

Minutes of the Melbecks Parish Council meeting held on Thursday March 23rd
2017 at Low Row Institute

The Parish Council meeting was held on Thursday March 23rd 2017. Present were Councillors Crapper, Calvert, Silver and McCartney, with Cllr R. Alderson presiding. The Clerk was Miss N. Adams.

1. Apologies for absence. Apologies were received from RDC Cllr Blows.
2. Declaration of Interests. None declared.
3. Minutes of the last meeting. The minutes of the last meeting, held on 9th February 2017 were agreed to be a correct record, and these were signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising.

a) Notice boards. Cllr Alderson now has the quotation for the notice boards, from William Smith and sons, Barnard Castle, but he has been advised against having gas struts fitted. The price without gas struts is £396.95 each plus VAT, and we will need 4 new posts which will cost £30 each. The delivery charge is £10. It was agreed to go ahead with the purchase of these boards, and we will arrange installation ourselves, and the clerk will order the boards. It was agreed to order one to be delivered to Gunnerside and one to Low Row, and the clerk will check if there is an additional charge for this.

It was agreed to keep the board in the same position at Gunnerside, however it was thought better to move the one at Low Row next to the bus stop, where it would be easier for people to stop to read the notice board, and to put up notices.

b) Trees in Gunnerside Ghyll.

Cllr McCartney has been in touch with the YDNPA ranger, Michael Briggs who has advised that they do not have any volunteers available at the moment, but he has no objections for us to do some work ourselves. Cllr McCartney has had a look and could tidy up some of the smaller growth with some help from Gunnerside residents, however a tree surgeon would be needed for the larger limbs. Cllr McCartney will contact a tree surgeon in order to and get a quotation. This work will need to be done before the bird nesting season starts.

5. Finance

a) The clerk's salary of £1000, plus expenses were agreed and paid. An order to pay was completed.

6. Highways

a) Wall at Lodge Green.

The clerk advised that this has been reported to highways, and has been added to their programme of works.

b) Light in Gunnerside

The light that had been off was reported and this has now been repaired.

c) Drain at West End Cottage

This has been causing problems in heavy rain again, and the clerk was asked to report this to highways again.

d) Drains on Brocca Bank

These are still not clear, and the clerk was asked to report this to highways again.

7. Richmondshire District Council

a) Richmondshire Small Parish Insurance Scheme

Richmondshire District Council has advised that it is no longer offering its Small Parish Insurance Scheme. The clerk has obtained 2 quotes for insurance, one from Zurich Municipal (who Melbecks Parish Council has been insured with through this scheme), and one from Hiscox Insurance. The quotes are almost identical, and it was agreed to stay with Zurich at a cost of £164.45. The clerk will arrange payment of this.

b) The Council were advised that there will be a County Council election on Thursday May 4th.

8. North Yorkshire County Council

9. YDNPA

a) Tree Preservation Order- Oak Tree Barn, Low Row.

The Council noted that the YDNPA has given consent for the crown cleaning of three trees

located at Oak Tree Barn, Low Row

b) Parish Forum meeting

The Council were advised that there would be a Parish Forum meeting on 26th April 2017 at 7pm to take place at the Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes. No councillors were available to attend on this occasion.

10. AOB/other correspondence.

a) A letter of thanks was received from the Great North Air Ambulance for the £50 donation that was given by Melbecks Parish Council.

b) Trees at Peat Gate

Cllr Silver advised the Council that there are overgrowing trees on the road up to Peat Gate which need to be cut back, as they are obscuring vision for vehicles. The clerk was asked to report this to highways.

11. Date and time of next meeting.

The next meeting will be held at Gunnerside Village Hall on Thursday May 4th 2017.

As there was no other business, the meeting closed at 8.30pm.