

MURTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Murton Parish Council held on Wednesday, September 9th 2015

Present: Cllr I Waddington (Chairman), Cllrs D Harriman, R. Kettlestring, D Wells

Also present: D Waddington, Cllr M Warters (Ward Councillor)

In the absence of the Clerk, Prof Waddington was invited to take the minutes of the meeting.

15/302 **Declarations of interest:** None

15/303 **Apologies for absence:** Cllrs R Clancey and D Rothwell, and A McFarlane (Clerk to the Council).

15/304 **Minutes of the previous meeting** held on July 8th 2015 were accepted as a correct record.

15 /305 **Matters arising:**

(a) Neighbourhood Plan

- (i) The Chairman noted that, at the Executive Member Decision Session on Thursday, July 23rd, Cllr Gillies, the Executive Member for Transport and Planning, agreed to the Parish boundary as the boundary for the Murton Neighbourhood Plan.
- (ii) It was agreed to form a Working Party for the Neighbourhood Plan with Cllr Clancey as Chairman and Cllrs Rothwell and Wells as members. Cllrs Harriman, Kettlestring and Waddington were elected as members ex-officio who will be able to attend meetings when specific issues are discussed. Prof Waddington agreed to act as Secretary until such time another member of the parish volunteered and was appointed by the Parish Council.
- (iii) It was noted that the first action of the Working Party will be to write to all members of the Parish giving information about the Neighbourhood Plan and inviting participation on the Working Party with particular emphasis on ensuring that the various constituencies of the Parish are represented.
- (iv) It was noted that the application for funding under the Neighbourhood Planning and Community Buildings Programme had been submitted after comments on the draft by members of the Parish Council and by our advisor, Dave Chetwyn.
- (v) It was noted that information on the Neighbourhood Plan will be posted on the new website (14/274 (b)).

(b) Parish Council Website

Cllr Wells has asked Councillors to look at the site prior to it being formally available to the public. It can be seen on www.murtonparishcouncilyork.org
Cllr Wells has sent the Clerk a note of the costs incurred in setting up the site and has been reimbursed.

- (c) The Clerk has written to the Council about the bins left outside the Homestead (15/294(c)) and has enquired about the current status of the occupants (15/289(b)). He still has not yet had a reply.
- (d) The Chairman reported that she had asked the churchwardens to arrange for the hedges around the churchyard to be cut and this has been carried out.
- (e) The overgrowth of the hedges in one of the gardens in the village has been dealt with by neighbours. The Parish Council expressed their gratitude.
- (f) Cllr Clancey is pursuing a resolution of the problem of skip lorries using the roads of the parish unnecessarily. It was noted that there appeared to be fewer sightings of the lorries.
- (g) **Murton Centenary Appeal.**
The Appeal Committee has asked the Parish Council to submit a proposal for funding, on its behalf, for the kitchenette to be installed in the church for use by the whole community. It was noted that the Committee was using existing funds to support the application. The request was agreed by those members who were not members of the Appeal Committee, the latter abstaining.
- (h) The Chairman reminded the meeting that Cllr Clancey will be making arrangements for the use by residents in the parish of the Superfast Broadband mast installed at his company's premises. Details will be given in the Parish Link when all the information has been obtained.
- (i) The Chairman has complained to the City of York Council about the lack of information concerning Moor Lane field, OS9729. The present position is that the Assistant Director of the Council is being consulted, prior to a review of the case by the Prosecutions Solicitor. The expectation is that a report for the Assistant Director will be completed before the end of the month.
- (j) Cllr Warters noted that, following his proposal to sow wild flowers along the grass verges adjacent to Murton Hall and along Murton Way between the church and the bridge, he is awaiting detailed advice from Dr Mike Pythian (York Environmental Trust) (15/299). The funding for it will not be of significance.
- (k) The Clerk has obtained estimates for noticeboards for Meam Close and Tranby Avenue. It was decided to see whether a new surface could be fixed on the existing noticeboard in Tranby Avenue and to obtain the precise measurements for a new noticeboard in Meam Close, prior to a decision.
- (l) The Clerk's proposal for the replacement bench on the Green was welcomed. It was noted that it would cost ca £525 including VAT and carriage. It was agreed that we should seek help with its fixing prior to ordering it and the Chairman agreed to discuss this with the Clerk.

15/306

Correspondence:

The Parish Council has been invited to send representatives to the following meetings and to make comments on a new police survey. The meetings are:

- (i) York Community Energy on Saturday, September 12th.
- (ii) The Annual Parish Council Meeting conducted by Julian Sturdy, MP on Saturday, September 26th
- (iii) The York Surgery conducted by Julia Mulligan, Police and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire on Thursday, September 17th.

The Police and Crime Commissioner has written to give the results of a national survey concerning trust in the police service which found that urban dwellers are much more satisfied than those in rural areas. The National Rural Crime Network (NRCN) is seeking Government help to address this concern and urges those in rural communities to express their support by writing to the Government or signing a petition.

It was decided that the Chairman should write to our MP and Commissioner (15/307) thanking them for the invitations and pointing out that we had no specific problems of which they were unaware.
The Chairman also agreed to sign the NRCN petition on behalf of the Parish

Council.

15/307

Police and Crime:

- (i) There was no report from the Police.
- (ii) The Chairman noted that, following her attendance at a meeting of the North Yorkshire Police which discussed anti-theft devices, she had received information on the marking of valuable possessions. These involve either the owner marking the objects or it being done by a special visit from the police. It was decided to seek a space in the Parish Link and on our website to advertise the procedure and see if there was enough interest to warrant an invitation to the police.
- (iii) Following protracted discussions correspondence with the North Yorkshire Police concerning the speeding traffic problems, Mr Steve Burrell, the Traffic Management Officer, has offered to meet the Parish Council. The Chairman agreed to write to Mr Burrell inviting him to come to its next meeting.
- (iv) Councillor Ian Gillies, Executive Member, Transport and Planning has written to Cllr Warters, copy to the Parish Council, suggesting that we could consider using white 'farm' gates at the side of the road at the entrances to the village (as installed in Upper Poppleton and Rufforth) to reduce traffic speeds. The Chairman reported that she had visited both villages and taken photos which were discussed at the meeting. It was decided that they were not appropriate and that we should pursue a more radical solution. The Chairman agreed to write to Cllr Gillies thanking him for his suggestion.
- (v) The Chairman reported that the Parish Council has received suggestions from Ben Potter and Louise Robinson, Transport Projects, City of York Council for upgrading the signage in the village to deter speeding. Cllr Warters gave further background information and it was decided that these were cosmetic suggestions and of little value. Cllr Waters has arranged a meeting with Ms Robinson at 9 30 am Friday, September 11th in the village to discuss the proposals. The Chairman and Cllr Wells agreed to attend this meeting.
- (vi) The Chairman said that the Parish Council had received an invitation from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire to make a bid to take part in the 'roll out' of the Community Speed Watch programme for North Yorkshire. As this invitation was only available for 7 days and was closing on Tuesday 8th September, she had made a bid. A final decision on whether to join the scheme can be made if the bid is successful. It was recognised that the exercise could lead to unpleasant abuse from some car drivers.
- (vii) The Chairman has received another complaint from a business in Murton Lane who had been photographed by the 'Spy car'. Cllr Kettlestring noted that he had seen the car parked near the area on several occasions. On further enquiry, it transpired that complainant has not been fined. Cllr Warters has been in correspondence with Graham Titchener, the Head of Parking Services. Cllr Warters felt that the car was not being used now to harry our businesses in Murton Lane and may well be withdrawn altogether following a review by the City of York Council.

15/308

Planning:

It was noted that we had written to the Council to support the application from **Rose Farm** (hedgerow removal and strengthening the biodiversity of others). Support was given to a neighbour to the **Inner Space Station** who was concerned about possible enhanced traffic and noise. Cllr Warters had been asked to lead the objections to the application of HMO for **321 Hull Road** and he reported that he was in discussions with the planning officers. However we were too late to support the application for the removal and replacement of the hedgerow at the **York Livestock Centre**, which we would have supported. The applicants are also strengthening the biodiversity in this area which we welcome.

The Chairman also reported that she has written to the York office of Historic England seeking advice about the status of the farmhouse and outbuildings at **Prospect Farm** which are being sold next month.

Disquiet was expressed about the lack of clarity in the resubmitted plans for the development of the amenity building at the proposed animal farm at **Beetle Bank Farm**. The Chairman agreed to write to the planning officer asking for diagrams that are on the same scale.

15/309

Finance:

The following payments were agreed:

- (i) £240.00 to Osboldwick PC for emptying the litter bin at the bus shelter for a year
- (ii) £260.73 are the annual premium to Zurich Insurance

15/310

Any other business:

The Chairman reported concerns expressed over the narrowing of the footpath along Murton Way. Cllr Warters offered to seek ways in which the path could be cleared using the Community Service

15/301

Date of the next meeting:

Wednesday, October 14th 2015 at 7.15 pm in the church.