

Minutes (352) of Kirkby Malhamdale Parish Council Meeting – Monday 8th Jan 2024

Attending: C. Wildman, P. Wherity, M. Harrop, N. Heseltine, P. Dewhurst, Cllr. S Myers , S.Inman

Apologies: D. Howlett, A. Bradley ,M. Throup

Observing:

S.McWhinney, J.Darwin (NT), P.Cummings, M Wilson, Mr.McWhinney, M.Parker, J. Smart, I.Morris.

1. Public Questions

Discussion about the imminent road closure between Kirkby Malham and Malham. Neither Cllr. Myers or the PC have been given any details. It is thought that it may be connected to drainage work near the Entrance to Mark Luscomb's Farm.

PD to write to Highways re lack of communication.

2. Hanlith Hall update

Hanlith Village Meeting has written to Planning to express their considerable concern. Lack of mains water, reliance on septic tank, increase in traffic, lack of parking and noise nuisance to neighbours amongst other things. Planning have replied stating that they are now aware of the issue although no Planning Application had been received. They can't do anything until a wedding event actually occurs.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

Accepted, prop. N.H, sec. M.H

4. Traffic Management

No more concerns have been expressed about the proposed design for the "Malham Gateway". However, there have been plenty of concerns about the inconsiderate and potentially dangerous parking by visitors to Malham at the weekend. This was a "perfect storm" - a fine weekend after a protracted period of persistent rainfall. The fields were waterlogged and could not be opened. Under these circumstances the parking capacity along the road and in the YDNP car park is quickly exceeded. It is very difficult to mitigate against this but fortunately it is a rare occurrence. The biggest concern is the parking on The Brow which could potentially prevent emergency vehicles from accessing the village.

5. Changes in Councillors' Circumstances

No changes.

6. Update from S.Myers, County Councillor

NYCC currently has a £25 million budget deficit and potential savings are currently being discussed. There are no plans to cut services however and it is hoped that efficiency savings would help to deal with the deficit. The biggest expenditure was on Adult and Children's Social Care, Special Educational Needs and School Transport. It is likely that NYCC will have to increase Council Tax by the maximum allowed during the next financial year.

NYCC is to build a significant number of Council Houses which should take some of the pressure of other sections of the Council budget.

The Council will help Settle Swimming Pool rather than see it go under. Help is needed to extend their loan and to deal with their expensive energy contract. They will take a "deep dive" into the swimming pools accounts. If it became insolvent NYCC would have to take it over anyway so it is their interest to stop The Trust from going under.

Simon still has some money left over in his budget but thought that it would be worth applying to The Shared Prosperity Fund for the toilet roof insulation money. Joyce Thacker might be able to help. (so far, nobody has come back with a quote.)

6. National Park Update

Nothing to report. Some of the footpath problems on Malham Moor were discussed and it was agreed to contact Rob Ashford.

7. Finance

Income - £5.50 from parking and toilet donations but other donations yet to be banked.

Payments- Electric bill £25, Toilet supplies £58, Bank charge £8.75, Fairy lights £40, Grant to Dales Bus £1,000, Donation to Skipton Brass Band £200, new lawn mower £550, Lengthsman Oct £219 and Nov. £67.

Funds Available £38,619.

8. Planning

Nothing new.

9. National Trust

Jes Darwin gave us an update. Planning permission has been submitted for work on the dam at Malham Tarn to improve its structural integrity. Concern was expressed about the wording "reservoir" on the planning application. One of the cattle grids on the track to Tarn House is to be removed to comply with bridleway regulations. There will be an open day relating to the future of the Tarn House sometime before Easter. We asked Jess if she could get us some feedback from the recent meeting about Tarn House.

10. Lengthsman Update

The quote for the roof insulation is still in the pipeline. Timberworks is to come and replace the door jams in the toilets. The epoxy grouting has made huge difference to the look and smell of the gent's toilets. Repair work will still be needed to the river bank on The Green following the work on the bridge.

11. MEG Update

A draft contract from The Millenium Trust for the tree nursery up at Windy Pike has been circulated. Jane Smart is to take over the chair of the MEG group as of next month.

There has been a meeting about NY Council's Tourism Policy though sadly there was no representation from the farming community. Entitled "The Destination Management Plan", it replaces "Welcome to Yorkshire". 4 meetings are to held in January. CW to attend one and S.Cummings another.

The Malhamdale Curlew project is looking for volunteers. The main need is between Feb and late July.

12. Housing

The rental property at The Vicarage is about to come on the market. It has a local occupancy agreement but is unlikely to fall into the "affordable" category due to its size.

13. AOB

PW to contact Jonathan Riley re talking at a future PC meeting about public transport in the Dales. There was a discussion about the registration of the AED devices in the Parish.

- The Malham AED, funded and maintained by the PC, weekly checks by the Lengthsman
- The Kirkby Malham AED, Checked weekly by Ross Dixon and maintenance costs covered by the PC. Both AEDs are registered on "The Circuit" and are therefore known to the Yorkshire Ambulance Dispatchers. The registry is regularly updated.

The verge along the wall of The Plantation has sadly been stripped of all vegetation.

Next Meeting

Monday 5th Feb 2024 @ 7.30 pm in Malham Village Hall.