

WESTOW PARISH COUNCIL

Westow Parish Council Meeting – 15th May 2019– 7.30pm - Village Hall

Attendees:

Helen Crews (HC) Chair, Angela Fothergill (AF) Clerk; Pennie Hamer (PH) Neil Johnson (NJ) Richard Bannister (RB); Geraldine Burton (GB)

Apologies:

John Smith (JS); Christine Smith (CS) Margaret Thompson (MT)

Annual General Meeting

Adoption of 2018 Minutes

The minutes of the AGM held on 16th May 2018 was proposed by NJ and seconded by PH as a correct record.

Election of Officers

PH nominated HC remain as Chair and this was seconded by GB. JS agreed to stand as Treasurer and AF agreed to continue as Clerk.

Treasurer's Report

JS had distributed the Treasurers Report

£5853 was brought forward from financial year 2017-2018 consisting of £4636 from the Parish Council account (including £2107 funding allocated to complying with the Transparency Code) and just over £1000 from the Village Hall account.

Income of £3662 was received consisting of £3300 in the form of Precept and £362 from village hall hiring. Expenditure amounted to £3277.

Financing the work of the Parish Council, including Clerk's salary and continuing membership of YCLA and CPRE accounted for about £770. Note that Transitional Relief and Small Business Relief negated the Non Domestic Rates for 2018-2019.

Servicing the Village Hall (insurance, energy, water) accounted for £1376 towards which £362 was recovered through hiring charges. Note that £1000 of the balance being carried forward to 2019-2020 is being held in reserve to support the running costs (largely the annual insurance) of the village hall. A contingency fund of £1500 has been set aside to cover the cost of essential repairs and upgrading of the village hall.

Compliance with the Transparency Code accounted for £238 of spending to maintain the Parish Council website. The balance of the initial funding received in 2017 being carried forward into 2019-2020 is £1886.60.

The Financial Summary shows just over £6000 being carried forward into 2019-2020. Accounting for dedicated funding and contingency reserves about £1600 is available assets

The accounts were approved as a correct record by GB and seconded by NJ. The accounts would be shown on the Parish Council Website, **PH to put the accounts on the Website.**

Chairmans Report

HC Distributed her Report

The Parish Council (PC) welcomed two new members Geraldine Burton and Richard Bannister. Mike Smith has decided to step down and we would like to thank him for time on the PC.

During the last year the PC received several planning applications all of which were reviewed and comments passed to Ryedale District Council.

We continue to liaise with Ryedale and via them, the Highways Agency, in an attempt to get proper signage in place for Kirkham Bridge. We have registered our concern for some time that overly large vehicles risk damaging the bridge and this leads to the necessity for expensive repairs. In addition to the cost to the taxpayer the repairs cause considerable inconvenience to residents when the bridge has to be closed.

The issue of parking adjacent to the Village Green in Westow has been raised with the PC. It is proposed that between four and six small posts, similar to those already in place, are used to extend the line of posts around the Green to provide some protection.

Consideration is being given on how best to maintain the Village Hall. The building is old and could do with some improvements. Any thoughts on how we can use the Hall to complement and not compete with activities at the Cricket Club would be welcome. A volunteers' morning is planned for Sunday 30 June for a belated spring clean!

Finally we look forward to summer and hopefully the use of our swift boxes by our feathered visitors. My thanks to everyone on the PC and to Angela Fothergill, our Clerk, who supports us all.

Regular Meeting

Agreement of Minutes. The minutes of the meeting held on 13th March 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

Matters Arising from Action Log

Maintenance of the Village Hall – Some discussion took place re the Village Hall. RB agreed to obtain a quote from Calverts for some new flooring, AF to contact the Fire Brigade in Malton re installing some smoke alarms. PH said she would contact someone she knew re doing a PATS test on the electrical equipment in the Hall.

A Village Hall Spring Clean Tidy Up Morning was arranged for Sunday the 30th June 9 a.m. to 1 p.m for a general tidy up of the interior and exterior, **AF to put a notice on the Village Notice Board and PH to put on website.**

Village Green – it was agreed by the Council to erect some further posts on the Village Green to deter cars being parked there and causing obstruction. NJ agreed to purchase some further posts and contact Clive Beadon to erect them. PH said she would contact Nigel and Clare from High Farm as they had recently had some work done and may have had some searches done to locate the position of drains etc.

Clerk's Update.

Nothing to Report

Budget and Finance

Nothing to Report

Planning Applications

No Planning Applications since last meeting

AOB

RB wondered if there would be any interest from the Parish to using the Village Hall as some type of “drop in shop” It was not sure quite how this would work but after a brief discussion RB said he would do some research and see if any other villages/communities had done something similar.

Margaret Thompson was co-opted on to the Council this was proposed by HC and seconded by NJ. AF to email relevant co-option forms to RDC

The meeting ended at 8.30 p.m.

Next meeting Wednesday 10^h July 2019

