

Thornton Le Dale Parish Meeting

Held on Tuesday 2nd May 2017 at 7.00 pm in the Hill Memorial Institute. Fourteen parishioners attended.

The Chair, Councillor S Bell, gave an overview of the work carried out for the good of the Parish in 2016/17 and answered queries put forward by the public.

The Chair mentioned the continued challenges and frustrations that the Council and parishioners had had due to the Agencies and Authorities dragging their feet when the Parish Council had requested important work to be carried out. Regardless of this it may well have focused our thinking that work that we put in can sometimes result in tangible outcomes. It is however a feature of parish politics that firstly the Parish Council is limited in its genuine power and secondly it could be argued that worthwhile change tends to take a significant time, as I think you are all very aware of. There is always a risk that proponents will change and residents will lose heart and therefore it is essential that a good number of people are involved in any undertaking in order that if some have a bit of a wobble others are able to take up the load or re-energise.

We have had numerous issues regarding parking and held meetings to enable the parishioners to air their views and invited representatives from the Police, Parks and the Deputy Head of parking to answer questions put forward by the residents. Eventually NYMP has listened to our concerns and parking costs have been altered, albeit only for a trial period, and we are still waiting for new signage to reflect this.

Currently we have continued to study planning applications and considered their suitability for the part of the village that the development is proposed. Even though, technically, we cannot prevent or enable any specific application but if the Parish Council is agreed on its opinion and presents it to the relevant authority we can therefore exercise some influence on the decision.

We have various Councillors on village bodies and I thank them for all their efforts.

We now have a defibrillator on the village green ready for action and we thank the Traders Association for their research and donation which enabled this to happen and thanks to Councillor Crabtree for co-ordinating that.

The Beck Group is now established as a separate body after initially being supported by the Parish Council. The amount of work carried out on the Beck wall already makes a substantial difference to that part of the Beck. It has also given us some knowledge of the availability of additional funding sources which, I suspect, may prove useful in the future for various applications. I thank Councillor M Sanderson for his gut lead and Councillor J Sanderson for her guidance.

There have been meetings with the Reverend Dr. White regarding liaison with the Church and the Parish Council regarding the upkeep of the churchyard and proposals for the new path. This is still ongoing but perhaps we are a little clearer now.

In the coming year we need to address the issue of the coping stones alongside the Beck and we may learn more about grant applications in this regard. The Beck Group has already started investigating the work involved in carrying out this project.

Another issue we are likely to address is the lighting in the village. It is possible we may require work on up to 103 lighting fixtures. It is clear that we must keep sufficient funds as a reserve when the time comes to progress in this regard.

An area we intend to investigate is the provision of a Neighbourhood Plan and I hope we have residents who are interested in carrying this forward.

Residents asked the following questions:

- 1 Cold calling
The Police and the Trading Standards Committee have been contacted regarding this and it is still ongoing.
- 2 The pelican crossing
Councillor J Garbutt is in contact with Highways regarding this but as you are aware they take time when coming to decisions and the cost to carry out the work properly is quite high.
- 3 Car Parking
Parks have altered the cost of parking but have yet to place signs in the village indicating this.
- 4 Roxby Road parking, yellow lines and 20 mph restrictions
The Council has asked for yellow lines in this area before but Highways is reluctant to install them. The Clerk will investigate the 20 mph limit with Highways.

On the whole the Parish Council has worked well as an organisation and met its challenges and I thank you, the Council, and the residents that continue to attend our meetings and show an interest in the work carried out by the Council for the good of the village and its parishioners.

The Clerk and Council will address the above problems in the fullness of time and hopefully resolve these concerns.

The meeting closed at 1920 hrs.