

## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THE 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2019 IN THE COURTYARD TEA ROOM WOMERSLEY AT 7PM.**

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**Present:** Cllr L Barker, Cllr R Crossland, Cllr P White and Cllr M Whittles (Chair) and 5 members of the public.

**In Attendance:** Sue Coles (Clerk).

**APM/01/05/2019 The Chair** Cllr Whittles welcome councillors and members of the public to the meeting.

**APM/02/05/2019 Apologies** – were received from County & District Cllr J McCartney

**APM/03/05/2019 Minutes of previous Annual Parish Meeting.**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Chair sign these as a correct record.

**APM/04/05/2019 To receive report of parish council activities since last Annual Parish Meeting.**

Cllr Whittles gave a report on the activities of the parish council as follows:

End of year accounts 2017/18: Under a new 'light touch' auditing government policy the Parish Council was able to apply a certificate of exemption to exclude itself from an external audit by PKF Littlejohn due to its expenditure being under 25,000. Instead the internal auditor Mr. A Bosmans conducted an audit on behalf of the council. A copy of these accounts was available at the meeting.

Planning Matters: The Parish Council has held discussions on the plans with Network Rail for Cow Lane Crossing and attended consultations for Gale Common and Gale Common Motocross

Defibrillator: Donations have been received from Harworth Estates, Darrington Quarries, Dovecote Park and County Councillor funding by Cllr J McCartney which has allowed a defibrillator to be bought and installed in the village.

Precept Increase: S106 money is held by Selby District Council from a development in the village. This money a total of £7,655.00 has to be used for capital projects and it has been decided that the new entrance to the playing field would be a suitable and worthwhile project. When the play field was purchased 3 years ago it was agreed at that time that the Council would undertake the new entrance as soon as possible since the current one opens onto private land. However, this has led to a Precept increase this year taking the total to £23,500.00

The PC put a press release into the newsletter in November 2018 explaining that the Parish Council will be considering its precept request to Selby DC at the November 2018 and January 2019 meetings in the light of various increases to its expenditure.

It is vital that the S106 funding is retained for the village otherwise it will be returned to the developer and the Council proposed to raise the shortfall from the Precept in one or two ways, either pass one lump sum onto the Council Tax for the ensuing year only or increase the Precept by a percentage increase spread over 4 years but there would be a risk of a cashflow shortfall.

Streetlighting costs: The electric costs for running the streetlights will be reduced this year owing to an agreement with NYCC to use their provider at a reduced rate due to their buying power and the council will be invoiced accordingly.

Grass mowing contract: This was tendered out in September 2018 to secure best value and a 3 to 4-year agreement has been agreed with Adams Grounds Maintenance.

Volunteers: The Chair advised that volunteers have done a fantastic job tidying the village and planting bulbs and plants for some time now with the result that the village is looking

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very tidy and smart. The Tour de Yorkshire was a success and volunteers raised bunting, held celebrations, created the traditional yellow bikes and waved flags.

Speeding Traffic: The Council has tried to address speeding traffic issues by contacting local employers. A Vehicle Activated Sign would help to improve the current situation but this would have to be purchased and manned by volunteers.

**APM/05/05/2019 To receive electors' comments about the above reports. –**

Mrs Teal queried the S106 funding and the precept increase for clarification. She also said that the volunteers' efforts had cleaned the village and how can this be kept up in the long term? Mrs Teal also said if everyone just did a little bit in the village then it would help enormously. It was noted that the yellow bikes will be collected this week.

The Clerk was asked to put this on the next agenda and invite the volunteers to the next meeting for discussion.

**APM/06/05/2019 Electors present at meeting may raise any queries previously given to the clerk -non were submitted.**

**The meeting of Annual Parish Meeting closed at 7.23pm.**

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