

Grinton Parish Council meeting, Monday 3rd January 2011 at 7.15pm in Grinton Parish Hall.

Present: Chairman Cllr H Brown, Cllrs Alderson, Porter, Sunter and Coates, the clerk and County Councillor J Blackie. There were no apologies for absence.

Minutes of the last meeting were read, approved and signed.

Matters Arising: Highways will remove vegetation growing out of Grinton bridge.

The Environment Agency advises that Works in Rivers consent is required if there will be an obstruction to the water flow e.g. creating a dry area. If householders wished to work together with a similar solution one consent should cover all works.

Mr & Mrs Colman do not wish to hold a license for use of the village green as they still claim an easement. The Council do not agree with their position and will continue to investigate. It was noted from the minutes in 1996 that the Council wrote to the owners of adjoining property confirming that the ground was village green and should be kept clear. Copy of this minute will be forwarded. The clerk advised that Mrs Colman had enquired about any references in the minute book, this was the only detail she had found and had advised Mrs Colman.

Correspondence: RDC had forwarded a list of activities for the Over 50's which are held in the Richmondshire Area.

The National Park Governance review is available on the DEFRA website. Cllr Blackie urged the council to respond to this document, as whilst such groups as the ramblers association and horse society are included in the consultation, Parish Council's are not included. The document looks at how the authority members work, and he concerned it could reduce the membership cutting out any Upper Dales representation.

Cllr Blackie also expressed concerns over proposed cut backs by the government. The National Park budget has been cut by £1.7m. Hudson House tourist information and the local ranger service are both being considered for possible savings. Cllr Blackie and Cllr Brown have resigned from Hudson House to enable them to be included in any discussions. If cutbacks take into consideration cost per head, the sparsely populated Upper Dales, which already has very few services, will suffer.

With acute stroke/trauma cases now being referred to James Cook Hospital in Middlesbrough, Cllr Blackie is campaigning for additional ambulance cover for the dales as, with the increased journey times, there will be times the current ambulance is unavailable.

NYCC has confirmed that stocks of salt are in place for winter gritting. They have also issued guidelines for people wishing to clear snow and ice on pathways.

NYCC has awarded a contract to Amey Cespa for the management of waste in North Yorkshire and York for 25 years. A planning application will be submitted early this year for the Allerton Waste Recovery Park, along with an application to the Environment Agency for an operating permit.

RCVS newsletter, Yorks Dales Leader December newsletter, C.A.B. Annual Report, N Parks Planning Agenda, White Rose Update and a report from the Link meeting attended by Cllr Coates were all at hand.

Precept: It was resolved to set the precept for 2011/2012 at £1500; this is no increase on last year's precept.

As there was no further business the chairman closed the meeting. Next meeting will be held on Monday 7th March 2011 at 7.15pm in Grinton Parish Hall.