

Lartington Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on September 13th 2016

Present

Mr. Campion, Mrs Parsons Munn, Mrs Cross, Mrs Stephenson, Mr Whetstone, Mr Crawford, Mrs Hinchliffe. Mr Jerred (Clerk).

01. Recording of the meeting

The Chair opened the meeting by enquiring whether anyone present intended to make a recording of the meeting. No one had such an intention.

02. Apologies

There were no apologies.

03. Disclosures of Interest

There were none.

04. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on July 12th were read and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the proceedings of that meeting save that it was noted that Mr Crawford should have been recorded as being present.

05. Matters Arising

- a. Condition of the trees on the South side of the village - the clerk reported that he had received a note from Mr White, agent for Lartington Estates, stating that the trees had been examined by a specialist and that the estate would be acting on his advice subject to DCC granting necessary consents.
- b. The aqueduct - the clerk reported that the condition of the aqueduct was considered satisfactory by Lartington estates. It was agreed that our concerns be referred to Bryan Harris, DCC Conservation Officer.
- c. Railings adjacent to old railway bridge - the clerk reported that Lartington Estates believed the condition of these to be a matter for DCC, referencing the Highways Act 1980. It was agreed that the matter be referred to DCC and copied to the Chief Constable.
- d. Footpaths - the clerk reported that he had received an update from Mike Murden. It was felt that the blockage on footpath 33 had been ongoing for too long and that this be referred to Cllr. Bell for his support.
- e. Flooding on Green Lane - Mrs Parsons Munn reported on her exchanges with DCC and noted that some steps had been taken to alleviate the situation, although she was concerned that these would prove inadequate.

06. Items of Urgent Business

There were none.

07. Principal Correspondence

- a. Various emails routinely circulated
- b. Heart of Teesdale - newsletters
- c. CDALC - a meeting with local MP's had been arranged for Oct 14th. Unfortunately neither the clerk nor chair were able to attend.
- d. ICO - renewal of registration reminder.
- e. DCC Dog Control Policy - this is currently being consulted on.

08. Statement of Accounts/Precept

The clerk reported that there was £1563.98 in the current account and £368.35 in the Deposit Account. He that the Audit had now been completed satisfactorily by BDO, the only issue raised being that the Register of Assets should include dates of purchase. He reported, however, that a charge of £36 was being invoiced for extra correspondence relating to the audit which he had challenged since the only contact with BDO had been a very short and straightforward phone call. The clerk wished to record his thanks to Anne Botterill for acting as Internal Auditor, a role which she was prepared to undertake again if necessary.

10. Accounts to be paid

Hall Hire	£15
HMRC	£40
Clerk Salary	£160
Printer Ink	£5.90
ICO	£35

11. PACT and Speedwatch

The clerk reported that he had written to DCC regarding speed monitoring exercises with an unsatisfactory response. First, the deployment of temporary speed warning signs around the county by DCC is working at full capacity and further location should not be considered. Secondly, a speed monitoring exercise whereby a cable is laid across the road for a week could only be undertaken at the request of the Speedwatch Co-ordinator (PCSO Liz Finn) - a trigger of 15% of vehicles being recorded as travelling in excess of the speed limit during speed watch activities being required. A record of exercises held this year showed this as being only 5% - although the Chair reported on a conversation with PCSO Finn in which she had agreed that, in common with other villages in the Dale, we do have a problem with speeding - it's just difficult to prove it! It was agreed that the clerk should write to DCC expressing our disappointment with the rigidity of deployment of speed warning signage and suggesting this policy be reviewed. It was also agreed that a speed watch exercise be conducted as soon as possible - and noted that Mrs Parsons Munn is now an accredited volunteer!

12. Highway Issues

- a. Mr Crawford reported that the surface of the road to Barnard Castle appeared in poor condition in places. It was agreed to report this.

13 Footpath Issues

- a. Bridleway 42 - it was reported that some efforts had been made to clear this but it was not known whether this had been completed. Mrs Stephenson agreed to check on this.
- b. Footpaths 43 - the clerk reported that the Diversion Order to the west of Lartington Hall had now been confirmed by DCC

14. Planning Matters

There were none.

15. Date of Future Meetings

November 8th

January 10th 2017

March 8th