

Minutes of the Annual Melbecks Parish Council meeting held on Thursday May 20th 2021 at Low Row Institute

The Annual Melbecks Parish Council meeting was held on Thursday May 20th 2021 at Low Row Institute. Present were Councillors Silver, McCartney and Crapper with Cllr R. Alderson presiding. The Clerk was Miss N. Adams.

1. All were welcomed to the meeting.
2. Apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Cllr Lewis and County Cllr Yvonne Peacock.

3. Election of Officers: Chair: Cllr Alderson was nominated as Chair by Cllr Silver. There were no other nominations and this was unanimously agreed.

Vice-Chair: Cllr Lewis was nominated as Vice-Chair by Cllr Crapper. There were no other nominations and this was unanimously agreed.

4. Declaration of Interests: There were none declared.

5. Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the last meeting, held on 25th March 2021 were agreed to be a correct record, and these were signed by the Chair.

6. Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising.

7. Finance

a) Audit

(i) Certificate of Exemption: The Council unanimously approved the Certificate of Exemption and this was signed by the Chair and the Responsible Financial Officer.

(ii) Annual Internal Audit Report: The council received and noted the Annual Internal Audit Report.

(iii) Annual Governance Statement: The Annual Governance Statement was unanimously approved by the Council and signed by the Chair and Clerk.

(iv) Accounting Statements: The Accounting Statements were considered and approved and signed by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer/Clerk.

c) Financial risk assessment: The council reviewed and unanimously adopted the Financial Risk Assessment.

d) Financial Statement: The council reviewed and approved the Financial Statement.

e) Order to pay – Gunnerside Village Hall: An order to pay and a cheque was signed for £10 for Gunnerside Village Hall. The clerk will send this to the Treasurer of Gunnerside Village Hall.

f) Order to pay – YLCA Good Councillor Guides: An order to pay and a cheque was signed for £24.93 to the YLCA for Good Councillor Guides. The clerk will send this to YLCA.

The council noted that in this guide, there has been an update regarding the Annual Parish meeting, which has up until now been held in March, however it can now be held on the same day as the Annual Melbecks Parish Council meeting in May, however Cllrs agreed to continue to hold this meeting in March.

9. Highways

a) Highways Reply: The council was advised of the reply from Highways to the issues raised at the last meeting. The following were noted:

(i) Drainage at Gunnerside. It has been noticed that during the recent heavy rain, the issue of flooding is not as bad it has been in the past.

(ii) Pothole on the B6270. Highways have advised that this pothole was repaired after it was reported last year. It has now been inspected again and does not meet the criteria for repair. However, after having looked at this pothole again, it appears that no work has been done to this pothole and it is possible that Highways are looking at a different one. The clerk will raise this matter again.

(iii) Brocca Bank: Steve Barker from Highways has been in touch with Cllr Alderson and they are arranging to meeting to look at the issues at Brocca Bank.

(iv) Cattle Grid: Gunnerside Pasture Committee have enquired when the cattle grid on the top road to Dyke Heads will be cleared, as it is full of leaves which will mean that livestock will be able to get out and the clerk will raise this with highways.

(v) Surrender Bridge: Some work was carried out at Surrender Bridge to repair some tarmac

and a drain, however Highways will be returning as this needs further work.

(vi) Peat Gate drain: It was noted that during recent heavy rain, the flooding is not causing as much of an issue as previously.

(vii) Speeding: The council discussed speeding issues both in Low Row and Gunnerside. It was agreed to find out more information about possible options, such as installing temporary vehicle activation signs in Low Row, and how much these would cost to install. County Cllr Peacock has offered £1000 from Locality Funding, and Richmondshire District Council are offering grants of £1000 from their Area Partnership Fund which could potentially be used for this.

In addition, a councillor raised a concern about speeding in Gunnerside, as although the speed limit is 30 mph, it is not safe to travel at this speed through the village. The clerk will contact Highways to enquire about having 20mph signs put up in the village and to find out more information about temporary vehicle activation signs.

10. RDC

There were no items.

11. NYCC

There were no items.

12. YDNPA

There were no items.

13. Any other business

a) BT Consultation on Intended programme of Public Payphone removals in Richmondshire
It was noted that there are no proposals to remove payphone in Melbecks Parish.

b) Northern Powergrid – Proposals to alter Powerline network

Councillors noted receipt of this proposal to remove a section of low voltage network to the West of Gunnerside around Dyke Heads and install a buried cable along a route in agreement with landowners concerned. The council raised no comments or objections.

c) Protect our verges – Friends of the Dales to leave an area uncut in the summer months to promote wildlife. The council noted receipt of this.

d) Parking Issues at Low Row

An issue has been raised by a resident about parking issues outside the Institute and this has now been forwarded to the Secretary of Low Row Institute.

e) Dales Police Report April 2021

The council noted receipt of this.

f) Some residents of Gunnerside have raised the matter of a wooden trellis which has been erected outside a house in Gunnerside between the Kings Arms pub and the house next door. There has been a query about ownership of this land, and it was suggested contacting the secretary of Gunnerside Pasture committee to find out more.

11. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held Thursday July 22nd 2021 at 7.30pm at Gunnerside Village Hall.

As there was no other business, the meeting closed at 9.15pm.