efforts keeping the boxes maintained and planted.

5.11. **Notice Board**

The notice board is suffering from condensation, it has been cleaned on the inside which will hopefully reduce the problem.

5.12. **Land Ownership**

LSPC approached Land Registry to find out the ownership of two small pieces of land, in the village. Consequently, Councillors have spoken with the land owners who confirmed they owned the land and that it does not belong to the Parish Council. The clerk will write to the resident, who raised the land ownership queries and inform them of the outcome and that the Parish Council now regard the matter as closed.

5.13. **Village Social Events**

The ideas raised for village social events is still ongoing. Ideas proposed.

5.13.1. Saturday 14th December 2019 4.30pm, the committee have organised a family Christmas evening with Christmas carols around the Christmas tree, hopefully with a singer to lead the chorus, there will be mulled wine and mince pies. For the little ones Santa will be making an appearance and will have presents. Final details will be circulated nearer the time.

5.13.2. To coincide with the Christmas event residents are being asked to bring along any items they can spare for the food bank at Knottingley. Check on the Whatsapp Group for a list of needed items.

5.13.3. A Christmas Advent calendar tombola with donations made to a local charity.

5.13.4. Preparations to be made for VE day celebrations, 8th May 2020. Possibly a street party with a jive night.

5.13.5. A bank account was opened at Nationwide for any monies raised through the social committee

5.14. **Grass Cutting Review**

A review of the contract will be carried out by the Chair, before the contract is advertised.

5.15. **Highway Drainage on New Road and Main Street**

The Highways Officer has put New Road forward for funding for a highway drainage scheme for some additional gullies. Clerk to keep chasing Highways for updates.

5.16.

5.17. **Dogs fouling the footpath**

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The Parish Council would like to discuss whether to install a dog poo bag dispenser, like the ones in KS. Several residents have complained about the dogs fouling on the footpaths.

If any residents have any complaints regarding dogs fouling the footpath. Selby District council have a page on their website for reporting any incidents that are witnessed. If any residents have issues, please report this directly to Selby DC.

5.17.1. The cost of a dispenser is £94.50 including Vat, and the cost of the bags to fill the dispenser is 1-9 cases ordered (800 bags per case) £22.50 incl Vat.

5.17.2. Clerk to check with KSPC if after installing the dispensers it made a significant difference for the better.

New Issues raised

5.18. **Dropped kerbs**

It has been decided that the Parish Council should look at installing dropped kerbs in the village, to make the access easier for residents who are in a wheelchair or that use a mobility scooter. The cost of one set of drop kerbs is £1500.00. KSPC discussed the plans to provide drop kerbs at their meeting on 13 November 2019. Cllr McCartney has agreed to provide 1 set of drop kerbs from the Locality Budget. It is hoped that the Parish Councils will agree to provide one set each and then NYCC will be approached and it is hoped they will be able to provide a set as well. LSPC Councillors will get together and walk the village and put together a survey to decide the most appropriate places to put the drop kerbs.

5.19. **Bus Shelter**

The glass in the bus shelter has been smashed, the PC owns the bus shelter and has approached NYCC to ask them to carry out the repairs, still awaiting their response. Apparently, there is a resident in the village that could help with the glazing, and it was agreed to approach the resident and get a quote for replacement Perspex panels in the bus shelter.

5.20. **Hunting Bridge, Brockadale**

The recent flooding has caused damage to the bridge and has resulted in it moving slightly. YWT engineers will be out on site on 21 November 2019 to discuss the repairs needed and how to carry them out. It was discussed that both Parish Councils should make a contribution to the cost of the works.

5.21. **Little Smeaton village Precept**

The precept for 2020/21 was discussed along with the budget papers. It was decided that the precept will stay the same as 2019/2020. The budget papers were approved and signed by the Chair, proposed by Cllr Brown and seconded by Cllr Atkinson.

6. **Public Forum.**

6.1. Main Street opposite the Fox, there is now a verge on the wall side of the road and it needs removing, from the corner of Water Lane up to the gate before the park on Main Street. The resident at the meeting offered to have it removed and tidied up.

6.2. A resident questioned the flower garden planted on the verge on the junction of Water Lane. Chair to contact the residents to discuss the situation.

6.3. Grit bins all need checking.

7. To receive the following planning applications.

Cherry Tree opposite the telephone box, reduction of the branches by 50%, LSPC.

8. Matters requested by Councillors.**9. Financial Matters**

9.1. To approve the following accounts for payment.

Cheque number	Clerks Salary	125.00
Cheque number	Room Hire	10.00

9.2. To receive a bank reconciliation as at 31 October 2019, signed as true and correct.
Bank balance as at 20 November 2019 £7659.98

9.3. Current finance sheet up to date as at 20 November 2019, signed as true and correct.
Both proposed by Cllr Brown and Seconded by Cllr Hancock.

9.4. Budget statement for 2020/21 was discussed and signed as given by the Chair,
proposed by Cllr Brown and seconded by Cllr Atkinson.

10. Correspondence Received

10.1. Email received from Woodland Trust regarding Tree Charter Day and free trees to consider. However, all the free trees have been allocated. The Wildlife Trust were keen for LSPC to plant the fruit trees at Mount Pleasant as part of the Tree Charter Day. They also explained that there may be a chance to get free trees in March 2020.

11. Matters for inclusion on the next agenda.

11.1. All ongoing issues from this meeting.

11.2. Climate change and an Emergency plan for vulnerable residents giving details of who to contact in an emergency if the village was ever to flood, when there is a power cut, if we get snowed in etc

11.3. Discussions to take place regarding the lack of footpath on the road up towards Mount Pleasant.

12. Date for next meeting

22 January 2020

18 March 2020

Little Smeaton Parish Council Minutes for the meeting held 20 November 2019

Signed by the Chair 22 January 2020