

NYMET ROWLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the 176th meeting of the Parish Council, held via remote VTC Zoom link on Wed. 15th July 2020 at 7.30.

Present:- Councillors Anthony Odhams (Chair), David Gruncell, Babs Channing, Viv O'Dell, Clerk Roger Cooper, County Councillor Margaret Squires. M.O.P. Roland Smith.

Apologies:- Winnie Rookes who could not take part as she does not have a computer.

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th May 2020 were approved and signed.

Matters arising:-

1. Pothole/road maintenance. AO asked MS if she would again contact Stephen Tucker to attend to the drainage problems on Barton Hill, DG emphasised that it is very important that this work is done because in very frosty conditions following rainfall, the whole road can ice over. ST has previously promised to make improvements to the verges. MS agreed to contact him.
2. Snow warden scheme. RC apologised that he did not have any further information on this, MS said she would forward information about contact phone numbers.
3. Village Hall car park repair donation. RC said that Marion Borne has now received the grant from MDDC and the work will be carried out by Pike Constuction ASAP.
4. Change of priority at Eggesford Cross junction. RC advised that he has emailed Russell Hookway, who has replied that he has passed the matter to James Bench and Stephen Tucker.
5. Missing HGV signs. AO said that there may be some doubt regarding the precise location of the missing signs. MS said that at present the policy is that not all signs are being replaced.
6. Responsibility for the Defibrillator. AO proposed that the PC should now assume responsibility, all in favour, motion carried. It was confirmed that the defibrillator is again registered with South West Ambulance Service and regular condition checks are carried out by RS. In respect of the Defibrillator being moved, RC said that the use of telephone in the box has reduced from 317 to 159 calls p.a., and if it's decline in use continues BT will consider handing it over. RC will obtain another usage report later in the year.
7. Clotworthy Bridge repairs. AO asked MS if she could enquire when the work would be finished, there was general discussion about the nature of the work done so far, and in common with the work carried out on Park Mill Bridge is not satisfactory.
8. Parish Lengthsman. MS said that this role is not deemed tenable as a single operator anymore as health & safety dictate that there have to be at least 2 people working together. Hence the use of a van and tractor. It was pointed out that this does not negate the need for the use of hand tools for some confined drainage areas such as outside Pitt Court.

Finance Report:-

Bank balance. The Current A/C balance is £1,793.36 and the Deposit £400.27. RC proposed transferring the next Defibrillator provision of £150 to the deposit account, all agreed. There are no invoices outstanding, but AO said he had an invoice for Zoom which was agreed to be paid.

New Business.

1. Future meetings format. It was agreed that we should return to meetings in the Village Hall as soon as Government directives allowed and that councillors are comfortable with that .

2. Boundary Commission review of Parish Council Ward boundaries. MS summarised the situation and proposal that the existing Taw Ward would be expanded, renamed and be represented by two district councillors. AO explained he had studied the proposal paper and following discussions with county and district councillors and the DALC, he prepared a synopsis of the proposed changes to the current ward. This was circulated to councillors and the importance of electing a district councillor in 2021, who had a deep understanding of the village was well understood.. Councillors unanimously voted that the PC would not propose an alternative ward change to that cited in the Boundaries Commission paper. AO's synopsis was also posted on the Notice Board and Website as an aide memoire for members of the public, advising them of the deadline to post their personal views, on line by the 20th July.

Dates of next meeting, Wednesday 16th September.

The meeting closed at 09:05pm.