

Minutes from the Borrowby Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 21st September 2023 at 8.00 pm in Borrowby Village Hall

1.0 Apologies

Cllr Alyson Baker sent her apologies. The Parish Council was shocked and saddened to hear of the death of our former Hambleton District Councillor, Bob Baker, and the Chairman asked for our sympathies to be forwarded to Cllr Alyson Baker.

Present: The Chairman (Cllr F Wachsberger), the Vice Chairman (Cllr J Dack), Cllr D Bell, Cllr A Norfolk, Cllr N Whitley, the Clerk and two members of the public.

2.0 Minutes from Previous Meeting

The minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 20th July, which were previously circulated, were agreed and signed.

3.0 Matters Arising

3.1 Long service award – The Chairman has produced a certificate for former Parish Councillor Duncan Craig for his long service of 15 years on the Parish Council. The Chairman will get the certificate framed.

3.2 Borrowby Parish Council co-option – forms now all filled in for new Parish Councillor N Whitley.

3.3 Signatories – To add a third signatory onto the Parish Council account they will need to go to the branch in Darlington.

3.4 Tree pruning – Cllr Bell has had an estimate from Nick for the tree removals on the lower Green and pruning of the chestnut tree which totals £950.00 including VAT. The expenditure was approved by the Parish Council. Cllr Bell to ask Nick to proceed with the works. Permission will need to be sought for tree works in a conservation area. Cllr Norfolk asked if there would be any new tree plantings and said it would be nice to have one on the Green. Three trees are being taken out and it was suggested to plant a rowan tree a bit further from the boundary.

3.5 Hedge cutting on Park Lane. It was reported that a lot of branches had been removed and further works planned but it is all in hand. The resident had received a letter from Highways asking for it to be cut back.

4.0 Update from North Yorkshire Councillors if present

Not present.

5.0 Update from Borrowby Parish Councillors

The Chairman read out an email sent by Thornton Le Beans Parish Council asking for contributions towards the finances for the consultant fees used to object to the egg farm planning application; the appeal has now been dismissed. They stated that the initial egg factory voluntary fund raised £15,000. They said TLB PC had spent £25,968 in consultation fees so far; it is understood they raised their precept by £20,000 the year before (21 - 22) and again by £20,000 this year (22 - 23). The Chairman outlined the history and explained that Borrowby did not agree to using precept money for the egg factory fund when approached by TLB towards the end of 2022, especially as the application is not in Borrowby's Parish but also some Parishioners may not have been in agreement. It was appreciated that Borrowby would, however, have been indirectly affected by traffic, etc if the application had succeeded. Hambleton District Council had said that in the event of an appeal, the Inspector would only be considering the evidence already presented. It had been said that if Borrowby thought it necessary, they would encourage voluntary contributions. The Parish Council and residents had sent in letters of objection to the application and the Chairman had spoken at the Planning meeting

when the application was heard, raising objections which emphasised the unsuitability of the highways. The Chairman asked the Borrowby Parish Councillors for their response to the email from Thornton Le Beans Parish Council.

Cllr Dack said that Thornton Le Beans do have a case as the four grounds for refusal were areas covered by their professionals. He said if the application had been rejected at the start on highways grounds, as common sense would have suggested, they wouldn't have needed to seek these other reasons. He said the village has had some benefit and he would be in favour of a fund if the full financial documents for their expenditure regarding the application are made available and demonstrate this.

Cllr Norfolk said that he is not against raising contributions but would need to know the financial situation relating to the application.

Cllr Whitley said he had gone on the Thornton Le Beans village walk. He said a decision had been made in January by Borrowby Parish Council not to use precept money and advice had been sought from Hambleton planners and Borrowby Parish Council shouldn't go back on that decision. The voluntary egg factory fund of £15,000 mentioned may also have included people outside of their Parish and residents from Borrowby. He said he would support the request for voluntary contributions if it was made clear how the money would be used.

Cllr Bell agreed with Cllr Whitley but said there appears to be a discrepancy in the figures; he said in the D&S the factory fund was said to have spent £66,000. He also said that the other neighbouring parishes should also have been approached by Thornton Le Beans Parish Council. He didn't think it was right that the Parish Council should pay another Parish Council, as indicated in the email. Any contributions should be to a separate fund – they had initially set up an independent factory fighting fund.

It was decided that the Chairman will reply to the email asking for full financial documents relating to the egg factory fund and, if they show a deficit, the figures can be used to support a request for voluntary contributions in a newsletter.

Cllr Bell – He mentioned that the road signs were so dirty they are difficult to read. Also, the sign near Borrowby Farm has been hit. He said the stile down the bottom of the village had been mended. He said Alison had ordered some daffodil bulbs and has asked for payment of £51 for the bulbs for the Green. Approved.

6.0 Village plan discussion

Cllr Dack said that he is uncertain how much impact a village plan would have when determining planning applications. The Chairman said it might be a good idea before the next meeting to think how you might like to see Borrowby in 10 years' time.

7.0 Local Air b&b's

When discussing Airbnb's in the village it was said that there were thought to be fewer than before and the one near the top part of the village was no longer an Airbnb rental. Another property uses a holiday cottage company. It was said that Airbnb rentals can make more money than long-term rentals. The Chairman had talked to Gareth Dadd and they are aware of the problem as North Yorkshire is a holiday area but it is also a significant issue for the country. It was said that Whitby has restrictions now. It was queried if new houses have conditions and need permission for change of use.

8.0 Correspondence

8.1 Knayton Parish Council – Notes following the Knayton Parish Council meeting about speed concerns on Moor Road and Knayton Primary Academy, Oaktree Bank attended by Terry Bland, Head of Estates, Elevate Multi Academy Trust on behalf of Knayton School and Borrowby Parish Council representatives. Possible solutions suggested: informing parents about parking/not to turn in road (possible mini roundabout), encouraging

parents to park at HRAP, flashing 20 mph signs, remove tree growth obscuring signs, extending no parking restrictions, reporting near misses.

8.2 SLCC – Reply to Clerk’s query. The interest rates are fairly similar for Parish Council accounts. Many Parish Councils have changed to online banking. SLCC said that village plans are still a useful tool even though they seem to have been overshadowed by neighbourhood plans.

8.3 Hedgehog highway surrounds – Encouraging gardens to have gap in fence for hedgehogs to pass through. ‘Highway’ surrounds available to purchase.

8.4 Village Hall calendar.

8.5 NYC -Approach to lower speed limits – areas will be assessed individually regarding the reduction to 20 mph.

9.0 Planning Applications

Works to fell 3 trees in a Conservation Area at Mulberry Hill, Gate Lane, Borrowby, for Mrs Anne Haigh (ZB23/01844/CAT). To reply with no objections.

Permission granted for the following applications:

- 1) Construction of a car port and separate stables which are ancillary to the main house at former Oakdene, Woundales Lane, Knayton for Cramp (ZB23/01104/FUL).
- 2) Renewal of outline permission, 19/02624/OUT, residential development of a dwelling, at Rose Cottage for Mr Charles Cowton.
- 3) Demolition of existing stables and construction of a barn on existing footprint to house new private stable yard at Stud Farm (22/00174/FUL).

Appeal refusal for the egg factory

The appeal for the egg factory at Thornton Le Beans has been dismissed by the inspector. Appeal Ref: APP/G2713/W/23/3316706. Land east of Pillrigg Lane Track and southeast of Moor Lane, Thornton Le Beans, Thirsk, North Yorkshire DL6 3SZ.

10.0 Finance

Cheques written out:

Borrowby Village Hall (Hire of hall Apr – July)	£40.00
Clerk’s Salary (July – Sept)	£350.00
Alison Shepherd (daffodil bulbs for village)	£51.00

11.0 Any Other Business

There was no further business.

12.0 Open Forum

No further business.

13.0 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 19th October 2023 at 8.00 pm in the village hall. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.20 pm.