



Brafferton & Helperby Parish Council
Lands & Maintenance committee meeting minutes

Wednesday 6 November 2024
Held in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr Nigel Denison (Chairman), Cllr Mark Darwin, Cllr Peter Mitchell, and Dan Knight.

1. Apologies for Absence
 - 1.1. Apologies were received from Blake Edwards and Roger Clements (Clerk).
2. Declarations of Interest not already declared under the Council's Code of Conduct or members Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and declarations from co-opted members of any conflict of interest
 - 2.1. No declarations were made.
3. Chairman's report
 - 3.1. The old building on a Raskelf Road allotment plot (RR11) has been made safe following its collapse in heavy rain. There is a self-seeded sycamore on the site that should be removed before the site is cleared with a view to re-let as allotment gardens (probably up to 3 plots).
 - 3.2. The St Peter's lych gate main border needs a planting plan – a subject for the Parish Council (PC) agenda.
 - 3.3. A work party will be required for RR11 – (L&M agenda then PC agenda).
4. Clerk's report – delivered by the Chairman
 - 4.1. The Council welcomed Dan Knight as a new lay member on the L&M committee.
 - 4.2. The minutes of the previous meeting were noted.
 - 4.3. The Hornby footpath autumn cut back and tidy will take place when leaf fall is complete.
 - 4.4. A willow on Swale Green riverbank had been felled as recommended by the PC's tree surveyor.
 - 4.5. NYC Public Rights of Way (PROW) had confirmed that sycamores along Swing Bridge bridleway are to be removed but currently this is delayed on cost grounds.
 - 4.6. Two horse chestnut trees on Main Street are to be trimmed to provide greater clearance from adjacent properties and have their crowns lifted at a time tbc.
5. Public Participation
 - 5.1. MD noted that new LED lighting had been installed on the Raskelf Road and was concerned that this may be adopted on Main Street. NYC to be approached for comment.
 - 5.2. DK was concerned at sunken cobbles on Bridge Street/Hall Lane corner forcing children to walk into the road en route to/from school. A possible agenda item for the PC.
 - 5.3. PM thought Thornton Bridge signage an eyesore and hoped pressure might be brought to bear to remove some. Perhaps distinguishing between advertising and promotion could be a start but it was noted that this area is outside our parish.
6. Review of Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) data
 - 6.1. Speeding data from our VAS showed that of traffic entering the village:
 - 6.1.1.1. 75.4% of drivers were within the limit.
 - 6.1.1.2. 23.6% travelled at 30-40mph.
 - 6.1.1.3. 1.4% travelled at 40-60mph (on the Raskelf Road).
 - 6.1.1.4. The VAS had been shown to reduce traffic speed by an average of 2mph when used on the Boroughbridge Road.
 - 6.2. Members would like the Parish Council to summarise the findings and publish in the village magazine.
 - 6.3. The topic to be an agenda item at the next committee meeting.
7. Improvement plan for the St Peter's lych gate track
 - 7.1. Work should include: a cut-off drain to route run-off water from the lych gate away from the track; some landscaping of the grass area to allow some vehicle manoeuvring space and a hardened surface for the track to link it to Bridge Street.



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- 7.2. Before undertaking work, the Parish Council needed to confirm ownership of the grass area in front of the lych gate and had believed it to be owned by the Christian Faith Society. Research had found that the society had been renamed the Society for Advancing the Christian Faith (afternote: further research then discovered that this society neither owned nor leased land). Chairman to continue investigation.
8. Christmas tree preparations
 - 8.1. ND had arrangements in place for tree selection and collection.
 - 8.2. The H&B Community Association will erect, decorate and light the tree; new (brighter) lights will be considered. Switch on will take place in the early evening of 1 Dec 24.
9. Arrangements for Swale Green grass cutting in 2025
 - 9.1. Proposals were agreed for presentation to the Parish Council:
 - 9.1.1.1. 4 cuts per year.
 - 9.1.1.2. Prior to each cut, cones to guarantee tractor access will be set out at the Swale Green access.
 - 9.1.1.3. Costs, contractor and cutting dates to be agreed with H&B Community Association.
- 10. Cobbles Project**
 - 10.1. Improvements to Drury Lane cobbles – ND said arrangements nearly complete for Parish Council to consider at its next meeting. Work likely to start in March 25.
11. Agenda items for the next meeting
 - 11.1. VAS data review.
 - 11.2. Provision of skip and working party to clear Allotment plot RR11.
12. The next meeting date was confirmed as 29 Jan 25.