

**Minutes of the Melbecks Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday
February 7th 2018 at Gunnerside Village Hall**

The Melbecks Parish Council meeting was held on Wednesday February 7th 2018 at Gunnerside Village Hall. Present were Councillors McCartney, Calvert and Crapper, with Cllr R. Alderson presiding. RDC Councillor Blows was also present. PCSO Taylor-Page and three members of the public were present. The clerk was Miss N Adams.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Councillor Silver.

2. Declaration of Interests.

Cllr Calver declared an interest in item 9(a).

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes were agreed to be a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising.

- a) Peat Gate - Cllr Silver has met with the Highways Officer to discuss the drainage problems at Peat Gate.
- b) West End Cottage - Cllr McCartney and the clerk met with the Highways Officer regarding the blocked drain at West End Cottage, Gunnerside and were advised that this gully will have a jet sent through it to clear the blockage.
- c) Children playing signs – the highways officer advised that it would not be possible to put up such signs in the village, due to the road layout, as cars were unlikely to be exceeding more than 20 mph in the village itself. Cllrs asked for this to be confirmed in writing, and the clerk will ask again if there is anything else that can be done.

5. Finance

- a) Insurance renewal

A quotation of £167.45 has been received for the insurance renewal with Zurich, which has increased from £164.45 last year. It was agreed unanimously by councillors to renew this with Zurich. The clerk to arrange this,

- b) Orders to pay were signed for the payments for the tree work in Gunnerside and the clerk confirmed that the cheques have been sent.

6. Highways

- a) Highways reply- meetings have taken place with the Highways Officer as minute 4a, b and c.

7. Richmondshire District Council

- a) Council tax precept calculation

Cllrs noted this information. RDC Cllr Blows advised that the overall council tax would be set in February and RDC have suggested a £5 increase to cover social care costs and County Council increase is expected although it is not known exactly how much this will be.

8. NYCCC

- a) NYCC permit scheme was noted by councillor formalising arrangements for road closures etc

9. YDNP

- a) Planning application: Dial House Gunnerside – no comments or objections raised.
- b) Planning decision: Rowleth Gardens, Strands: approved conditionally.
- c) Planning decision: Wardell Hall, Low Row: approved conditionally.
- d) Planning decision – Spensley House, Gunnerside. Approved conditionally.
- e) Spring 2018 Parish Forum – councillors noted that this would be taking place at West Burton Village Hall on Monday 23rd April 2018.
- f) Review of Parish Forum initiative.

The clerk will complete this questionnaire.

10. AOB

a) Council tax on second homes

It was confirmed that the discussion regarding increasing council tax on second homes will be considered by Richmondshire District Council at the end of February and this will be the first of the District Councils to consider this. (Eden and Craven will be considering this next).

RDC Cllr Blows advised that together with RDC Cllr Yvonne Peacock he has met with second home owners and residents from DHOAG (Dales Home Owners Action Group) to address their concerns. The council was advised that the membership of this group is not just second home owners but also includes permanent residents, and consists a large body of people within the village of Gunnerside.

No formal consultation is planned, and it was confirmed that this is just in an exploratory stage at the moment.

Councillors agreed unanimously that they are opposed to the proposal of increasing council tax on second homes and asked RDC Cllr Blows to take these views forward to the meeting.

b) Defibrillator

A request has been received to fund the replacement of items linked to the defibrillator at Low Row Institute, and after contacting other defibrillator organisers in the area, it appears that there may be funding available from the Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) to replace these. Parish Council funds are quite low until the precept is received and the clerk will advise to contact YAS initially to see what may be available and also to consider other funding options such as Reeth Gazette community chest.

c) Friarage Hospital update

Councillors noted this information.

d) Clerk was asked to contact Highways regarding gritting during the recent cold weather and snow, when the roads were only gritted on the hills and no grit was put on the flat sections of road.

e) Clerk to report the street light on Bridge corner, Gunnerside.

f) Clerk to enquire when the street light at Toledo will be replaced.

11. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Parish Council meeting and will be held at Low Row Institute on Thursday March 29th at 7.30pm.

As there was no other business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm.