

The Minutes of the **Annual Parish Meeting of the Parish of Acaster Malbis**
held on Monday, 20th March 2017, at the Memorial Hall, Mill Lane, Acaster Malbis
commencing at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillor W G Taylor (Chairman)

Councillor John C Galvin (Ward Member – City of York Council)

Mesdames – C Appleby, A Asquith, C Burt, C P Dearlove, M Hall, J Pumffrey, J Raimes and P Walker.

Messrs – C Asquith, P Burt, G Hall, J Hall, R Raimes, M Smith, T Pumffrey and D Walkden.

Parish Councillors – Councillors L Frost, P Harlington, B Hawkins, J Smith and D Walker

M G Davies (Clerk)

1). Welcome and Introduction: The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:32pm by welcoming everybody and introducing the members of the Parish Council.

2). Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting: held on 14 March 2016, were read by the Clerk and agreed unanimously on the proposal of Mrs. M Hall seconded by Mrs. J Raimes. The minute book was therefore signed by the Chairman.

3). Matters Arising: there were none.

4). Chairman's Report on the Work of the Parish Council: Councillor Taylor reported that the Parish Council had met on ten occasions and the Planning Committee had met an additional two times. The Planning Committee meets when deadlines for planning comments cannot be met at scheduled meetings of the full Parish Council. Members of the public attended the open forum at the start of three Parish Council meetings to raise matters of concern. Matters submitted by email are also discussed if members of the public are unable to attend. The Chairman reminded the meeting that anonymous complaints cannot be accepted. If requested matters will be dealt with in strict confidence but must originate from an identifiable source.

Planning related matters: It was another quiet year for planning mostly involving small household extensions or garages.

One application of note was received from BT Payphones seeking to remove the telephone box on Mill Lane opposite Mill Garth Park as no calls had been made from it for more than two years. This has given the Parish Council the opportunity to purchase the redundant kiosk and repurpose it to hold a Community Public Access Defibrillator (CPAD). Access to the equipment will be controlled by Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) through the existing 999 system.

At the October 2016 meeting Mr. Andrew Herrington of Ainsty Brewery, Manor Farm attended to outline his plans. These included operating small scale brewery tours, sale of the brewery's products for consumption off the premises and plans for the creation of a tap room for consumption of products on the premises.

Mr. Herrington gave assurances that he did not intend to operate other than in accordance with the conditions imposed on him (Planning Approval 15/02620/FUL dated 18th March 2016) without seeking prior approval from the relevant authorities. These assurances were sought as Mr. Herrington had applied for a licence to sell alcohol outside the hours permitted by his planning consent. Both the Chairman and Ward Councillor Galvin had stated clearly that irrespective of hours permitted by an alcohol licence more restrictive hours conditioned as part of a planning approval will always take precedence. Attempts to sell alcohol outside conditioned hours may result in planning enforcement action being taken.

Planning approval was granted for a further 10 caravans / park homes (total 70) on Mount Pleasant Westfield site having been reduced from an additional 15 originally applied for.

Reports have been received that a number caravans / park homes have appeared on recently sold land at Whinny Hills. This matter is currently in the hands of City of York planning enforcement officers

A planning application submitted to Selby District Council to seek retrospective approval for a motocross track on the former RAF Acaster Malbis airfield site was refused.

A number of noise complaints had been received regarding model aircraft being flown from fields on Intake Lane. This is not a planning matter and all noise complaints should be submitted to City of York Council environmental protection unit via the appropriate form on the CoYC website.

Two planning matters are currently pending, firstly the boundary wall at Mount Pleasant which is still ongoing and secondly an application for installation of a new foul drainage system at Brockett Court.

Crime Figures: Our local PCSO Angela Hollywood has again advised there is nothing substantial to report other than small scale thefts of diesel. Acaster Malbis remains largely crime free.

Projects, Grants and other matters:

(i) Noticeboard in the Mount Pleasant Bus Shelter.

The existing board is well used and often full leaving no room for important or statutory notices the Parish Council is required to display. To overcome this problem a new lockable noticeboard is being installed next to the existing one for Parish Council use only. The existing board will remain and is freely available for members of the community to use.

(ii) Pinfold

The vegetation growth inside the Pinfold has previously been cleared by Brunswick Organic Nurseries. For the second year no work was necessary.

(iii) Duck Warning Signs

We were asked to provide Duck Warning signs at points around the village in an effort to reduce the number of casualties. A number of signs were obtained at a cost of £15.00 and erected by Councillor Loney.

(iv) Riverbank Clean Up

This was missed in 2016 as the grass had grown too long before it could commence. Bishopthorpe Scouts have been asked to carry out the project in 2017 and this work is planned for 1st April. A donation of £200.00 will be given to the Scouts. The Parish Council has also been monitoring invasive species including Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed near the slipway and weir. These have been treated and have died back. The Parish Council continues to maintain and refill a salt/road grit bin on the corner outside The Ship Inn even though the road from Keble Park South to the top of Hauling Lane has now been restored City of York Council gritting schedules.

(v) Path Clearance opposite Mount Pleasant towards Manor Farm

This work was again carried out at a cost of £65.00 and will continue when necessary during 2017.

(vi) Grant Funding Application from Mill Garth Park Residents Association

An application was received from a group of Mill Garth Park residents for a grant in respect of setup costs for a proposed resident's association. A grant of £300.00 was made under the Parish Council's s137 powers.

(vii) Preventative Flood Measures

A meeting took place in September 2016 at the Ship Inn between our local MP Julian Sturdy and representatives of the Environment Agency, Yorkshire Water and City of York Council. Owners of properties that flooded in Acaster Malbis in December 2015/January 2016 and other residents were invited to attend. Mrs. Pamela Walker, our resident EA Volunteer Flood Warden, will give a short update on emergency planning under agenda item 7.

(viii) Broadband

The village is still completely in the hands of BT. We are still assured that a faster broadband service is coming but the latest estimated date is December 2017.

(ix) Proposal to prepare a Village Plan

A suggestion was received that the Parish Council should consider the preparation of a village plan however as no large scale development was proposed within Acaster Malbis the cost of developing such a plan would far outweigh any benefits. At the same time it was proposed that the Parish Council should commission and publish a village / parish map based on a modified version of an existing Ordnance Map to which local places of interest and historical notes can be added. The concept was agreed in principle and Councillor Harlington agreed to take the project under his wing. The completed map was uploaded to the Parish Council website in February 2017 and can be accessed from the home page. The historical notes will be added in due course.

(x) Conclusion

The Chairman concluded his report by advising that a public meeting would be called to demonstrate the new defibrillator equipment and explain how the system will be operated to interested residents later in the year. Councillor Taylor also advised that as a result of another year of good budgeting and financial control the Parish Council Precept for 2017/2018 would, yet again, be unchanged at £2774.00. *(Clerk's note – the level of precept for*

2017-2018 was discussed and approved at the Parish Council meeting on 9th January 2017 and recorded in the minute book accordingly.)

5) Accounts:

(i) Parish Council for the Year Ended 31 March 2016: - Copies of the Receipts and Payments for the year were circulated to those present. The Chairman gave a brief explanation of the 'Receipts' and 'Payments' figures. Mr. R Raimes proposed and Mr. T Pumffrey seconded that these accounts be accepted.

(ii) The Knowles Educational Foundation: - Mr. J Hall reported as follows - The year's income was slightly up on the previous year's and amounted to £3104 which, after Management expenses of £695, left a sum of £2409. The sum of all the Grants awarded for the year totalled £1749 the nature of which are listed on page 3 of the circulated accounts.

The surplus revenue for the year was £660.

The Balance sheet on Page 4 of the circulated accounts provides information regarding the structure of the Charity's investments and Bank accounts. The Accumulated Capital for the Year was £56238.

Mr. Hall stated that it would, he imagined, be reasonable to question the large sum of £8400 in the Charity's Current Account. Mr. Hall took the opportunity to mention that since the last meeting this has been addressed and £5000 of the amount will shortly be invested in a Fund recommended by our Finn's Stockbrokers.

As usual Mr. Hall expressed his thanks to Mr. David Walkden for his time in providing an independent examination of the Accounts. If anyone is interested in applying for a Grant they should contact the Secretary, Mrs. Julia Campbell. The Trustees have all agreed to serve for a further year. This was agreed by the meeting.

(iii) The John Knowles and John Kettlewell Charity: - Mr. T Pumffrey presented the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2016. Mr. Pumffrey firstly stated that the name of the charity had been incorrectly listed on the Agenda as "The John Kettlewell Charity for the Poor." (*Clerk's note. - The Agenda was prepared from public information recorded on the Charity Commissioner's website which has proved to be incorrect. The correct title as advised by Mr. Pumffrey is as shown above*) Mr. Pumffrey reported that this was a small but not insignificant charity as far as the village is concerned. Grants are always very favourably received and the charity always has more people that they would like to give to than money available. The Charity had an income of £221 in the year and awards totalling £160 were given to recipients. He thanked Mr. Bob Nicholls for auditing the accounts, and Mrs Raimes who acts as treasurer and secretary. He, Mrs Raimes, Mrs Oldroyd and Mr. Smith are willing to stand again for the coming year and as usual sought the meeting's approval – this was agreed.

6) City of York Council – Ward Member: - The Chairman as usual took the opportunity to thank Councillor John Galvin for all the work he carries out for the Parish Council with CoYC.

Councillor Galvin again confirmed that superfast broadband was still on the way and it was likely that Acaster Malbis would not now be upgraded until December 2017. The plan is still to upgrade two BT cabinets and the faster service may not reach all properties.

Cllr. Galvin advised that the "encampment" at Whinny Hills was being dealt with by the Planning Enforcement team. The occupiers of the site have been advised that they must submit a planning application which if refused would likely lead to further action being taken (subject to the normal appeals procedures). An application for retrospective approval of a motocross track in the adjacent parish of Acaster Selby (Selby District Council area) has been refused.

Cllr Galvin is currently liaising with City of York highways engineers to see if a solution can be found to the drainage problems affecting the Mount Pleasant bus shelter. Proposals and costings are awaited for a scheme to perhaps run a pipe under the road surface to the existing ditch to properly drain the large puddle which forms after rainfall. Persons using the shelter have been drenched by passing vehicles.

Forty eight fruit trees have been planted within the Bishopthorpe Ward area. Cllr Galvin was disappointed to note that one planted near Lakeside had already been broken. Some older dog waste bins in the village are being replaced with larger combined dog waste / litter bins.

The York Local Plan has been delayed while the implications of the planned closure of Imphal and Strensall barracks on local housing needs are assessed. The Government have granted a formal temporary delay.

7) Acaster Malbis – Flood Protection and Planning: Mrs. Pamela Walker – EA Volunteer Flood Warden.

Mrs. Walker gave a comprehensive update of the position with regard to the flooding risk within the village. Some problems are due to overhanging trees slowing the flow of the river. There are many proposals to reduce flood risk including major proposals to either lower or remove the weir and / or Naburn Lock. There are problems either caused due to poor flood signage or people deliberately ignoring flood warnings. Mrs. Walker reported that most of the vehicles damaged by flood water are driven by locals. Many people do not understand that apparently shallow water on Acaster Lane becomes much deeper at points between The Ship Inn and Holy Trinity Church. Yorkshire Water has surveyed the sewerage system in the village and it appears some areas have not been properly recorded. Mrs. Walker is working with Yorkshire Water to resolve this issue whilst also working on the production of an Acaster

Malbis Emergency Plan covering all potential emergencies not just flooding. The Environment Agency is currently producing an emergency advice leaflet which will be circulated when completed.

8) Update on Superfast Broadband: – Mr. R Grant – City of York Council. Mr. Grant was unable to attend the meeting. Councillor Galvin gave a short update as noted under agenda item 6 above.

9) Defibrillator Projector: – Update on Progress – Mr. Peter Burt – Bishopthorpe CFR (Community First Responders.) Peter Burt gave a short talk on how an emergency defibrillator operates. He was on active duty as a Community First Responder so could not give a practical demonstration using live equipment as he could have been called away at any moment. Mr. Burt kindly offered to return to a future meeting with a training device to demonstrate and explain in detail when the project nears completion.

10) Open Forum – Mr. David Walkden stated that City of York Council now seemed to have appointed the fourth different person to run improved broadband implementation. He stated that the solution needs to be faster rather being allowed to drag on indefinitely. Mr. Tim Pumffrey drew attention to the poor condition of the road sign at the Junction of Mill Lane and Darling/Cowper Lanes. He felt that this gave a poor impression of the village. Councillor Galvin offered to have CoYC highways department inspect the sign and request repair action if appropriate.

The Chairman **closed** the meeting at 9:01pm and thanked all, particularly the speakers, for giving up their time to attend.

It should be noted that these are draft minutes and will remain so until approved at the next Annual Meeting of the Parish in March 2018. Any comments should be submitted to the Parish Council Clerk by email ampcclerk@gmail.com , via the contact form on the Parish Council website www.acastermalbis.org.uk or by telephone to 01904 702131.