

LITTLE SMEATON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Little Smeaton Parish Council meeting 22 January 2020

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1. **Apologies**
All Councillors present at the meeting.
2. **Declarations of interest**
The following declarations of interest were made –
Item number 6.9 Grass cutting – Councillor Brown and Councillor Hancock, areas near the Councillors properties to be included in the new grass cutting contract. Councillor Ivey regarding the grass cutting near her property.
Item number 6.10 Drainage on New Road, Little Smeaton – Councillor Hancock, the scheme will include new drainage outside her property.
3. **Emergency Item added to the Agenda**
The Chair added the emergency item to discuss the Church. A meeting has been called to discuss the future of the village church. The meeting will take place at 7.30pm on the 18th February at the church. See also **item 10 Matters raised by Councillors**.
4. **Parish Councillor Vacancy**
Letters will be sent to all parties who have expressed an interest in the vacancy, asking them to attend an informal interview. These will be arranged and carried out before the next Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 18th March. The Councillors will then vote at the meeting.
5. **Minutes from previous meeting**
The minutes from the meeting held 20 November 2019 were signed as a true and correct record. Proposed by Cllr Atkinson, seconded by Cllr Brown, all in favour.
6. To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary.
Previous agenda items and ongoing issues
 - 6.1. **Wentedge Road Quarry Planning Application**
The application is now expected to go to Committee meeting on 25th February but still to confirm. The site visit with Planning is 4 February 2020, and Councillor Ivey will attend.
 - 6.2. **New Road, traffic signs update**
Residents on New Road, that are affected by the proposals, received a letter from NYCC Highways informing them of the changes in the speed limit. The deadline for responding was 26 November 2019. There were no objections to the proposals. However, some residents suggested that the speed limit should be 30 mph and not 40 mph. Although the PC tried for a reduction in the limit to 30 mph, this does not comply with the Dept of Transport's recommendations, which are, when setting speed limits it is necessary to follow published guidance to ensure that speed limits are appropriate for their environment, are effective and gain police support, should enforcement be

necessary. Drivers generally travel at the speed which they perceive to match traffic conditions. The development on New Road is relatively sparse and the perception for drivers is not one of driving through an urban area and there is not the level of hazards that would be associated with a 30-mph speed limit. Consequently, the introduction of an inappropriate speed limit and its associated signing alone will not affect overall speeds without an extremely high level of police enforcement.

We are awaiting confirmation that the new speed limit has been approved and the dates when the new signs will be erected. Clerk to chase Highways for dates.

6.3. Playground repairs and inspection

6.3.1. Councillors agreed to meet and assess if the moss on the tarmac under the play equipment can be brushed off. If not, they will arrange to purchase some chemical spray to hopefully kill off the moss and keep it at bay. The spray will be child and animal friendly.

6.3.2. The inspection has been carried out and various items were raised as needing attention. Clerk to contact Playground Services to obtain a quote for the necessary works that need doing.

6.3.3. The new ropes have been ordered from Wicksteed, unfortunately there is a delivery date of 5 weeks. These will be included on the quote from Playground Services for fitting.

6.4. Fallen trees over the river at Hillside Cottage

The contractor will be removing the trees on 25th January 2020.

6.5. Verge on Main Street LS adjacent the playing field.

Will be tidied up and roots removed as much as possible.

6.6. Parish Council land near Mount Pleasant/Windy Ridge

7 fruit trees have been planted on the area of land near Mount Pleasant. These have been planted for the village and anyone can use them. There are 2 Bramley apples, 2 eating apples, a cherry tree, a plum tree and also a pear tree.

6.7. Hanging Baskets

Quote received for the 10 hanging baskets for 2020 season, signed by the Chair at the meeting.

Received a message from the supplier regarding them acting on our behalf and sign as the licence holder for the approval of the lamp columns. However, this is an agreement with WMDC and we are under NYCC, Clerk to contact the company and explain the situation and find out if this is the same for NYCC.

6.8. Village Social Events

There will be a meeting on 11th February at 6.30pm in the Shoulder, to discuss further events.

6.8.1. 8th May 2020 - VE Day celebrations – possibly a street party with a jive night.

6.9. Grass Cutting Review

The Councillors have carried out a review of the grass cutting contract. Some alterations were made with some items removed and others added. The map will be updated when the areas are measured. Chair and Cllr Atkinson will carry out the measuring. The contract will be advertised in February inviting tenders.

6.10. Highway Drainage on New Road and Main Street

6.11. The Highways Officer has put New Road forward for funding for a highway drainage scheme for some additional gullies. Clerk to contact Highways for an update.

6.12. Dogs fouling the footpath

KSPC confirmed that installing the dispensers had made a significant difference in the area. Cllr Brown would like to propose that LSPC follow suit with KSPC and install

dog poo bag dispensers, as and when finances permit. It was agreed to start with 2 dispensers, 1 to be positioned near the bin on Main Street and the other to be positioned on Hodge Lane.

6.13. 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.

6.14. 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.

6.15. Hunting Bridge, Brockadale

The bridge was repaired and put back in position.

7. New Agenda Items

7.1. Hillside Cottage Heating System

Improvements are needed and an heating system needs installing in the cottage. 2 quotes have been received for a new oil heating system to be installed, a 3rd quote will be obtained by the Agent. A decision will then be made as a matter of urgency. A task group has been set up of all Councillors and once the 3rd quote has been received, the Councillors will meet to push the installation forward because of the urgency. The meeting will be minuted by the Clerk.

7.2. Emergency Plan

Councillors have been working to produce a plan which can be used in the case of emergency, such as flooding, severe snow, prolonged power cut etc. Councillor Brown will discuss the plan with KSPC at their next meeting, to suggest a task group of both councils set up to take the plan forward.

7.3. Draft Partnership Agreement – Collaboration on the Living Went Project

The Parish Council would like to thank YWLT for the bank repairs near Hodge Bridge as part of the Living Went Project.

LSPC have signed an agreement with YWLT for maintenance, there is no cost to the PC. We are now looking at funding for information boards to be placed at Hodge Bridge and at the Playing Fields. Chair signed, proposed by Cllr Brown seconded by Cllr Hancock.

7.4. Street Light, Chapel Lane, Little Smeaton

The light owned by the Parish Council has been repaired by NYCC.

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

8.1. Complaint received from a resident on New Road about the mud from the tractors. Email sent to NYCC Highways regarding the complaint.

9. To receive the following planning applications.

The planning application for reduction of the cherry tree opposite the telephone box was granted.

10. Matters requested by Councillors.

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10.1. The Village Church

Discussions have been taking place on the village Whatsapp group regarding the Church. A meeting has been arranged with Father Adrian to find out what is needed and a way forward. The meeting will be 7.30pm at the church on 18th February.

11. Financial Matters

11.1. To approve the following accounts for payment.

Cheque number	500123	Clerks Salary	250.00
Cheque number	500124	Room Hire	10.00
Cheque number	500125	Stakes/tree protectors/paint	42.00
Cheque number	500126	Petty Cash	50.00

11.2. To receive a bank reconciliation as at 31 December 2019, to sign as true and correct., after the alterations below have been made and the sheets updated. Bank balance as at £8124.78.

11.3. Current finance sheet up to date as at 31 December 2019, to sign as a true and correct record. The anticipated expenditure needs amending to include the cost of new oil heating at the cottage, and to remove the chimney repairs estimate but to include an estimate for redecorating after the heating has been sorted, also the cost of removing the trees at Hillside Cottage. Clerk to make the changes and the Chair will then sign the sheet and the bank reconciliation as a true and correct record, at the task group meeting that will be set up imminently to discuss and push forward the heating at the cottage.

12. Correspondence Received

12.1. Disability Action Group

See item 6.12 regarding the dropped kerbs.

13. Matters for inclusion on the next agenda.

13.1. All ongoing issues from this meeting.

14. Date for next meeting

18 March 2020

Weds 6th May 2020 - to include the Annual Open Meeting **Date changed to 13 May.**

Weds 13th May 2020 – to include the Annual Open Meeting (see above)

Weds 15th July 2020

Weds 23rd September 2020

Weds 25th November 2020 – including Budget meeting

Weds 27th January 2021

Weds 24th March 2021

All the above dates agreed with Councillors, except 6th May, agreed with everyone to change it to 13th May.

Clerk to inform Kirk Smeaton Parish Council of dates and to book the room.