

Minutes of the Rosedale Parish Council Meeting held on 10 April 2014

Members present:

Councillors: Ena Dent (Chair), Henry Brown (Vice Chair), Sue Austermuhle, Trevor Dale, Richard Dent, Angela Gage, June Scarth, John Sugden, Richard Wilkinson

In attendance: Five members of the public

06725 Apologies and declarations of interest

Apologies from Councillor Storey were accepted by the Council.

06726 Questions and statements from the public

No notice of any questions or statements had been received.

06727 Community Group update

No representative was present and no report had been received.

06728 Minutes of previous meeting

Resolved: that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13 March 2014 be accepted as a true record.

06729 Clerk's report

The Council noted the Clerk's report which said that:

- a complaint had been received from a member of the public about the state of Battling Hills Road, and notice had been received of a temporary road closure at Knott Road;
- the Vice Chair had suggested that the Caretaker should mow the village green, but that the Council should not accept responsibility for this task;
- that a Parish Planning Training Event was being organised by the National Park Authority on 30 April;
- that the rule requiring two signatures for any Council payment had been repealed, but that no action was necessary unless the Council wished to take advantage of electronic payments;
- and that there was a consultation on the Draft Transparency Code for smaller Parish Councils requiring online publication of accounts instead of External Audit. The Clerk noted that the Council already published most of this information, and that the extra workload would be negligible.

06730 Planning advice

The Chair welcomed Mark Hill and Hilary Saunders from the National Park Authority Planning Department, who spoke and answered questions on planning. They said that by law, applications had to be judged in accordance with the Core Strategy and Development Policies, unless there was a good reason not to. These reasons often came from residents and Parish Councils. They said that there was a principle that business competition was a good thing. They also said that as Parish Councils could not be expected to be experts in planning, they should respond how they liked, and anything that wasn't allowable would be filtered out by the planning officers.

06731 Highways issues

The Council confirmed its position that Councillor Dale should be the single point of contact between the Council and the Highways Department.

Councillor Dale said that he had been told that four or five potholes had been filled near the bridge and the Orange Tree, a works order had been issued for the repair of the road near Bell End Cottages, some potholes had been filled in Thorgill but there was further work to be done, it was the landowner's responsibility to stop the water in the road at the Grange, the Department was aware of and monitoring the carriageway slip at Knott Road, and that a works order had been issued for patching of Battling Hills Lane to keep it safe and passable, but that there would be no major construction until further funding was available. The Department had also said that the culvert at Hobb House had been cleared and was being monitored, and that a culvert further along would be replaced.

Councillor Dale said that he would arrange a meeting with Ian Birkett.

06732 Hanging baskets

Resolved: that the Council would pay for five hanging baskets, of which two would be placed at the public toilets, two at the school and one for the Reading Room.

06733 Signage at Hutton-le-Hole

The Council noted that there was no road sign to Rosedale at Hutton-le-Hole, but concerns were expressed that this might increase traffic on Chimney Bank.

Resolved: to contact Highways to find out why a previous sign was removed.

06734 Village green

The Council noted that the Estate's Caretaker was no longer mowing the village green, but understood that he had offered to help the Parish Caretaker if she took it on.

Resolved: to thank John Cockerill for his work in mowing the green over the years, and to accept any further help that he might offer; that the Parish Caretaker would mow the village green for six months, after which it would come back on the agenda for further consideration; that the Council accepted no responsibility for the upkeep of the green.

06735 Litter

The Council noted concerns that litter was building up off the footpaths on private land, but that the Caretaker could only go on public land. A suggestion was made to mention this in the newsletter.

Resolved: to contact the Community Payback scheme to see if they could help with clearing litter generally.

06736 Salt bins on Chimney Bank

The Council noted concerns about the appearance and state of repair of these bins. Councillor Dale was asked to see if these were the responsibility of the Highways Department.

06737 Village sign posts

A question was raised about who had responsibility for cleaning road signs in the village. Councillor Dale was asked to bring this up at his meeting with the Highways Department.

06738 Joint Parish Forum 7 May 2014

The Chair and Councillor Scarth said they would try to attend this meeting.

06739 Parish Planning Training Event

Councillor Scarth and Councillor Richard Dent said they would try to attend this event.

06740 Repeal of section 150 of the Local Government Act 1974

The Council noted that their Financial Regulations still required cheques to be signed by two members. No further action was proposed.

06741 Consultation on the Draft Transparency Code for Parish Councils with a turnover not exceeding £25000

Resolved: that the Council would respond to the six questions in the consultation as follows:

1. The government proposes that the Code will be mandatory for Parish Councils with a turnover not exceeding £25000. Do you agree?

Answer: yes.

2. The government proposes that parish meetings will be exempt from complying with the code. Do you agree?

Answer: yes.

3. Should there be a threshold above which individual items of expenditure must be published?

Answer: not applicable.

4. What exemptions - if any - would need to be made to information published to explain negative responses to the internal controls objectives?

Answer: not applicable.

5. The government proposes to require electronic publication. Do you agree?

Answer: yes.

6. How much additional staff time and cost will be involved for authorities in publishing the required data online?

Answer: negligible.

06742 Finance

Cheques were written for the Parish Caretaker's costs (£260.43) and for the Council's annual subscription to the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (£113).

06743 Planning applications

NYM/2014/0165/FL Application in respect of erection of a greenhouse at The Oaks, Rosedale Abbey.

Resolved: that the Council had no objection to this application.

06744 Date and time of next meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as 7:30pm on 8 May 2014

at the Reading Room. This is to be preceded by the Parish Meetings for Rosedale East (7:00pm) and Rosedale West (7:30pm).

The meeting closed at 9:16pm.