

Minutes of the Rosedale Parish Council Meeting held on 12 July 2012

Members present:

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

In attendance: Ten members of the public

06320 Apologies and declarations of interest

Councillor Austermuhle declared a non-pecuniary interest in the issue of trial bikes.

06321 Questions and statements from the public

No notice of any questions or statements had been received.

06322 Community Group update

No representative from the group was present and no report had been received.

06323 Minutes of previous meeting

Resolved: that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14 June 2012 be accepted as a true record.

06324 Broadband

Dr Trevor Higgins, Partnership Director of BT, was invited to address the meeting. Dr Higgins said that BT had been charged to reach a Government target of making the UK the most superfast country in Europe by 2015. He said that BT intended to install as much fibreoptic cable across North Yorkshire as possible, and to use other solutions for the remaining 10% of the country. He said that only 2% of the country would receive the minimum of 2MB, and that the process should take eighteen months. He said that Rosedale was in a strong position as North Yorkshire County Council was one of the most “go-ahead” Councils in the country on this issue and that North Yorkshire was at the forefront of the rollout. He felt that it might be useful to contact NYCC asking that Rosedale be a priority, and clarified that there would be no obligation to use BT as a service provider if superfast broadband reached Rosedale.

06325 This Exploited Land

Linda Chambers of Rosedale History Society was invited to address the meeting on the subject of the “This Exploited Land” project. This involved a forthcoming Heritage Lottery Funding bid of £2 million, to help conserve the landscape within the National Park, focusing on industrial heritage and wildlife. She said that a pre-application for the bid had already been submitted, and that a Steering Group would be set up to formulate the application and come up with arguments why this area needed help.

06326 Village clock

The council heard that donations had already been received from the public before the cost of the clock was known.

Resolved: to continue to receive donations rather than ask for particular amounts; to issue receipts for any donations.

06327 Emergency Planning Training

Councillor Gage said that the group had had a meeting with Katie Speed on how to proceed. A member of the public had now joined, and there had also been interest from the Chair of Hartoft Parish Meeting. However, she said that she wanted to withdraw from leading the group on health reasons.

Resolved: that the group would choose a new leader itself;
to place another piece in the newsletter asking for members.

06328 Road mirror

The Council noted that their insurers had told the Clerk by telephone that the Council's existing Public Liability Insurance would cover it for any injury to the public should it accept responsibility for the mirror.

Resolved: to confirm this in writing, and clarify precisely what kind of accident would be covered;
that when this was done, to go ahead and order the mirror.

06329 Highways issues

The Council noted responses from Highways concerning the issues raised at last month's meeting, in particular that patching work on Heygate Bank should be completed before Rosedale Show.

Resolved: to ask if patching at Thorgill could be done at the same time;
to thank Highways for the patching work between Bank Top and Hutton-le-Hole.

06330 Village playground

The Council heard that the owners of the campsite had responded positively to a suggestion that an agreement could be made to allow local children to use the campsite playground.

Resolved: to write to the owners of the campsite with a view to making such an agreement.

06331 Code of conduct

Resolved: to finally accept the NALC Code of Conduct, incorporating the regulations on disclosure of pecuniary interests, which had been provisionally accepted at the last meeting.

06332 Cutting costs from the expenses

The Council heard that its reserves were falling, and there were suggestions that the precept would need to be raised in November in order to cover its costs. The Clerk agreed to find out the cost of a by-election.

The Vice Chair also said that he had had a meeting with Bernie McLinden regarding strimming of wild flowers, and that the Caretaker would be given a map of the dale highlighting rich wild flower beds showing which areas to avoid.

06333 New Homes Bonus

Resolved: to invite Janet Frank to a meeting to explain the fund.

06334 Rosedale Walking Festival

The Council heard of a proposal from the Walkers Are Welcome steering committee for a Walking Festival to be held in Rosedale, probably in October, although nothing was finalised. The Council heard that it might be approached for financial help later.

Resolved: to support this Festival in principle.

06335 Trial bikes

The Vice Chair said that he had received complaints of trial bikes by the old kilns, causing damage to the line. He said that his enquiries showed that they did not receive permission from the Ross Estate, and were illegal. He said that if registration numbers were taken and reported to the police twice, the bikes could be impounded and crushed.

It was stressed that these were not part of the licensed and legal trial competitions.

Resolved: to place an item in the newsletter making the public aware of the issue.

06336 Finance

Cheques were signed for the Caretaker's costs (£402.28) and the Clerk's salary and expenses (£503.11) and tax (£109.40). Cheques were also signed to Mary Cornforth for the hanging baskets (£116.40) and to YLCA for Councillor Training (£35).

The Clerk presented the financial forecast, but pointed out that it included an estimate for the village clock but did not include an estimate of public donations. He said he would prepare a new one including the figures.

06337 Any other business

The Vice Chair asked that a letter be written to the Ross Estate asking if they could fix the chains on the village green.

The Clerk said that he had not received a reply regarding the postboxes at Thorgill, and that he would follow this up. He also said that he had not heard anything more about a meeting between the Chair and David Ross.

06338 Date of next meeting

The next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 8 August. The time was changed to 8pm to avoid clashing with another group.

The meeting closed at 8:30pm.