

**Minutes of the Melbecks Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday
November 28th 2017 at Low Row Institute**

The Melbecks Parish Council meeting was held on Tuesday 28th November 2017 at Low Row Institute. Present were Councillors McCartney, Silver, Calvert and Crapper, with Cllr R. Alderson presiding. RDC Councillor Blows was also present. The Clerk was Miss N. Adams.

1. Apologies for absence.

All were present.

2. Declaration of Interests.

None declared.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

i) Correction to 6(b)

ii) The Council had agreed to fund £500 towards tree work in Gunnerside Gill, however the clerk confirmed that the council could only fund £400 this financial year, with the other £100 being available after April. Councillors also agreed that as the next meeting was not taking place until February 2018, that the invoice for this work could be paid prior to this, once the invoice is received and agreed.

Subject to these amendments, the minutes were agreed to be a correct record, and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising.

a) Notice board in Gunnerside

This is due to be installed in the near future.

b) Trees in Gunnerside Gill

Work has been going on during the last 3 weeks to clear undergrowth and remove small branches. National Grid have advised that they will be attending on Wednesday November 29th to remove a cherry tree which is close to overhead cables. Positive feedback has been received from residents regarding the work so far and once the work is completed, it will be easier to maintain this area in the future. £700 has been received from Richmondshire District Council and the honesty boxes for parking in the village is bringing in additional income.

c) Charging for public toilets

The new doors are now in place. Councillor Blows has requested information regarding footfall and income to be provided by Richmondshire District Council. Cllr Blows also advised that this decision had not been made lightly and RDC had decided that it was preferable to keep the toilets open and charge, rather than to close them.

5. Finance

a) Annual accounts were reviewed and it was agreed that the clerk would enquire with other local parish councils as to how this can be completed in the future and whether it is necessary to complete an accounts book, or whether this can be done on a spreadsheet which can be printed out and signed.

6. Highways

a) Trees in Gunnerside

Highways have done some work to remove some trees on the south side of the bridge in Gunnerside to improve visibility.

b) Drain at West End Cottage, Gunnerside

This was reported again following the last meeting, however no further work has been done here. Clerk was requested to report this again.

c) Street light at Flatlands, Gunnerside

Councillors noted that following complaints from residents of the village regarding

this light, RDC has advised that they will be fitting a new LED light which will give more effective light, and it will turn off at midnight until 5am. It is hoped that this will provide a good compromise to all.

d) Street lighting

NYCC advised that it has commenced a programme to replace all standard street lights with LED lighting which will be more efficient over the long term, in both energy and maintenance costs.

7. Richmondshire District Council

a) Electoral review of Richmondshire

The boundary commission has proposed creating a new ward together with Hawes and High Abbotside, to include Melbecks and Muker Parish Councils. The proposed name for the new ward is Hawes & High Abbotside, but councillors commented that this does not reflect who this represents, and that a name such as 'Upper Dales' would be more appropriate. The consultation is open until January 15th 2018.

8. NYCCC

No items.

9. YDNP

a) Northern Parish Forum

The council received the notes from the parish forum.

b) National Park Management Plan

The council received information regarding the YDNPA national park management plan. Cllr Blows advised councillors that RDC and YDNPA had discussed the possibility of increasing council tax for non-resident second homes from the current 150% to address the issue of empty houses. Work is ongoing with this, and an announcement is likely in the near future regarding this.

c) New build housing in the Yorkshire Dales

The council noted receipt of this request for interested parties to consider the potential for developing new build housing in the national park.

d) Planning decision – Spensley House, Gunnerside. Approved conditionally.

e) Planning application – Wardell Hall, Low Row. The Council raised no comments or objections.

f) Planning application - Dial House, Gunnerside. The Council raised no comments or objections.

g) Planning application - Rowleth Gardens, Strands. The Council raised no comments or objections.

10. AOB

a) Citizens Advice Bureau

The council noted receipt of the annual report from the Citizens' Advice Bureau.

b) Community First Yorkshire

The council noted receipt of information from Community First Yorkshire (previously Rural Action Yorkshire), about services available to residents.

c) South Tees Hospital consultation events

The council noted dates of consultation events in the near future.

d) Children playing signs in Gunnerside

A resident of Gunnerside has requested for signs to be put up advising motorists of children playing, as the population of children in the village has increased significantly recently. The clerk will contact highways to try to arrange a meeting to look at this.

e) Scott Trial

The council noted receipt of letter of thanks from the Scott Trial.

f) Highways issues

It was requested that the clerk arrange a meeting with Highways to look at the various issues in the area:

- i) Blocked drain at Peat Gate which is sending water down towards the main road.
- ii) Broken drain at Brocca Bank
- iii) Wall outside Gunnerside
- iv) Broken drain at West End cottage, Gunnerside

11. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held at Gunnerside Village Hall on **Wednesday February 7th 2018 at 7.30pm.**

As there was no other business, the meeting closed at 8.50pm.