

ALKBOROUGH AND WALCOT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at 19:50 on 15 May 2019

Present

Parish Councillors: J White (Chairman), J Ellis, J Gaunt, N Harland,
D Roberts
Ward Councillors: Cllr. R Ogg, Cllr. E Marper, Cllr. H Rowson
Parish Clerk: J Mackey
Residents' Association: I Cranston
Members of the Public: One

1. Apologies for absence

Councillor S Fell-Bowers and Councillor S Spencer

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. To resolve the adoption of the minutes of the meetings held on 6 March 2019 and 1 April 2019 as a true record

The minutes were accepted as a true record, and signed by the Chairman.

4. Clerk's updates

a) Walcot Hall pruning of overgrown trees and ivy

The trees and ivy had been cut back and the work was still ongoing. Cllr. Harland would discuss the matter with the owners of the Hall and continue to monitor the situation.

b) Felling of trees bordering Low Wells and Orchard House

The Chairman had invited tenders from three companies for the felling of the trees, however only one quotation had been received and this was circa £500, the exact sum not being available at the meeting. The other two quotations would be chased by the Chairman but in the possible absence of any further quotes being received then it was agreed to accept the quotation in hand.

c) Potholes on West Halton Lane

The Clerk had written to Mark Thornborough at the Highways Department regarding the condition of the footpaths on Back Street and the potholes along West Halton Lane, Mark had subsequently advised that both of these matters were scheduled to be dealt with during Spring 2019. It was noted that the footpaths on Back Street have now been relaid.

Ward Cllr. Marper advised that the condition of West Halton Lane was such that it was in need of resurfacing. This work was part of the highways programme for the current year however the priority for this work was not known; Cllr. Marper advised that efforts would be made to have the work scheduled as soon as possible.

Cllr. Ellis referred to the poor condition of West Halton Lane at the corner to Southdale Farm. The road surface has loose gravel and stones and car drivers often drive around this loose road material and this poses an increased risk of a collision with oncoming traffic. It was suggested that the placement of kerb at this point in the road would alleviate the problem of loose gravel and would also serve to clearly define the edge of the road. Cllr. Ogg would investigate the problem.

d) Dog Bin at junction of Footpaths 3 and 4

The Clerk advised that this dog bin had now been emptied, and this was being done on a regular basis. The issue regarding non-emptying of the bin had arisen because of a change in the person allocated this work by NLC, and that person had not been aware of the existence of the dog bin which is positioned a good distance from the road.

e) Footpaths on Back Street

This matter had been dealt with under item 4 c).

Ward Cllr. Ogg said that he had received a phone call from a resident asking that the footpath from the Old Vicarage be extended to the end of Back Street; he would be looking into this matter.

5. To elect two Councillors to represent this Council at ERNLLCA District Committee meetings

ERNLLCA had indicated that they would like each local council within its area to have two councillors represented at district committee meetings; the purpose of this is to improve participation by local councils in the activities of ERNLLCA. The Clerk explained that the district committee meetings are held four times a year immediately preceding the Parish Council Liaison Committee meetings. The meetings are held at the NLC council offices in Scunthorpe commencing at 6pm.

Councillor White and Councillor Roberts were elected unanimously to represent the parish council.

6. To review the Financial Regulations

The Clerk advised that there had been no changes to the model Financial Regulations published by ERNLLCA and it was agreed to retain the existing regulations.

7. To receive and discuss the annual insurance renewal due 1 June 2019

The Clerk had received a renewal quotation from Zurich Insurance for £403.37 (£397.33 in 2018). An additional quotation from Inspire Insurance, an AXA company, had been received through Came & Company, an insurance broker specialising in insurance for local authorities. The Inspire quotation, based upon the same range and level of cover, was £347.02; this quotation was inclusive of a £50 fee to Came & Company. The Inspire quotation could be further reduced to £332.17 by committing to a three year period of insurance with Inspire.

It was agreed to accept the quotation of £347.02 by Inspire for a 12 month period.

8. Correspondence**a) VE Day 75 – 75th Anniversary of VE Day**

The SSAFA, the official charity for the armed forces and the Merchant Navy had written to all local councils in the country regarding VE Day 75, being organised to celebrate and commemorate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day over the weekend of 8-10 May 2020.. Local Councils are being encouraged to participate in the event by organising street parties and parties in pubs, clubs, halls, hotels, on town and village greens, etc.

It was agreed that this could be a venture to get the various groups, organisations etc within the parish to work together to discuss plans for a variety of activities. The Clerk would write to the Church, Chapel, school, Cricket Club, Women's Institute etc to invite them to participate in the arrangement of activities. The Clerk would supply a copy of the letter to the Residents' Association.

9. Residents' Association

All items had been reported in the Annual Parish meeting held earlier in the evening.

10. To receive report from the Neighbourhood Action Team

Cllr. Ellis advised that there was nothing to report; the next meeting was due to be held 5 June.

11. To receive and agree accounts for payment

None.

12. To receive reports from Councillors

Councillor J Ellis

- JE referred to the various Millennium seats around Alkborough and said that they were in need of repainting with wood stain. It was understood that Councillor Fell-Bowers had previously painted the seat on Walcot Road and it was agreed that she would be asked if she was willing to do this again. It was understood that Linda Cowling had kindly painted the seat on West Halton Lane on the last occasion. There was uncertainty about who had previously painted the seat on Whitton Road.
- JE referred to a flower pot outside the home of a resident on Front Street that covered approximately one-third of the width of the public footpath. JE was aware of a person who had stumbled over the flower pot and it was considered that it was possibly sited in a dangerous position. The Clerk would look at the position of the flower pot on the path and then write to the resident, if appropriate.
- JE referred to the grass at Low Wells which she felt was becoming overgrown. The Chairman advised that the grass had been cut about three weeks earlier and another cut was due imminently.
- JE referred to a stone wall at Low Wells, close to the church, that appeared to have been damaged by someone hitting it with a moving vehicle. The Clerk would look into this and get some quotations for repair of the wall

- JE referred to the church footpath that had a number of uneven and damaged stone slabs. Any repairs to the path would possibly require a faculty by the minister and churchwardens. The condition of the path could be partly improved by cutting back the grass edges of the path.

Cllr. Roberts would initially examine the extent of the damage.

13. Date of next meeting

The next meeting is due to be held at 19:00 on Wednesday 3 July 2019.

14. The meeting closed at 20:25.