

NYMET ROWLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the 164th meeting of the Parish Council, held on Wednesday 15th November 2017 at 7.30.

Present:- Councillors Babs Channing (Chair), David Gruncell (vice Chair), Viv O'Dell, Winnie Rooks, Anthony Odhams, Margaret Squires DC Councillor, Clerk Roger Cooper.

Apologies:- None, all present.

The minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 17th August 2017 were approved and signed.

Matters arising:-

1. Road maintenance. RC advised that Oliver Williams and anyone else working on behalf of the Council is covered under our Employers Liability insurance. Oliver Williams told the meeting that it was still not clear which particular potholes he was allowed to repair as the guidelines had been changed, he is seeking clarification. BC said that she has received the Road Warden Agreement from Highway Services, she asked if councillors will all read it, and let her know if it was agreed that it should be signed.
2. Emergency Plan. DG thanked Ian Binnie and Oliver Williams for helping him to refine the plan, which is now to be referred to as the Emergency/Resilience plan. The working group will conduct a survey of the resident's requirements and availability of assistance.
3. PC Website. RC thanked AO for taking on the role of Website Manager, AO reported that he has now uploaded all the statutory information and is now adding social and Church information.
4. Christmas Tree. DG has ordered the tree which is expected to cost about £35, it was agreed to pay for this.
5. New Bench. DG said that no decisions have been agreed with the donors yet. He added that he would varnish the bench outside the village hall again, as it had not weathered as well as he had expected.
6. BT Broadband update. AO reports that following his recent persistent contacts with Mel Stride and BT they have now provided the Hele Farm area plus a number of other subscribers with high speed broadband. There are still some outlying properties such as Cleavanger with very poor coverage but this should now be achieved with wireless links from a private ISP supplier, if the owners so wish.
7. Internet/telephone banking. RC reported that this can be achieved FOC with 2 authorised users, Winnie Rooks agreed that she would not be able to do this as she does not have internet access. RC suggested that he, as Clerk and BC as Chair would be the most convenient users, all agreed, RC to implement.
8. Village road conditions. BC reported that she has been in contact with DCC several times, particularly after seeing road maintenance staff in the village, and has been told that most of the surface at Hawkridge Bridge is not suitable for the type of repair they can make. MS told the meeting that we should contact Stephen Tucker at DCC to make our complaints known to him and try to arrange a meeting. Complaints were made about the mud on the road into the village from Lapford, MS advised that farmers are required to keep the roads mud free, these conditions can be reported to the Police and to the NFU. DG asked if DCC had been contacted about the worn road signs, RC apologised that he had not yet written to them (copy to MS).

9. "VETS" telephone system for Defibrillator. It was agreed that the PC would fund the 1st & 2nd year's cost, thought to be £40 and £100, RC to implement if this is correct.
10. RC advised that the change of building use at Cleavanger has been approved by MDC.

Finance report :-

1. There has been no expenditure, the bank balance remains at £1,587.74.
2. It was agreed to fix the 2018/19 Precept at the same figure of £800.

New Business:-

It was decided that the Council did not want to take up an offer of membership from the Campaign to Protect Rural England, the benefits for us are very limited and we have added several items to regular expenditure recently.

It was pointed out that one of the conditions for the new entrance Planning Permission at Barton Farm in 2015 (15/00069/full) is that the Beech hedge must be re-planted on the new banks, this has not happened. MS said that MDDC had been short of enforcement officers but was now up to full strength, RC to write to John Daw and MDDC.

Date of next meeting:- Wednesday 21st March 2018.

The meeting closed at 9-15 pm.