

**SKEEBY PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD IN SKEEBY VILLAGE HALL
at 7.00pm, THURSDAY 20th July 2017**

PRESENT: - Cllrs Rummery, Budden, Dixon and Metcalfe together with Co Cllr Thompson.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Richardson

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations.

2. MINUTES

Acceptance of the Minutes for the meeting held on 25th May 2017 was proposed by Cllr Rummery, seconded by Cllr Metcalfe and carried unanimously.

3. MATTERS ARISING

a) **Community Parks** - Cllr Metcalfe reported that the snags highlighted on the last safety inspection on Springfield Community Park had been rectified. The equipment snags on Linden Road Community Park would be referred to Matthew Day at Streetscape as soon as possible and Cllr Metcalfe would meet him to point out the defects. Cllr Metcalfe suggested that whilst he was happy to continue looking after Springfield Park he would like another Councillor to take on similar responsibility for Linden Road. After discussion, Cllr Dixon agreed to do this, with the proviso that, having experienced apathy amongst the residents of Linden Road in the past, if there were any problems they could be referred back to the Council to resolve. This was agreed. The Clerk had received documents, which Cllr Rummery had checked and found to be in order, relating to the application for Big Lottery Funding for a new piece of equipment for Springfield amounting to £10K and sought confirmation from the Council that, although the equipment at £10,550.00 + VAT was in excess of the grant, it was willing to proceed with the application. It was thought that the VAT could be reclaimed, but should this prove not to be the case, then SPC would pick up the shortfall. After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Rummery, seconded by Cllr Metcalfe and carried unanimously that the quote from Streetscape of £10,550.00 + VAT be accepted. It was further proposed by Cllr Dixon, seconded by Cllr Budden and carried unanimously that the Clerk return the documents to the Big Lottery Fund to accept the grant. Cllr Rummery had completed and returned a customer service report on behalf of the Council in relation to the application for grant money. Cllr Metcalfe would place the order with Streetscape once confirmation of the grant had been received.

ACTION: Clerk (2)

b) **Speed Watch** - Two speed checks had been carried out, with more than 300 cars being monitored on both occasions. On the first occasion, no speeding vehicle was recorded and on the second occasion, only one was recorded. A further check would be carried out on Saturday 29th July, 2017. Cllr Thompson reported that NYCC had ruled that no private ownership of matrix boards would be permitted but they could be hired from NYCC for £3½K for 64 days over four years, but he was proposing that the private ownership rule be overturned. He was also suggesting that several small parishes could club together to purchase matrix boards to be shared at an estimated cost of £1K each (depending on the number of parish councils willing to share). After discussion, it was agreed that, should this proposal be agreed, SPC would be interested in sharing with other parishes in the locality.

c) **Water Egress A6108** - The Clerk had contacted Highways again regarding the lack of progress in resolving this problem and Cllr Thompson had been in touch with NYCC in an attempt to progress the issue. The NYCC officer responsible for this work was on leave, but Cllr Thompson would continue to press for action. Cllr Budden pointed out that the drains were blocked at the bridge and therefore the water had nowhere to go. Cllr Thompson asked whether this had been reported through the new NYCC portal, which enabled traceability of complaints. As this problem had occurred prior to this facility being available, the Clerk had been unable to take advantage of this new scheme.

ACTION: Cllr Thompson

d) **Travellers Rest** - As requested, the Clerk had written to Mr Whitfield asking what his intentions were, but as anticipated, no reply had been received.

e) **45 Richmond Road** - No response had been received from Mr Linfoot and the Clerk had sent a further email prior to this meeting asking for a progress report, but no response had been received. Cllr Thompson agreed to pursue this and suggested that this item could be placed on the NYCC portal and the Clerk agreed to do this.

ACTION: Cllr Thompson and Clerk

f) **Railings** - No response had been received regarding this and again this item would be placed on the new portal. The proposed action regarding painting by volunteers was rejected as it was felt that this was the responsibility of NYCC.

ACTION: Clerk

g) **Bus Shelter** - The inside of the bus shelter had been painted and the railings would be painted shortly. It was suggested that the village name be picked out in a different colour and Cllr Metcalfe and his band of volunteers would carry out this work.

ACTION: Cllr Metcalfe

h) **Best Kept Village** - Weeding had been carried out and a general tidy up of the village had been carried out.

i) **Tree Screening A1** - The Clerk had received a reply from Stuart Culley at A12LB, explaining that whilst it had been the intention to plant up the areas concerned, changes to the plans for additional landscape planting were possible. However he did say that the team do endeavour to provide suitable screening and a new mixed species hedge is to be planted on the west side of the fence, but any additional planting to disguise signage was not possible.

4. VILLAGE GREENS

a) **Overhanging Hedge** - Cllr Budden had carried out the remedial work to the hedge.

5. RIGHTS OF WAY

a) Nothing to raise.

6. FINANCE

a) **Report** – This was accepted

b) **Payroll** - Thirsk Community Care had advised the Clerk that, following the retirement of John Harron, it was no longer able to carry out payroll services for local councils and TP Jones and Co LLP of Harrogate had been appointed to this role. A cheque for services rendered thus far had been signed and forwarded to Mr Harron with the thanks of the Council for all his work.

c) **Cheque** - A cheque was signed for Mr D Hume for community park remedial work. A cheque for reimbursement of paint costs for Cllr Metcalfe was also agreed.

ACTION: Clerk (2)

7. CORRESPONDENCE

a) **PC Wood's Reports** - This document was received.

b) **Local Government Boundary Commission** - The Clerk was asked to write to this body expressing concern at the proposed inclusion of SPC in the Richmond East Ward and would point out the benefits of amalgamating with Gilling West as they were both rural communities. It was felt that close association with the town of Richmond, as an urban area, was not acceptable and not in the best interests of SPC and ideally the status quo was the better option.

ACTION: Clerk

c) **RDC Funding Newsletter** - The Clerk had downloaded this document and had noticed that funding might be available from the Postcode Local Trust and was asked to pursue this.

ACTION: Clerk

d) **Land at 51-53 Richmond Road** - The Clerk had received a request from Amanda Wells regarding the ownership of the land to the west of School House. The Clerk had requested that her solicitor write to explain exactly what her interest was in this land, which on receipt the Clerk had responded with copies of the Commons Registration Act Land Registry document, together with a large scale map of the whole of the registered village green, pointing out that her clients had no claim of ownership. No response had been received.

e) **YLCA - Annual meeting** - This document was received.

f) **Journals** – The Clerk, Clerk and Councils Direct.

Tabled

PC Woods Report (June)

NYCC - Disposal of Hazardous Household Waste -This document was received

Police and Crime Commissioner - Proposal to Amalgamate Police and Fire Services

- The Clerk was asked to write to express SPCs disapproval of such a proposal in the strongest of terms.

ACTION: Clerk

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

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

ACTION: Cllr Budden and Clerk

b) **Plants** - New plants had been donated for the Springfield Community Park.

c) **Paul Hooper** - A letter of thanks would be sent regarding the maintenance of the seat on Springfield.

ACTION: Clerk

9. DATE AND VENUE

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place at 7.30pm on **Thursday 28th September 2017** in Skeeby Jubilee Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.20pm

