

Grinton Parish Council meeting, Monday 1st July 2013 at 7.15pm in Grinton Parish Hall

Present: Chairman Cllr H Brown, Cllrs Porter, Coates, Sunter and Alderson, the clerk, local press secretary and two members of the public. County Cllr J Blackie joined the meeting later. Apologies were received from District Cllr M Gardner.

The chairman signed a declaration of acceptance of office. Minutes of the last meeting were read, approved and signed.

Matters Arising: It was noted that parking during the Swaledale Festival had improved due to better signage and information in programmes and on tickets.

The area ranger will check the white footbridge near Crossbeck and if it requires painting it could be an ideal project for National Park volunteers.

Kathy Stevenson, NYCC, has contacted Yorkshire Water for an update of the bank erosion and possible threat to the sewer pipe by the small road bridge.

Correspondence: YNDP has advised of the removal of two sycamores at Stubbin Farm, Harkerside.

Area 1 Highways has forwarded details of road works/closures on the B6270 at Hags Hill Farm and the C106 Grinton to Leyburn moor road. The former is now completed; the latter is currently being carried out. Cllr Blackie advised this road is closed all day not just between commuting times. A list of approved highways schemes to be funded from the Highways capital programme 2013/2014 and 2014/2015 had been provided by NYCC for information. It was noted that £600k is ear marked for slope stabilisation works on the B6270 Downholme to Grinton, with a further £360k on the same road for landslip schemes in 2014/2015.

An application has been submitted to the Richmondshire Area Partnership Funding Scheme for works on the parish hall, shelter and village seats.

A copy of Rural Action Yorkshire's Winter Weather Agents Toolkit, YLCA Annual review and meeting 2012/2013 and Clerks and Councils Direct were at hand.

Finance: It was resolved to pay Npower £111.45.

Any other business: Cllr Blackie updated the Council of concerns for rural GP practises arising from the discontinuation of the minimum income guarantee. Most of this funding goes to small practises in towns where other surgeries are available but rural areas will also be affected where this is not an option.

Funding was based on the numbers of patients attending a practise but in sparsely populated rural areas individual surgeries are limited in the numbers of local inhabitants. It was also noted the increased travel required when making house calls. Clerk was instructed to write to local MP William Hague voicing these concerns and supporting the provision of special funding arrangements to ensure continuation of this vital local service.

As there was no further business the chairman closed the meeting. Next meeting: Monday 2nd September 2013, at 7.15pm in Grinton Parish Hall.