

**SKEEBY PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD IN SKEEBY JUBILEE VILLAGE HALL
at 7.30m, THURSDAY 29th OCTOBER 2020**

PRESENT:- Cllrs Budden, Rummery, Moreton and Dixon. Four members of the public (Mrs V Hepworth, Mr and Mrs N. Metcalfe and Mrs G Wright) also attended.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Richardson, Dist Cllr Heslop and Co Cllr Thompson

PANDEMIC PROTOCOL - The Clerk stated that SJVH Committee had kindly given permission for the Hall to be used for the SPC meeting. RDC had raised no objections and the meeting was held in accordance with the current guidelines issued by NALC for Parish Councils. A joint risk assessment had been carried out with the SJVH Committee and after discussion it was agreed that the number of members of the public who could be safely accommodated on the balcony was four. A copy of the guidelines, together with a signed list of attendees is filed with these Minutes.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2. MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr Rummery, seconded by Cllr Dixon and carried unanimously that the Minutes of the meeting held on 27th August 2020 were accurate and were signed as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

a) **Travellers Rest** - Mr R Wright's lengthy email on this subject had been circulated to all Councillors, who agreed that until Cllr Heslop was able to hold a public meeting, no further action was possible at the present moment. Ms Kay Richardson had informed the Clerk that at a recent zoom meeting, it had been agreed that a circular would be sent to all households in the next few weeks to ask for support and pledges. It was hoped that the results of this circular would be presented by Ms Richardson at the next meeting.

b) **Community Park - (1) Play Park Policy** - It was proposed by Cllr Dixon, seconded by Cllr Rummery and carried unanimously, that this policy would be adopted by SPC. (a copy is filed with these Minutes). **(2) Safety Inspection** - This report was received and it was noted that there were several outstanding items to be rectified, which would be carried out as soon as practical.

ACTION: Cllrs Budden and Richardson

c) **Water egress/Skeebly Bridge Repairs/Work to A6108 and Lights/Speed Cushions** - It was noted that the water egress problem had recurred and this would be monitored. The bridge remedial work had been carried out satisfactorily. Concern had been raised regarding a report that lights would become a permanent fixture at the bridge, with the suggestion that funds had already been allocated for this work. Concerned residents had contacted Cllr Thompson, but no confirmation of any work had been received by him or contact made with SPC to substantiate this proposal. However the situation would be monitored as SPC strongly disagreed with such a proposal, on the grounds that it presented a high safety issue, as visibility of the lights was not possible when driving eastwards due to the bend in the road. There had been several accidents at the bridge when lights had been installed in the past and SPC nor the residents would wish that state of affairs to return. The missing speed cushions had been reported to NYCC prior to the work on the bridge and the Clerk had contacted Cllr Thompson for an update.

ACTION: Clerk

d) **Flooding - Olliver Lane - (1)** Ms Dickinson had been in touch with Cllr Heslop with regard to this matter, but had not informed SPC who had already been working hard to get a culvert inspection carried out. Ms Dickinson had informed SPC that a camera trace had been carried out and had shown that a gas pipe ran through the culvert. The Clerk had asked whether Ms Dickinson knew whether this was a mains or private household pipe, but had had no reply to the query. It was understood that no obvious blockage had been located. Cllr Budden said that previous occupants of this property had cleaned out the beck at least twice a year, which had kept the beck flowing quickly, which scoured out the bed of

the beck. It was felt that it was the responsibility of the owner to help to prevent flooding by regularly cleaning out the beck by removing any build-up of silt and debris. However the situation would continue to be monitored, although it was understood that NYCC highways was reluctant to carry out any large scale remedial works which would involve the closure of the A6108. (2) Mr and Mrs Wright disputed that the blocking of the stream in their property had any bearing on the flooding and they were fed up with clearing out the build-up of silt and had therefore blocked off the flow of water to prevent a flood risk to his property. Mrs Wright was advised to speak to the Estate Manager of the Zetland Estate to see if the beck flowing down the field could be dug out

e) **Northern Forest** - Cllr Rummy reported that he had been informed that SPC qualified for inclusion in this scheme and 100 small trees would be delivered in the spring. Volunteers would be sought to assist in the planting.

f) **Planning Application - 42 Richmond Road** - Concern had been raised, not only by SPC but by many residents that work to this property had been carried out prior to planning permission being granted. Trees in a conservation area had been removed without permission, the village green had been dug up by a digger, which was particularly annoying as the Clerk had a long conversation with the agent regarding the protected status of the village green and had explained that, although there was a right of way across the village green, no vehicles could be parked on the access drive, nor could this area be tarmaced. SPC had sent a strong letter of objection to RDC with special reference to there being too many properties proposed for the size of the plot, with access and parking inadequate, not only for future residents, but for site traffic and materials, which could not be sited on the village green. The owners partner has since been in touch with the Clerk to apologise for the damage to the village green and had promised to reinstate it to the satisfaction of SPC, but as the damage was so excessive, this would be difficult. It was noted that the hard standing in front of the existing cottage had been extended to align with the curtilage of No 40, but the village green extended right up to the flower beds of No 42 and any incursion on this land would damage the village green further. The Clerk suggested that a face-to face meeting would be useful in order to sort out potential problems and this was agreed, with confirmation of a meeting, possibly in the village hall, to be mutually arranged.

ACTION: Clerk

g) **52 Richmond Road** - Despite objections to the alterations to the plans for this property, planning approval had been granted.

4. VILLAGE GREENS

a) **Gates at Tenby House** - Despite objections from SPC regarding the replacement of existing wooden gates with modern metal ones which should have been a requirement for a property in a conservation area, approval had been granted.

b) **Tree survey - village greens/parks** - This will be carried out as soon as practical.

ACTION: Cllr Richardson

c) **Parking outside 40 Richmond Road** - It was noted that cars were still being parked on the village green outside this property, despite the Clerk contacting the father of one of the occupants. The Clerk was asked to speak to him again and remind him that it was a criminal offence to park on village greens and although SPC was reluctant to contact NYPA, this was an option for the future.

ACTION: Clerk

5. RIGHTS OF WAY

a) **Olliver Lane** - The verges had been rolled flat which had improved access to the footpath.

6. FINANCE

a) **Report** – This was accepted. It was noted that £4K had been transferred into Business Account No 1.

b) **Precept Application** - After discussion, it was agreed to apply for £6K for the financial year 2020/21, which was the same amount as the previous year. The Clerk would complete the forms and return them to RDC.

ACTION:- Clerk

c) **Donations** - After discussion, it was agreed that a donation of £50 each would be sent to GNAAS and Richmond CAB.

ACTION: Clerk (2)

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) **White Rose updates** - These documents were received.
 - b) **NYCC - Area Committee Meeting** - This document was received
 - c) **RDC - Protect, Respect and Enjoy Campaign** - These posters were received.
- Journals** - The Clerk

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

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

ACTION: Cllr Budden and Clerk

- b) **Scurragh Lane** - It was reported that vehicles were being parked on the agricultural land overnight and also that the smell of the goats was unbearable. The Clerk was asked to contact both RDC Planning and Environmental Health.

ACTION; Clerk (2)

- c) **Mrs B Church** - Although unable to attend the meeting due to restrictions on numbers, Mrs Church left the following comments with the Chairman to be raised in her absence. She felt that the speed cushions restricted the free flow of traffic through the village, particularly as small cars had to slow down to pass over them, whereas larger vehicles could straddle them and therefore did not reduce speed. (

- d) **SPC Website/Facebook page** - A suggestion had been made by Mr Wright that SPC Minutes could be posted on Facebook. SPC felt that as minutes were displayed on two notice boards, sent to the D&S Times and also RDC, its activities and the date and venue of the next meeting were widely available and a dedicated website was therefore unnecessary. It was felt that the minutes were not suitable for a public platform, where ill-informed comments could be made. However, it was agreed that future dates for meetings would be displayed on the Skeeby Life Facebook page.

- e) **Theft - Springfield** - It was reported that a heavy stone trough had been stolen from a property on Springfield during the night of 3rd October. NYPA have been informed.

DATE AND VENUE-

The next meeting will be held in Skeeby Jubilee Village Hall at **7.30pm on Thursday 28th January 2021**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.50 pm