

PARISH OF THE DUNSFORTHS

Village Meeting Minutes

30th June 2021 at 7pm at St. Mary's Church, Lower Dunsforth

Present: Chair Joan Holmes
Secretary Nic Holmes
NYCC/HBC Cllr Robert Windass
23 parishioners

Apologies for absence were noted from several parishioners

1. Minutes of previous meeting 12th October 2020

1.1. The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed for acceptance as a true record by David Sapwell, seconded by Mathew Bean, and agreed by the meeting.

2. Matters arising

- 2.1. Tree and Verge Management: JH reported on a meeting held in Upper Dunsforth to review trees and hedges that were causing potential obstructions to the highway. Present were Nick Wilson, Rob Sanderson, Joan Holmes, Neil Swain and Nic Holmes. Problem areas were agreed and a cost estimate requested from NW/RW for work to address the issue. NH also subsequently met with Sam Cockerill to consider maintenance of the verge and self-seeding hedging encroaching up to the highway on Carr Side Road.
- 2.2. NH pointed out to the meeting that whilst the Highways Act 1980 sets down no specific distances for trees and hedges to be cut back from the road surface, it is nationally agreed that growth should be no closer than 45 cms to the road and that overhanging tree branches should be no lower than 5 metres. Although the parish has contracted with NYCC Highways to mow the visibility splays at certain junctions and potentially hazardous spots in the parish (see NYCC website for a map detailing the specifics), urban grass cutting is the responsibility of owners whose property adjoins the highway (the verge is defined as part of the highway for this purpose).

3. Planning Matters

3.1. Heronswood, Lower Dunsforth

Don O'Mahoney updated the meeting on the application for a certificate of lawfulness, which is required because the developer had not built the property in line with the original planning approval. Whilst some extension work is being contemplated, this would be subject to a new application if required.

3.2. Glebe Farm, Lower Dunsforth

There were no objections to this application

3.3. Ivy House, Upper Dunsforth

Sam Cockerill outlined his application and there were no objections.

3.4. General

Keith Ramsay asked Cllr Windass how the planners ensure conditions and applications are adhered to. It was noted that if anyone is concerned or aware of a potential breach they should raise it with HBC planning department and, if required, ask the Parish Meeting to raise it as well. In addition, Mike Wildblood volunteered to monitor any potential breaches on behalf of the Parish.

4. The former Hideaway Kitchen

1.1. Martin Keen updated the meeting on the status of development work with all of the flat conversions approaching completion and a stated intention by the owner to lease these and a refusal to consider selling the property to the community. MK's conclusion is that villagers should not object further in order to ensure the site is completed and made presentable as soon as possible. A number of objections were raised to this approach and it was agreed that the next Parish meeting would include an agenda item debating whether the residents wanted to purchase the building and operate a business from the premises (notwithstanding the owner's unwillingness to sell the property for the benefit of the community). JH will invite attendance from individuals with the relevant knowledge for taking this forward eg. in respect of insurance, grants etc.

5. Year to Date financial position

5.1. NH outlined the following payments that have been made:

Membership of the Yorkshire Local Councils Association	£ 65
Web Hosting and Domain Registration (re-coverable)	£ 60
Drainage Rates	£ 2
Insurance	£330
Part-payment for Upper Dunsforth noticeboard	£750

5.2. Payments of approximately £250 for tree maintenance and £750 balance on installation of the noticeboard are expected before the next meeting

5.3. £1160 being the first tranche (50%) of the precept has been received and the Parish bank account balance is £6,228 as at the date of this meeting.

6. NYCC and HBC updates

6.1. Cllr Windass updated the meeting on the following matters:

- 6.1.1. New unitary authority – decision expected in July
- 6.1.2. Highways – NYCC have in-sourced highways management to improve the road repair “culture”. RW will follow up on action on major hole in road surface outside the pub.
- 6.1.3. AWRP – local stakeholder meeting held 28/06/21 addressing improved litter picking on A168, planned outages, reduced lorry queuing measures, Covid impacts
- 6.1.4. HBC council meetings re-commencing face to face in July
- 6.1.5. Planning – RW will pass comments re. pub onto Cllr Myatt
- 6.1.6. Motorway Services at Kirby Hill pending
- 6.1.7. Flaxby Motorway junction upgrade on target

7. Any Other Business

7.1. Residential Park – attempt by landlord to extend site boundary onto EA managed land being investigated by Mark Lilley for a potential infringement of the flood bank. Apparent attempts by the landlord to pressure residents into selling their homes have been reported by residents as bullying and intimidation both to NY Police and to Cllr Myatt

7.2. Fire Hydrants – Pat Webster raised the question as to whether all residents knew where fire hydrants were located in the parish and how often they were maintained by the Fire Service.

7.3. Pub signage – JH thanked Howard for removing the redundant sign on the A168 directing drivers to the village.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 830pm