

SCORTON PARISH COUNCIL

The normal monthly meeting held on Wednesday 29th January 2025 at 7.30pm in the Scorton War Memorial Institute.

Present: - Cllrs Rafelt, Threlfall, Richardson, Calvert, Terry & Robson, 3 MOP

- 1) Apologies. Cllr Harper, PCSO Brown, Alan Coe (REMS), North Yorkshire Cllr Les
- 2) Declarations of interest. Cllr Threlfall declares an interest in item 8, SWMI donation.
- 3) Approval of minutes dated 27th November. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting.
- 4) Crime Report. November & December report received, information about keeping safe at Christmas publicised on PC Facebook page.
- 5) Matters raised by the members of the public. None raised.
- 6) Updates from North Yorkshire Councillor, Tarmac representative, Save Scorton Lakes, Scorton Surgery. Save Scorton Lakes, 2 members of the group in attendance. The WhatsApp group of interested persons continues to grow. The admin team meet regularly and are currently redesigning the Scorton lakes leaflet to include information about the potential development, with the aim to promote the public to protest against the potential development. New logo to go with the renaming will be publicised on noticeboards and in the new leaflet. Rishi Sunak has been invited to view the lakes. Representative asks if the PC will arrange an extraordinary meeting should the planning consultation be received, Cllr Rafelt confirms that this will happen. Cllr Richardson asks if the group have any ideas when the application will arrive, SSL reply that 1 year of Environmental data is required for the scoping survey.

Thank you to Alan Coe (REMS) for the financial assistance for the village Christmas tree.

- 7) Updates from previous meetings. Discussion following presentation from Environment Agency representative re: care of Bridge Green. Cllrs pleased to receive the advice from Environment Agency and to request that the beckside be cut end May, end July, end September. Clerk to notify contractor. MOP asks about spraying along the beckside, this will be treated as required. Environment Agency will action Giant Hogweeds further upstream. Accesses around the green, email received from MOP, concerned about state of accesses, and requests that serious consideration is given to find a better long-term solution, work had been ordered and now complete. Change of material used this time, Cllrs agreed by email, 20mm to dust stone and not Tarmac. This needs reassessing and the area requires on-going maintenance as registered village green. Clerk to respond. Dog fouling sign request, clerk spoke to dog warden. NYC are altering the dog signage and these are not available for some time. Cllr Threlfall suggests that the clerk ask for some prices for some dog fouling signs and review in February.

8) Accounts

Balance at 29/1/2 £23,119.25 (Internal controls checked by Cllrs)

Incoming:

- REMS (Christmas tree donation) £200.00
- NYC (Locality funding – litter bins) £300.00
- Cemetery £625.00

Outgoing:

- Tesco (Mobile phone contract) £15.00
- V Raven (Wages December & January, Screwfix, salt) £1454.38
- Scorton Buddies (Donation) £200.00
- SWMI (Annual donation & donation towards external doors) £1900.00
- BT (Broadband) £90.38
- Mac Plant (Spray green wall & hedge cut – Mollie Cail) £432.00
- HMRC (PAYE) £91.40
- Unity Bank (Charges) £12.00
- I Threlfall (Gilly's/Sam Turners Water butt and fixings – cemetery) £80.97

SWMI donation & funding assistance for replacement of exterior doors. Cllr Threlfall declares an interest. It was resolved to donate £900 for the annual donation, to ensure residents can access reduced hire rates and £1000 to help with the fundraising for the replacement of the external doors. Cllr Threlfall thanks on behalf of the SWMI Committee.

9) Planning items

- Application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval of 22/00148/OUT for 10 unit residential development including new vehicular and pedestrian access, site drainage, hard and soft landscaping and associated works. Land at Station Road.
- Discharge of conditions 1-27 attached to outline approval 22/00148/OUT for 10 unit residential development including new vehicular and pedestrian access, site drainage, hard and soft landscaping and associated works. Land at Station Road.

Emails received from MOP, forwarded to councillors. It was resolved to reply: Councillors remain firm in their opinion that the egress and access to this development should be directly opposite Stags Way, this would prevent multiple staggered junctions on that short stretch of road. Additionally, please can we request that this development make use of a greater variety of building materials for the walls and roofs.

Granted: FPP for 9 dwellings, garages, landscaping and associated works at land to rear of Scorton Lodge (West).

- 10) Policy & Contract review. Employment of Contract for the Clerk required review as previous dated 2004, YLCA model document used. Clerk seeking Expenses Policy from YLCA to include clerk and councillors, waiting for advice. Notice period: 4 weeks, Sick pay: Green book terms, Holiday: 23 days annual leave, plus bank holidays and 2 additional (statutory) days (25 days plus bank holidays). An increase of 3 days is applied following 5 years' continuous service (28 days plus bank holidays). It was resolved to adopt the Vexatious Policy (model YLCA policy).
- 11) Safety review. RDC – play equipment inspection. JG, Pod swing, brackets on swing fastenings – play evident. Spitfire Close, low tree branches. To review and action. Additional email from Dave Lodge (NYC), play inspections will be moving onto automatic reports with photos.
- 12) Feedback from meetings attended by Councillors/Clerk. Cllrs Rafelt, Terry, Harper, Robson & clerk attended meeting arranged by Wharfdale Homes & Carbon Homes, Cllrs discussed our concerns from the PC planning response with the developers.
- 13) Report relating to minor parish issues since last meeting. 2 MOP reported grit bin empty at The Havens. Lots of contact with NYC since October, now resolved and on the portal map. Cllr Calvert reports streetlight out on Northside, next to Grammar School. Clerk reported.
- 14) Correspondence. NYC – Urban grass cutting & verge restoration information, Cllrs would like to continue cutting the urban grass for NYC, annual payment £1135.05, Gypsy & Traveller accommodation assessment, Cllrs to look at questionnaire and clerk to bring to February meeting, Road closure notification, clerk has put on website and Facebook Page. Locality funding success, £500 has been offered for the replacement of the Heritage lamp on Hospital Road. Local Plan – call for sites, should be available to view soon. Rishi Sunak visit request. Clerk to inform about dates for Feast, forward to Alan Coe about any public events at the Lakes. Scorton Community Buddies – funding request. It was resolved to donate £200 towards Buddies and thank them for their contribution to the community. Residents – Freedom of Information requests. Parish Code of Conduct, insurance provider & Bridge Green fence invoice forwarded. Request for other complaints received from parish members, there were no other complaints but would be unable to provide this information due to GDPR. Unable to forward invoice for the rolling of grass outside St Claires View as wasn't invoiced directly. MOP asks further questions about work in the Highway, PC have requested clarification from NYC and waiting for response, clerk to chase. Memorial bench request. It was resolved to accept this request, bench to be placed at the bus stop near Westfields, clerk to action. Royal British Legion – Thank you letter for our recent donation.

15) Date of next meeting – 26th February

Meeting closed: 21.00