

**SKEEBY PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD IN SKEEBY VILLAGE HALL
at 7.00pm, THURSDAY 25th May 2017**

PRESENT: - Cllrs Rummery, Budden, Dixon, Metcalfe and Richardson together with Co Cllr Thompson. One member of the public (Mrs G Wright)

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations.

2. MINUTES

Acceptance of the Minutes for the meetings held on 30th March 2017 was proposed by Cllr Dixon, seconded by Cllr Metcalfe, carried unanimously and with two minor alterations (removal of the word 'building' in Item 5, and the replacement of NYCC Highways for RDC in Item 8) the Minutes were signed as a correct record of the meetings.

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

It was proposed by Cllr Metcalfe, seconded by Cllr Dixon and carried unanimously that Cllr Budden be appointed Chairman. It was proposed by Cllr Richardson, seconded by Cllr Rummery and carried unanimously that Cllr Dixon be appointed Vice-Chairman. Cllr Budden then took the Chair.

4. MATTERS ARISING

a) **Co Cllr Thompson** - As he had another parish council to attend, Cllr Thompson gave a brief report. First of all he thanked SPC for their congratulations on his election as County Councillor and stated that he had been appointed to two specific committees, education and pensions. He raised his concerns regarding the slowness of the speed watch scheme but was relieved to learn that SPC now had arrangements in place to train volunteers. Cllr Rummery raised the point that the government had produced a paper declaring that speed cushions should be replaced by average speed cameras, although SPC had received a statement from NYCC to say that they had no plans to follow the directive. Cllr Rummery felt that NYCC should, as a Conservative authority be implementing its governments policies. The question of the purchase of matrix boards was raised by Cllr Thompson, but as these were expensive, it would take a specific fund-raising initiative to purchase one for SPC. Cllr Thompson indicated that there was a new NYCC initiative regarding areas coned off without work actually taking place and had introduced a permit scheme whereby a contractor had to obtain permission to carry out specific road works indicating the purpose and duration of such work.

b) **Community Parks** - Cllr Metcalfe gave a brief report on the successful Duck Race which raised £327.75. The Clerk had provided Jo Richardson with the figures required for the grant application which would be sent to Matthew Day at Streetscape. The application would then be returned to enable the Parish Council to sign the application. A safety inspection had been carried out (report filed with these Minutes) by David Lodge and Cllr Metcalfe and two safety issues had been highlighted - the zip line seat is stiff and the bearings are noisy and the paint work is flaky on the multi activity centre, both in Linden Road and it was agreed that these matters would be discussed when the new grant application was approved. In Springfield, one fence post is rotten with a loose top rail and Cllrs Metcalfe and Richardson would attend to this matter.

ACTION: Cllrs Metcalfe and Richardson.

c) **Speed Watch** - The Clerk had advised Andy Stott that training for this had been arranged to be held in SJVH at 6.30pm on Wednesday, 7th June. She had also advised that this was, and always had been, an SPC initiative and that all correspondence etc had to go through the Clerk. As Cllr Rummery was unable to attend, Cllr Budden would take the lead role.

d) **Average Speed Checks/NICE report** - Cllr Rummery (as indicated in 4a above) was still keen for NYCC to enforce its own governments directive and would continue to press for its implementation.

e) **Water Egress A6108** - The Clerk had contacted Highways regarding the lack of progress in resolving this problem, which despite the dry weather, water egress has increased. He promised to carry out further investigation and advise SPC of the findings. The Clerk was asked to write to express the displeasure of SPC and ask that this work be carried out with expediency.

ACTION: Clerk

f) **Travellers Rest** - No further information was available and it was not known what action Mr Whitfield proposed to take following the Secretary of State ruling. The Clerk was asked to write to enquire. Mrs Wright again raised her concerns regarding the lack of support from the Parish Council and would not accept that SPC had no control over what Mr Whitfield chose to do with the property. She insisted that it was not a planning matter and SPC had the powers to enforce the requirements made on the property regarding the windows, rendering etc., which was again refuted by SPC.

ACTION: Clerk

g) **45 Richmond Road** - Concern was raised regarding the external gas pipe over the culvert and the Clerk had received a map which it had approved, showing an unconnected pipe. SPC argue that it gave permission for the route displayed on the map and assumed that, should an alternative route be planned, Northern Gasworks would return to SPC to explain its re-routing of the pipe. The Clerk was asked to write to them asking for an explanation and also to contact Highways regarding the safety aspect of the exposed gas pipe.

ACTION: Clerk (2)

h) **Railings** - Contact should have been made to NYCC and not RDC. The Clerk would action this.

ACTION: Clerk

i) **Best Kept Village** - Cllr Metcalfe took a copy of the competition rules. Cllr Rummery suggested that the inside of the bus shelter needs repainting, but a spray gun was required. Cllrs Richardson and Metcalfe agreed to look into this, together with the weeding of the car park.

ACTION: Cllrs Richardson and Metcalfe

j) **Car Parks Rates** - The Clerk had written to RDC confirming that SPC continued to own the car park and that it had no business interests anywhere else.

k) **Richmond Market Charter** - A copy of this had been forwarded to the Chair of SJVH.

4. VILLAGE GREENS

a) **Grass Cutting** - Cllr Metcalfe expressed his concerns regarding the amount of cut grass left on the verges, but was reminded that SPC could not afford the additional costs of grass removal. Some difficulty regarding responsibility for the grass at the entrance to Springfield was now resolved.

b) **Overhanging Hedge** - Cllr Budden agreed to grub out the root of this bush.

ACTION: Cllr Budden

5. RIGHTS OF WAY

a) Nothing to raise.

6. FINANCE

a) **Report** – This was accepted

b) **Final Accounts** - Mr G Alexander had produced the figures for submission for external audit and the document was signed for onward transmission to the auditor. His letter (filed with these Minutes) regarding the accounts was read out, stating that the accounts were in order and also recorded that he would be stepping down from the role of internal auditor. Further discussion would be held regarding a replacement system would be held in the near future. The Accounts book was signed by Cllr Rummery and the Final Accounts were signed by Cllr Budden for onward transmission to the external auditor.

ACTION: Clerk

c) **Cheque** - A cheque was signed for Mr G Alexander and a letter of thanks would be sent.

ACTION: Clerk

7. CORRESPONDENCE

a) **SLCC Compliance** - This document was received

b) **PC Wood's Reports (2)** - These documents were received.

c) **NYCC Area Committee -Vacancies** - This document was received

- d) **North Yorkshire Community Partnership Board Meeting** - This document was received.
- e) **Journals** – The Clerk, Clerk and Councils Direct,
Tabled - Richmond Area Committee meeting, RDC self-led housing seminar, were received.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

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

ACTION: Cllr Budden and Clerk

- b) **Screening A1** - Cllr Dixon raised the problem of the unsightly fence which had tree screening on the A1 side, but not on the Scurragh Lane side. The Clerk had written to A12LB site manager but had received no reply. The potential unsightliness of a sign to the east of Scurragh Lane was also causing concern and the Clerk would raise this too. Cllr Metcalfe would supply contact details.

ACTION: Cllr Metcalfe and Clerk

9. DATE AND VENUE

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place at **7.30pm on Thursday 20th July 2017** in Skeeby Jubilee Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.10pm

