

**SKEEBY PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD IN SKEEBY VILLAGE HALL
at 7.00pm, THURSDAY 6th October 2017**

PRESENT: - Cllrs Rummery, Budden, Dixon, Metcalfe and Richardson, Mr Chris Partridge also attended for item 3.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Co Cllr Thompson.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Dixon declared an interest in item 3.

2. MINUTES

Acceptance of the Minutes for the meeting held on 20th July 2017 was proposed by Cllr Dixon, seconded by Cllr Rummery and carried unanimously.

3. Self-build, Scurragh Lane - Mr Partridge was invited to discuss his plans for a self-build house on land which he owns on Scurragh Lane. He gave a brief outline of his proposal, which initially when he had first approached the Clerk, had been for one house for his own occupation. However as the discussion developed, it became obvious that his long term intention was to erect six self-build homes on the site, each one individually designed in line with the existing properties and compatible in design and materials, but built by a consortium of Mr Partridge and three other business partners. No approach has yet been made to RDC Planning Office as Mr Partridge wanted to find out the feeling of SPC before progressing his ideas. Concern was raised regarding the plans for six houses on the plot, with reservations on the size of each plot, the access onto Scurragh Lane and the increased traffic. Concern was also raised regarding the potential for further development on the land to either side of that owned by Mr Partridge and the possibility of that development extending into land behind that owned by Mr Partridge. It was noted that there were already two properties up for sale on Scurragh Lane and that both had been for sale for at least two years and it was questioned whether additional housing was required in Scurragh Lane. Mr Partridge produced a plan of the land which he wished to develop but as no submission had yet been made to RDC, no individual house plans were available. Mr Partridge was thanked for attending and advised to discuss his plans with RDC. The Clerk would write advising him of the decision made by SPC.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk would write to Mr Partridge expressing concern at the size of the development which it felt was not in keeping with the existing properties. Although it agreed in principle and without prejudice that SPC would be supportive of plans for one self-build house, it did not support a multi-house development and would discuss the matter further once plans had been submitted to RDC.

ACTION: Clerk

4. MATTERS ARISING

a) **Community Parks** - Cllr Metcalfe reported that the snags on the equipment in Linden Road had been rectified. It was hoped that the proposed work on the provision of two pieces of equipment on Springfield would begin within the next two weeks or so. Cllr Metcalfe suggested that a small party be held once the work was completed and it was agreed that he could organise a small working party to make the necessary arrangements. Mr Trevor Brooks would be asked to take photos and write an article for submission in the local press. It was proposed that the party take place on Sunday 5th November, with donations from attendees to help to off-set costs. Three bird boxes had been received from A12LB and it was agreed that two would be sited in Linden Road Community Park and one would be hung in the beech tree opposite the Church. RDC had given a grant of £862.50 towards the cost of £1,150.00 for improvements to the adult fitness equipment in Springfield Community Park. The Clerk pointed out that there was a shortfall on costs, even after VAT had been reclaimed and after discussion it was proposed by Cllr Richardson, seconded by Cllr Rummery and carried unanimously that SPC would pick up the shortfall from existing Community Park funds. However, before the Clerk completed the form accepting the grant from RDC, it was imperative that Streetscape provided details of the type of improved equipment with costs, which would be circulated for approval by Councillors prior to an order being submitted.

ACTION Cllr Metcalfe and Clerk

b) **Speed Watch** - One speed watch session had been cancelled due to inclement weather and another had not been held due to lack of response from volunteers. Cllr Metcalfe suggested that perhaps the sites were not best placed and others should be used. It was pointed out that these sites had been set up and approved by NYPA and that no deviation could be made from those designated sites. Despite the lack of support, it was agreed that SPC would persevere with the scheme.

c) **Water Egress A6108** - A site meeting had been held, but no progress had since been made. Cllr Thompson had been in touch with Steve Barker and his report was read out at the meeting. Councillors were disappointed at the lack of progress, despite one survey having been carried out to the south side of the road with a further survey of the north side pending and the Councillors wondered why further surveys were required when several had been carried out prior to the work last time. The Clerk was asked to write to Cllr Thompson and Steve Barker to express the disappointment of SPC and asking for expedition of work immediately.

ACTION: Cllr Thompson and Clerk

d) **Travellers Rest** - No further information had been received but Cllr Metcalfe offered to contact Mr Whitfield to see what progress could be made on smartening up the property.

ACTION: Cllr Metcalfe

e) **45 Richmond Road** - The Clerk had put details onto NYCC parish portal but was experiencing problems accessing the site without using a direct link from NYCC IT. The problem is being investigated, but no further information on the matter of the gas pipe was available at this time. Cllr Rummery reported that he had raised the matter directly with Steve Barker during the site visit on water egress and he had promised to look into the matter but no action had been reported.

ACTION: Clerk

f) **Railings** - The same problem regarding the parish portal means that no further information on the progress of this item was available.

ACTION: Clerk

g) **Bus Shelter** - The bus shelter railings had been painted by Cllr Metcalfe and Mr David Coates.. A letter of thanks would be sent to the latter.

ACTION: Clerk

h) **Best Kept Village** - Skeeby Village had been placed seventh overall.

i) **Ward Boundary Changes** - The Clerk had written to the Local Boundaries Commission expressing the wishes of SPC not to be included in Richmond East Ward as it is an urban ward and SPC would wish to be joined with Gilling West. An acknowledgement had been received but the draft recommendation documents were not yet available.

j) **Amalgamation of NYPA/NYFRS** - The Clerk had written to the Policy and Scrutiny Manager expressing the objection of SPC to this.

k) **FPA - 18 Linden Road** - Full planning approval for this property had been received.

l) **NYCC Richmondshire Area Committee nominations** - This document had been completed and returned

m) **Signage** - Despite assurances from Highways England that Scurragh Lane would not be used as a rat-run, traffic for Skeeby and Catterick Village was being signposted along the A6055 and down Scurragh Lane. The Clerk was asked to write to Steve Culley and Cllr Thompson asking that this signage be amended immediately.

ACTION: Clerk

5. VILLAGE GREENS

a) **Incursion of drive beside Springfield Community park** - The owner of No 34 Springfield had contacted the Clerk regarding the grass cutting contractors driving over his newly laid block paving drive en route to the park and the Clerk had written to Steve Gibb asking that the contractors take care when traversing this area. The problem continues with the contractor driving straight across the drive, so the Clerk had again contacted Steve Gibb who had again promised to ensure that his contractors would be more careful.

b) **Damage to beck bank outside Tenby House** - The Clerk was asked to write to the owner reminding them of their requirement to reinstate the banks of the beck and the village green to the front of the property to the satisfaction of SPC. Concern was raised regarding the dumping of waste material into the back.

ACTION: Clerk

c) **Notice Board, Springfield** - Remedial work was required and Cllr Metcalfe together with Mr Mike Kendall (resident) would attend to this.

ACTION: Cllr Metcalfe

- d) **Travellers Rest - Car Park** - The weeds in this area had been treated.
- e) **Beck Clearance** - The Clerk was asked to write to NYCC Grounds Maintenance to request that the beck clearance be carried out as soon as possible

ACTION: Clerk

6. RIGHTS OF WAY

- a) Nothing to raise.

7. FINANCE

- a) **Report** – This was accepted
- b) **Precept 2018** - Submission for this was due in early January, so the matter would be discussed at the next meeting.
- c) **Annual Report** - This had been signed and returned.
- d) **Cheques** - Cheques were signed for the Clerk (2), HMRC, Mr J Earl, Cllr Metcalfe, SLCC, PKF Littlejohn and Yorkshire Water.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) **PC Wood's Report** - This document was received.
- b) **FPA 29 Springfield** - The Clerk had written to RDC recording no objections to this development.
- c) **RDC Local Plan** - The Clerk had relayed the comments of SPC.
- d) **Village Hall Booking** - The Clerk was asked to write to the Village Hall booking secretary, with a copy to the Chairman, giving proposed dates for the meetings in 2018.

ACTION: Clerk

- e) **Defibrillator Training** - Cllr Metcalfe would attend. Discussion ensued regarding the provision of a defibrillator in the village, but were concerned at the initial cost, together with the follow-up costs of maintenance, insurance and the lack of an appropriate location for the equipment. The possibility of getting sufficient volunteers to operate a scheme successfully was also called into question, as was the possibility of the equipment being vandalised.
- f) **RDC Survey** - A survey from RDC
- g) **Community First Yorkshire - Ex-Forces Support** - This document was received.
- h) **YLCA Richmondshire Branch Meeting** - This document was received
- i) **Conference Royal Society of Medicine** - This document was received.
- j) **FPA - The Old Grange Gilling West** - Due to a misunderstanding regarding the exact location of this property no response was made. However the Clerk would check the plans on the RDC website and if concerned would contact the Councillors.
- k) **Journals** – The Clerk.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) **D & S Times** – This report would be submitted at a later date

ACTION: Cllr Budden and Clerk

- b) **Scotch Corner Development** - Suggestions had been raised that the initial provision of high-end shops, following a change of ownership, had been downgraded to lower quality shops but no confirmation of this was available.

10. DATE AND VENUE

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place at **7.30pm on Thursday 30th November 2017** in Skeeby Jubilee Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm