

Minutes of the Rosedale Parish Council meeting held on 10 November 2011

Members present:

Councillors: Ena Dent (Chair), Henry Brown (Vice Chair), Sue Austermuhle, Richard Dent, Angela Gage, Kate Jones, June Scarth, Maisie Storey, Richard Wilkinson

In attendance: Five members of the public

Apologies from John Sugden were accepted by the Council.

06182 Questions and statements from the public

Pete Widlinski informed the Council of his plans for sustainable living at Low Gill Cottage, and said they hoped to be in by Christmas 2012.

Linda Blackburne urged the Council to consider the creation of a children's playground in Rosedale. She said that she would be happy to help raise funding and that the mothers who were the driving force behind the Wrelton playground would be happy to address the Council.

06183 Declarations of interest

No declarations were made.

06184 Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13 October were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.

06185 Community Group update

No representative of the Community Group was present and no report had been received.

06186 Presentation by Katie Speed on Emergency Planning Training.

Ms Speed did not attend the meeting and the presentation could not be given.

06187 Portfolio system

It was suggested that a portfolio system be introduced so that a designated Councillor could take the lead in researching particular issues, then giving the information to the Clerk.

Resolved: That the list of duties and responsibilities of Parish Councils be circulated among Councillors;

That the issue be placed on the next agenda.

06188 Highways issues

The Council heard that the date for resurfacing of Gill Lane had been set for Thursday 24 November to Saturday 26 November.

06189 Broadband

The Council heard that BT had suggested contacting BT Wholesale, which the Clerk intended to do.

06190 Dog fouling

Resolved: To form a subcommittee consisting of Councillors Jones, Storey and

Wilkinson to gather information on this issue and suggest a policy;
To contact the Forestry Commission and National Park Authority for advice;
To place an item in the newsletter concerning dog fouling on the football pitch.

06191 Winter gritting service

The Council noted a letter from Anne McIntosh MP supporting the campaign to allow farmers to use red diesel to grit roads. The Council also heard that it had been said at the last Parish Liaison meeting that Richard Marr considered the relaxation of this rule still to stand.

Resolved: To send a letter to the National Parks requesting that the rules regarding red diesel for gritting remain relaxed;
To request a salt heap in the layby on the road from Bell End to the village;
To apply for equipment under Ryedale District Council's winter maintenance scheme.

06192 Road mirror

The Council heard that the National Park Authority had still not replied with advice on planning.

Resolved: To press the Authority for an answer.

06193 Water running down Knott Road

The Council heard that there was a worry about water running down Knott Road which could cause a hazard if it freezes.

Resolved: To contact Councillor Val Arnold and Richard Marr about this.

06194 Mobile provision

The Council heard that Chris France at the National Park Authority planned to contact the mobile phone providers to encourage them to widen provision.

Resolved: To write to Chris France to remind him of this and offer support.

06195 Village playground

Resolved: To leave this issue to the Community Group for the time being.

06196 Ownership of village green

The Council heard concerns that it was not known who would be liable if there was an accident on the green. Although David Ross's caretaker looks after the green, evidence was heard that the green was not sold with the estate in 1948 and was not registered with the land registry. However the Council decided not to pursue this matter.

06197 Village pond

Although concern was expressed about the amount of money being spent on this project, the Council noted that this was not a Parish Council project and was being paid for through a LEADER grant.

06198 Community noticeboard

The Council heard that the woodwork on this board was fine and it only needed new perspex.

Resolved: To mention the board in the newsletter.

06199 Diamond Jubilee

Resolved: To place an item in the newsletter asking what people wanted for this; To keep pushing for a village clock, which could be a jubilee clock.

06200 Parish Liaison meeting

Councillor Scarth reported back from this meeting, and said that Rosedale was in line for £600 from the New Homes Bonus; that there was an attempt to expand existing post offices, as there was no possibility of reinstating small offices; and that Richard Marr had said that the resources simply weren't available to increase the levels of gritting.

06201 Southern Area Forum meeting

Councillor Scarth reported back from this meeting. The subjects of red diesel and communications had already been dealt with. She also mentioned the "slow the flow" project which was concerned with flooding; the New Homes Bonus, which had been deferred for further consultation; the Forestry Design Plan, which was available from the National Park Authority HQ; the National Park Management Plan, which was currently under consultation; and the change in governance rules which meant that Parish Councils could now nominate non-Parish Council members on to the National Parks Authority. On the subject of memorial benches, other councils agreed that they were maintained by Parish Councils, and that there should be an agreement made in advance on what to do if a bench fell into disrepair.

Resolved: to check that the Council is covered for accidents involving benches under its insurance policy.

06202 Finance

A cheque was signed for the Village Caretaker's expenses (£345.08) and the Council was notified of the amount for last month (£334.67). The Council also noted a donation of £100 from Spaunton Court Leet towards the Village Caretaker's costs.

The Council received the financial forecast, and noted that the reserves were decreasing.

The Council then considered the parish precept. It was noted that the precept had not increased for some years, and that the Council was now spending more than its income, largely due to the increase in the Clerk's hours. The Clerk said that the Council was not allowed to stockpile public money without justification.

Resolved: That the precept would remain the same for the next year, at £4070. Councillor Jones asked that her vote against be recorded in the minutes.

The Council then considered the village Christmas tree.

Resolved: To ask Trevor Dale if he could arrange this as in previous years, and to raise a cheque outside of the meeting to pay for this - otherwise the Vice Chair offered to help.

06203 Planning decisions received

NYM/2011/0581/FL Application for provision of 1 no. 750mm satellite dish with support apparatus on southern gable end of existing equipment building at land at Heygate Bank, Rosedale Abbey. Granted with conditions which were noted by the Council.

NYM/2011/0385/FL Application for conversion of outbuildings to form 2 no. holiday letting cottages at Red House Farm Rosedale East. Granted with conditions which were noted by the Council.

06204 Any other business

Councillor Austermuhle reported that the water running down Gill Lane from the BT hole had been diverted.

Councillor Jones asked about the hydro scheme, and the Clerk said that he was still pursuing it. She also asked if the agenda had changed format deliberately, and the Clerk said that the division between "matters arising" and "new matters" had been removed as it was causing confusion. She also mentioned the Screen Waves project, which concerned a group of people creating "instant cinema", and asked the Clerk to look into this.

Councillor Storey asked if a thank you could be sent about the footpath restoration, and also asked if the seat outside the Reading Room had been looked at. Councillor Gage said that the previous Vice Chair had looked at it, but didn't know the outcome.

The Vice Chair asked that the Clerk write to Anne Wright asking if the Council could use their electricity for the Christmas tree, and offering a contribution.

Next meeting

The next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 12 January 2012 at 7.00pm in the Reading Room.