

MURTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Murton Parish Council held on Wednesday, September 13th 2017 in St James's Church, Murton

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

Also present: Cllr J Brooks, Cllr M Warters, D Waddington

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

17/76 **Declarations of interest** None

17/77 **Apologies for absence:** Cllr R Clancey, A McFarlane (Clerk to the Council)

17/78 **Minutes of the previous meeting:** The minutes were signed as a correct record

17/79 **Matters arising:**

- **The Murton Parish Neighbourhood Plan** Cllr D Rothwell, on behalf of the Chairman of the Murton Parish Neighbourhood Plan Working Party, presented the report of the Working Party's meeting on September 10th and underlined
- Work was continuing on the draft for the Plan
- The analysis and report of the second questionnaire sent to households in the village and nearby in May/June has been completed. It can be found on the Parish Council website. It was agreed that a copy is also sent to every household in the area designated for the questionnaire
- Local Plan: There are 5 sites included in the Officers' Assessment of Employment Sites recently published as Annex 4 which are either in the Parish or adjacent to it and which would have a significant effect on the Parish. They are
 - Land East of Grimston Bar ST6 (181/847)
 - Greenacres (Murton Lane) 795
 - Brook Nook (Murton Way) 112
 - Land at Grimston Bar 160
 - Land at Murton Lane Industrial Estate 161

The Officers' recommendations for each site are that the developments should not be allowed except for Greenfields. The Working Party when discussing this proposal for considers it to be a reasonable one which will not affect the village significantly while providing a useful and logical site for employment. It does not think that grounds such as exacerbating parking problems on busy days at the Auction Centre sufficient for disagreeing with the proposal. Rather, it would prefer to make the point that, in encouraging the proposal, it is incumbent on the City Council to take this problem into account when making the decision.

It was noted that the Parish Council will be shortly invited to comment on these proposals and it was agreed that the Working Party writes

- a letter to all households in the village outlining the proposals and asking for comments

- the draft reply to the City Council to be submitted to the Parish Council for consideration

The complete report from the officers can be found using the url: <http://democracy.york.gov.uk/documents/g10364/Public%20reports%20pack%2010th-Jul-2017%2017.30%20Local%20Plan%20Working%20Group.pdf?T=10>

- A questionnaire for the households on the southern border: It was reported that no progress had been made on the proposal to alter the boundary of the Parish. Consequently, the Working Party recommends that it prepares a second questionnaire for these households, aiming to complete the preparation and printing by early October and ask for help to distribute and collect it in mid-October.

The Working Party also suggests that we should invite, in this questionnaire, comments about the proposed boundary change.

The Working Party will also seek further clarity about the *net* contribution of these areas to the overall funding for the Parish.

These proposals were agreed by the Parish Council.

- Correspondence with businesses: The Parish Council agreed with the Working Party's recommendation that a copy of the report on the village questionnaire (17/79 (a) (ii)) to all businesses asking them to comment on its findings, if they wish. It was noted that the City Council will be writing to all land owners and businesses when the Neighbourhood Plan is published asking for comments prior to the referendum.
- **Grass Cutting** It was noted that the Moor Lane verge from Murton Hall to the pond had been cut by Cllr Warters and that several chicory plants, of historic interest, had been found. Cllr Warters will cut it again before winter and sow some cowslips. He will also put on some yellow rattle seeds. Cllr Warters was thanked for this work.
- **Cleaning of gutters** It was reported that the Clerk has arranged for the City Council to clean the gutters in the village, Murton Lane and around the bridge along Murton Way and that this had been carried out by the City Council.
- **Public Rights of Way** It was reported that the landowner had repaired the stile and sign near the church but the Clerk has reported that another sign in a different part of the Parish needed repair and he was asked to notify the landowner who is responsible for the repair.

Cllr Kettlestring reported that he had found many obstructions along footpath 1 and he had cleared them. He was thanked for this extensive work.

The Clerk is asked to check that there are no other obstructions on the Rights of Way.

- **Planning enforcements**
- It was reported that the Enforcement Officer has written to the owner of the Murton Arms concerning the replacement of the windows but has yet to receive a reply.
- The Chairman reported on a meeting that she and the Clerk had had with Gareth Arnold, Development Manager, Economy and Place Directorate, in

which he suggested that the City Council and Parish Council shared the costs for clearing up the Moor Lane Field OS 9729. Members of the Parish Council suggested that (1) it should not be the responsibility of the Parish Council to pay for this work and (2) there is no guarantee that the owner will keep the site tidy after the work has been done.

Following questions in which the meeting was concerned about the legality of the Parish Council paying for his work, Cllr Warters suggested that the Parish Council should enquire whether the City Council is ensuring that the money can be recovered from the owner.

The Chairman and Clerk were asked to follow up these points with Mr Arnold.

- The enforcement procedures on the Homestead are in abeyance while the planning application from its owner for a bungalow is decided (17/82 (a)).
- **The village pond** The Chairman reported that the Clerk had arranged for TCV (The Community Volunteers) to do its annual work on the pond on September 13th and the Chairman confirmed that this had indeed been done. The skip had not arrived and the rushes taken out had been left in a neat pile adjacent to the pond. Cllr Kettlestring pointed out that this was good practice as insects etc taken up with the rushes will be able to escape back to the pond. The Chairman will ask the TCV to arrange for the rushes to be taken away.
- **The website** The Chairman noted that answers to the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire showed that few used the Council's website and a significant number did not know that it existed in spite of the Cllr Wells's efforts to publicize it. It was agreed that the website is publicised when the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party sends out its report on the questionnaire.
- **The Parish Boundary** It was noted that no further progress had been made about the redrawing of the Parish Boundary (17/79(iv)).

17/80 Correspondence: None of significance received

17/81 Police and crime: One crime has been reported for June 2017 on the Police website. It is a burglary at or near Fryors Close.

17/82 Planning applications

- **The Homestead.** For a bungalow. The Parish Council and the Murton Parish Neighbourhood Plan Working Party have both written in detail objecting strongly to the proposal. Details of the replies can be obtained from the Clerk and from the Council's website. It was noted that there were 4 other objections from members of the village and comments from various services.
- **Redthorne.** The Parish Council revisited this application and is still of the opinion that a building, containing two semi-detached houses at right angles to the other houses on Murton Garth, was inappropriate. The Chairman agreed to write to the City Council's Planning Department emphasising this point.
- **Holly Tree Farm.** It was noted that the retrospective application for the bridge had been approved. It was also noted that appeal against decision of the City of York Council that the conversion of the stable block to a house was unlawful. It was noted that the reasons given for the refusal (inappropriate for the Green Belt) was very helpful for the emerging Murton Parish Neighbourhood Plan.

- **1, Murton Garth.** It was noted that the extension plans have been approved by the City Council.
- **White Rose House.** It was noted that there has been an amendment and in consequence the decision has been delayed.
- **Highfield House.** The Parish Council had no comments to make on the proposal to reduce the number of dormers at the back of the house.
- **The Villa.** The application to remove 2 yew trees was received. Cllr Kettlestring agreed to obtain more information from the owners.

17/83 The Yorkshire Marathon. Cllr Warters suggested that we should arrange for the village to be tidied up, as done in the last two years, prior to the Yorkshire Marathon which is to be held on Sunday, October 8th. The Clerk is asked to arrange for this to be done

17/84 Date of the next meeting The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, October 11th at 7 15pm** in St James's Church.