

LITTLE SMEATON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES
Little Smeaton Parish Council meeting 18 March 2020

Present – Chair Cllr Ivey, Cllr Atkinson, Cllr Hancock
Clerk Mrs Adele Curnow

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1. Apologies

Councillor Brown absent from the meeting due to social distancing because of the Coronavirus. Absence approved.

2. Declarations of interest

The following declarations of interest were made –

Item number 5.7 Drainage on New Road, Little Smeaton – Councillor Hancock, the scheme will include new drainage outside her property.

3. Parish Councillor Vacancy

Interviews were cancelled due to the outbreak of the coronavirus; these will be rescheduled for a later date.

4. Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 20th January were signed as a true and correct record by the Chair, proposed by Cllr Atkinson and seconded by Cllr Hancock.

5. To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary.

Previous agenda items and ongoing issues

5.1. Wentedge Road Quarry Planning Application

No further update or information regarding the application.

5.2. New Road, traffic signs update

A works order has been submitted to the contractor by NYCC, they have approx. 3 months to install the signs. So May 2020, however with the social distancing measures that are in place and a potential lockdown of the country because of the virus, this date could be put back.

5.3. Playground repairs and inspection

5.3.1. Weed and moss spray has been purchased and will be used on the surfaces under the equipment when the weather permits. Cost of the moss killer is £79.51 incl Vat. Water is needed down at the park to enable the weed killer to be used, Clerk to contact R Howdle to ask if he could help with an IBC of water.

5.3.2. The inspection has been carried out and various items were raised as needing attention. Various odd jobs need doing and Cllr Ivey will contact Carl the Handyman and ask if these are jobs that he could do. Clerk to contact the playground company to get a quote for the more specialist jobs

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5.3.3. The new ropes have been delivered and we are waiting for them to be fitted by Playground Services. Total cost of the ropes £515.28 incl Vat (£429.40)

5.4. Hanging Basket – First Impressions as the licence holders.

Licenses for hanging baskets. Apparently, Selby District Council does not have the same criteria as WMDC, although Paul said that legislation will drift through to all Councils over the coming years, and says that they will by then be working to the guidelines set out by the Government.

5.5. Village Social Events

All village events cancelled until after the pandemic.

5.6. Grass Cutting

There were two contractors who expressed an interest in the tender, but only 1 contractor sent in a response. The contract was awarded to D Curnow.

Cllr Ivey proposed that following the review and revision of details of areas to be cut, it should be possible to extend the contract into a second/third year if the contractor were to be in agreement. It was also agreed that it would still be periodically market tested (re-tendered). Seconded by Cllr Atkinson, all in favour.

5.7. Highway Drainage on New Road and Main Street

Waiting for an update from North Yorkshire Highways. Cllr Ivey will discuss with Councillor John McCartney to ask for his help with this matter.

5.8. Bag Dispensers

LSPC have purchased 2 bag dispensers. These will be positioned, on Main Street LS near the poo bin and on Hodge Lane also near to the poo bin. Total cost of the dispensers and a supply of bags £226.62 incl Vat. Clerk to purchase the fixings that are needed to attach the dispensers to the lamp columns. Cllr Atkinson will install them once they are received.

5.9. Dropped kerbs

The Council continues to work on a plan for dropped kerbs in the village. Councillors will carry out their own survey to propose sites for dropped kerbs and also review the state of the footpaths, they have also invited the Disability Forum to assist. Emily from the Disability Forum has had a response from 4 people with each with disabilities, to help with the survey. Cllr Ivey to respond. Action is suspended due to the Coronavirus.

5.10. Bus Shelter

The broken glass in the bus shelter will be replaced with polycarbon sheets, two pieces ordered at a cost of £122.00+vat each. Thank you to James Buckley for his help in sourcing the sheets and for dealing with the supplier. Help is needed to fit the panels once they have been picked up.

5.11. Hillside Cottage Heating System

5.11.1. A new oil-fired heating system has been installed in the cottage but some of the pipe work is visible in the cottage and will need boxing in. Clerk to contact the Agents and ask them to arrange to obtain quotes, obviously the virus will have an impact on when this is done.

- 5.11.2. Clerk to approach YLCA to request information about obtaining a loan to cover the cost of installing the new system.
- 5.11.3. The open fire in the living room was condemned due to the chimney liner been the wrong size. The Clerk will write to the tenants and inform them that the fire should not be used as a matter of safety.
- 5.11.4. A quote was received to remove the parkrae fire in the kitchen and make good. But is on hold until more funds are available.
- 5.11.5. Clerk to contact the Agents re obtaining an Energy Performance Certificate. Proposed by Cllr Atkinson, seconded by Cllr Ivey and agreed by all.
- 5.11.6. Clerk is to request a copy of the Agents report of annual inspection carried out a t the end of November, as Councillors need to assess future maintenance requirements.
- 5.11.7. Councillors shared concerns as to the level of service currently provided by the Agents, siting various issues which had not been reported back to the Clerk as they should have been. Clerk to look at the original agreement between parish council and agent, and will also contact 2-3 other agents and find out what they offer and the price.

5.12. Emergency Plan

Cllr Brown attended the KSPC meeting and presented the draft plan that has been put together. They agreed a joint action group to move the plan forward. A leaflet has been delivered to all villagers explaining about the Councillors are not happy with the service provided by the Agents. Various issues have happened more plan and asking for volunteers and helpers. An emergency meeting was held before this meeting to put in place measures for the village due to the pandemic. Please see minutes for the meeting.

5.13. Footpath Blockage

Cllr McCartney will be informed of the lack of progress regarding the blockage of the footpath on Main Street Little Smeaton. Letters have been sent from NYCC Highways and Legal Section. There has been no follow up from NYCC after the Clerk queried the progress.

5.14. Village Church

There was a good turnout at the meeting to discuss ways forward. There was some very positive ideas and comments from the residents. Father Adrian wants to put together a group 'Friends of Little Smeaton Church' but no meeting was arranged going forward.

6. New agenda items

6.1. Planters at Mount Pleasant.

Steve and Pauline Jones have informed the Clerk that they are retiring from taking care of the planters on Mount Pleasant. The Councillors would like to thank them both for all their work over the years tending to the planters. Clerk will take over the duties. Letter to Steve and Pauline to thank them for all they have done over the years.

6.2. Data Audit

This has been pushed to the next meeting.

7. Public Forum. Questions and concerns from the public.

7.1. A resident has raised concerns about the cars parked on a narrow section of Main Street, Little Smeaton which is making it difficult for HGVs to get through.

Note. It is a specific condition of this Operators Licence that the haulage company must use Main Street, Little Smeaton and not Quarry Lane and access is required 24/7. Clerk to write to the residents and ask them if they can park their vehicles off the main road.

8. To receive the following planning applications.

No applications received.

9. Matters requested by Councillors.

9.1. Coronavirus Pandemic

Per advice received from YLCA March 16th 2020, the Parish Council resolves to delegate decision making to the clerk, in consultation with the Chair or Vice Chair, should the Council be unable to hold meetings due to Coronavirus. For avoidance of doubt, it is the Clerk who will make the decision, however, should the Clerk become indisposed the Chair and Vice Chair are delegated to make urgent decisions. Resolution proposed by Cllr Hancock and seconded by Cllr Atkinson.

10. Financial Matters

10.1. Unfortunately, the following cheques could not be signed at this meeting the Clerk will contact the recipients and where possible try to pay for goods and services via the telephone.

10.2. To approve the following accounts for payment.

Cheque number	500130	Clerks Salary	250.00
Cheque number	500131	Room Hire	10.00
Cheque number	500132	Moss Killer for playground	79.51
Cheque number	500133	Playground ropes	515.28

10.3. To receive a bank reconciliation as at 28 February 2020, was signed as true and correct. Bank balance as at 28 February 2020 is £9914.99.

10.4. Current finance sheet up to date as at 18 March 2020, was signed as a true and correct record.

10.5. Clerk to contact Lloyds bank to add Cllr Atkinson and Cllr Hancock onto the account as signatories.

11. Correspondence Received

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11.1. Correspondence received from Andy Blade, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue. Andy Blade attended the last KSPC meeting, Councillor Brown was in attendance at the meeting and will update at the meeting. This item not addressed but will be put forward at the next meeting.

11.2. **Speeding issues on Willowbridge Road**

Speed data and information has been obtained by Speed Concerns at North Yorkshire Police. The data indicated that the speed of vehicles on this stretch of road are not within the 30-mph speed limit. The data has highlighted issues suitable for enforcement, and this has been passed on to North Yorkshire Police for consideration, if a suitable site is located, enforcement will be undertaken at times identified by the data. Councillors noted.

12. Matters for inclusion on the next agenda.

12.1. All ongoing issues from this meeting.

13. Date for next meeting

ALL MEETINGS ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO THE PANDEMIC.

Weds 13th May 2020 – to include the Annual Open Meeting

Weds 15th July 2020

Weds 23rd September 2020

Weds 25th November 2020 – including Budget meeting

Weds 27th January 2021

Weds 24th March 2021