

# GRINTON & ELLERTON ABBEY PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of Grinton and Ellerton Abbey Parish Council held in the Grinton Parish Hall on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018 at 7.15pm.

Present: Cllr Coates (Chair), Cllrs Porter, Barker and Fletcher-Lee, the Clerk, Richard Marr NYCC, press reporter T Little and two member of the public

**1. Apologies:** M Barningham and Cllr Blackie.

**2. Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018 were read, approved and signed.

**3. Matters Arising:**

Commons Registration: Whitelea and Whitelea Cottage Grinton: The Clerk read out a letter received from Jane Applegarth of NYCC clarifying the position of removing grazing rights from properties.

Jimmy's Field, Crackpot: No further action has been taken since the last meeting on request from the landowner. There are some test cases of a similar nature coming up shortly and the landowner wishes to wait for the outcome of these cases before proceeding any further at this time.

Street Lights: The street light outside Whitelea has now been replaced. It was also noted that a new warning sign for cyclists is being put up in this area.

Road Condition, Ellerton Abbey: The Chair welcomed Richard Marr from NYCC to the meeting, who gave a run-down of the works that had been carried out in the Swale Farm area in the last few years. These works were based on geotechnical data from bore holes that were drilled to a depth of 20 metres. Similar repairs in other close by areas had worked and were holding up well. The cracks at Swale Farm have been sealed last week and re-surfacing works will be carried out next week. More bore holes will be drilled next month or September to a deeper depth to try and find a more permanent solution to the problem. It will possibly mean that a retaining structure at the side will need to be built as it seems likely that it will be too deep to bed piles in the ground. The road would need to be closed for 2 days to allow for the bore holes to be drilled. The works will be costed but will be vying for priority with other projects in the County but hopefully would be done within the next financial year, however, if the situation gets dramatically worse the works would be undertaken sooner. Cllr Barker asked what the costs of the 2014 repairs were, Mr Marr reported that £320,000.00 had been spend which was the cheapest solution to the problem which had held up well in other areas but failed at Swale Farm . The Consultants' designs for future works could be show to the Parish Council for their input before the works are put out to tender.

Councillors also ask Mr Marr if it would be possible to have crash barriers erected on the corner between Hags Gill and Swale Farm as there have been a number of accidents on this corner in bad weather. Due to budget constraints, new barriers are only usually erected following injury accidents in the last 5 years but Mr Marr would request data from the Police regarding this location. The roadside wall on Grinton Bank is also in a bad state of repair with a very steep drop into the beck below, councillors queried if this could be repaired. If there is not landowner responsible for the wall, which there does not appear to be in this case,

NYCC would undertake the repairs. Mr Marr would request that structural engineers inspect the area.

Problems with overgrown shrubs on the roadside verges was also discussed and it was reported that the problem is being looked at by inspectors and that works would hopefully be able to be carried out to improve the situation.

The problems with Yorkshire Water and their contractors closing roads with little or no warning was also discussed. NYCC are aware of the problems and speaking to Yorkshire Water about them.

Speeding through Grinton: The Clerk has written to NY Police regarding this matter and has received some Speed Concern Forms from them. A representative was requested to attend this meeting but unfortunately this has not happened. Cllrs felt that more direct action was needed and queried why it was not possible to have speed checks carried out in the village by the Police when they have been in a nearby local area carrying out these checks on several occasions. Cllrs Blows will contact Sgt Sharon Finley at Leyburn Police Station to see if anything can be done. Mr Marr reported that VAS, vehicle activated signs, showing the speed of vehicles can be hired from NYCC at approximately £3,000 per year but that surveys had shown that they lose their effectiveness in a single location after about 3 months. However a review of NYCC policy on these signs is due out soon.

Broadband: The Clerk has written to NYnet for clarification as to whether the whole of the village will be included in the upgrade to superfast broadband. However, in their reply they are unable to give any update on this and have advised that the latest information will be on their website.

#### **4. Correspondence:**

##### RDC:

Part Night Lighting: Correspondence has been received asking if the Council wish to have the street lights in the Parish included in the scheme to turn off lights between midnight and 5am. Previously this has been rejected by the Parish Council and Cllrs felt that they still did not wish to be included in the scheme. The Clerk will write to RDC to advise them of this decision.

##### YDNPA:

Planning Application, Deer Park, Harkerside: Details have been received of proposed renovations and alterations at this location. Cllrs have no objections.

##### NYCC:

Surface Dressing Works: Details of these works in local locations have been circulated to Cllrs. Several road closures are scheduled to allow for these works.

#### **5. Finance:**

A Cheque was signed for electricity for the Parish Hall

#### **6. Any Other Business:**

Grinton YHA: Cllr Fletcher-Lee reported that fireworks and Chinese lanterns had been used at a recent event held at the Youth Hostel on the weekend of 23/24<sup>th</sup> June. In view of the recent hot weather and the fire risk Cllrs were very concerned regarding this matter. The YDNPA Ranger is aware of the incident and has also received complaints. He has visited the Manager of the Hostel and spoken to the staff as the YHA have a no firework policy for all

their premises. He has stressed the importance that this policy is adhered to due to the vulnerability of the surrounding moorland and the potentially catastrophic effects that could result. The Clerk was instructed to write to YHA Head Office to voice the Council's concerns over this incident and for re-assurance that there will not be any repeat of it. It was also decided to write to the agent for the landowner, Lord Peel, to make them aware of the situation.

Upper Dales Area Partnership Funds: Cllr Blows reported that the UDAP scheme is currently open for applications for funding up to £1,000. Applications need to be in by 13<sup>th</sup> August. It was decided that quotes would be obtained for repainting works at the Parish Hall and that an application would be made for this funding. The Clerk will obtain 2 quotes for this work as soon as possible.

Parish Hall: The Parish Hall is in need of some general tidying up and the gutters at the rear of the building need cleaning out. The Clerk will contact a local building to arrange for the gutters to be cleared and it is hoped that a date can be set for some cleaning and re-arranging of the furniture to the upstairs room.

**Date and Time of Next Meeting:**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018.