

# Kirk Smeaton Parish Council

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**Minutes** of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 29th March 2017 at 1930 hrs in the Community Room, Kirk Smeaton School.

- 1     **Present:** Harry Bickerton (Chairman)  
Jayne Cooper; Elaine Bartlett; Martin Donlon: (Councillors)  
Apologies: Cllr John Steel  
8 members of the public were in attendance
  
- 2     **Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest
  
- 3     **Minutes of the meeting** held on 24th January 2017 were approved and signed as a true record.
  
- 4     **Matters Arising:** There were no matters arising.
  
- 5     **Public Questions and Issues:**
  - It was brought to the Council's attention that residents of Rectory Court had been woken by 2 youths in the middle of the nights of Saturday and Sunday (25th and 26th March) wearing masks and hoods and brandishing an iron bar and shovel, wreaking havoc, fighting and breaking windows and trying to break into a resident's car. Residents were petrified and extremely upset and some female residents were on their own and very vulnerable. It appears that the 2 youths are living at Kimberley House and the staff did not know that they were out of the house. Further discussion took place and it was agreed that Kimberley House (Cambian) has been irresponsible and have a duty of care both to residents of the Village and to the youths. One resident has filed an official complaint of criminal damage with the Police. It was agreed to look at the original agreement with Kimberley House and to write to the Manager at Kimberley House to ask clearly what their intentions are with regard to the residents involved and to ensure there is not a recurrence of the incident. They must take responsibility for this incident. A copy of the letter will be sent to the Police to keep them informed and the Clerk will be informed who is dealing with the incident. The Chairman suggested that if necessary the Council will have a formal meeting with the Management of Kimberley House on behalf of the residents. This was agreed.
  - It was raised that the borders (beds) on the Village Green were looking untidy. It was agreed to ask Dave Bastow to spend some time on these.

Signed .....Chairman     Date.....  
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- The area on Wentedge Road being used as a lay-by was discussed.
- The cleaning of the bus-shelter was discussed and JS has agreed to continue keeping it in good order.

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- It was reported that some benches on the Green are looking shabby. The Chairman will contact AH as he has offered to clean and oil them. It was agreed that the Council would pay for the oil etc.

## 6 Village Green and Village Matters:

- **Flagpole:** The Clerk reported that none of the suppliers can help with the planning permission. The Clerk is to ask SDC for the relevant plans and Cllr Donlon will help with the application.
- **Hanging Baskets:** The hanging baskets have been ordered and would be installed in May
- **Hedge Planting on Water Lane:** Cllr Donlon reported that residents have queried the installation of a hedge on Water Lane and requested that the order is changed to trees and no hedge. The Chairman agreed to speak to Ian Jakulis from TCV.
- **Parking Issues on Main Street:** The Clerk reported that a letter had been sent to the Headmistress of KS Primary School but had no response. Cllr Bartlett offered to enquire if a letter had been sent to parents and would report back to the Clerk. Parking at school times was still an issue. NB Cllr Wiles has since reported that a note has appeared on the school newsletter asking parents to park with care and within the markings.
- **Theft in Brockadale Car Park:** It has been reported that a car has been broken into in the car park in Brockadale and items stolen. A notice has been erected warning that thieves are operating in the area. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to YWT regarding the theft and the fly tipping asking if a representative would like to attend the next meeting to discuss a way forward.
- **Pathway on Water Lane:** The Clerk reported that poor state of the pathway was reported and Gary Lumb replied that it would be considered in 2018/19.
- **Mole on Village Green:** The Chairman agreed to speak to Mrs P Poskitt regarding this, and ask for details of the Mole person she uses.

## 7 Highways Matters:

- **Vehicle Activated Signs:** The Chairman reported that he had met with D Griffiths who is in charge of all VAS in North Yorkshire. He will object strongly

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if we install these on highways land. We can put them on private land. Mr Griffiths is prepared to install 2 x VAS on the roadside for 18 weeks per year costing the Council £6,000 over 4 years. It was agreed to purchase our own and place them on private land. This has been agreed with Ian Elwiss the landowner. Discussion took place regarding the need for one on Water Lane. It was agreed to monitor the VAS on Wentedge Road. Discussion will need to take place on its position.

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- **Wentedge Road Update and Village Gateways:** The Chairman will speak to Gary Lumb.
- **Fly-tipping on Long Lane and Waster Campaign:** The Council discussed the long-term problem of fly-tipping on Long Lane. The Clerk will suggest this as one of the areas for SDC to use for their Innovative Art Project.
- **Middlefield Lane traffic issues:** Bulk tipper lorries are using this lane to get to the A1 and residents are very concerned. It was suggested for safety, that we apply to Highways England that this road be closed off. Residents will be approached. The Chairman will meet with John McCartney and discuss this further. It was reported that a serious head-on collision had occurred at the junction with Middlefield Lane on Friday 24th March. The police reported that this was due to poor visibility. Clerk to write to Area7.

## 8 Allotment and Cemetery:

- The shed needs to be emptied. One of the Allotment holders has agreed to take the wood. Another allotment holder has agreed to take the tools and if no-one claims them they will be skipped. The tap will need to be moved and keys made. This will be put on the next Agenda.
- **Cemetery:** The Clerk requested clarification on the pre-purchase of plots. It was clarified that anyone can pre-purchase a plot and agreed that if someone requested to reserve a plot then they will be issued with a certificate to be handed back to the Clerk when the plot is needed and the next available plot will be made available. A list of pre-purchased plots will be kept together with a copy of the certificate together with the date of purchase.

## 9 Correspondence:

- **Footpaths Consultation:** The Clerk to write to GI regarding her response on this matter as the time has now expired for comments.

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- **Schedule of meetings:** GI has requested our meetings are scheduled before the 15th of each month. This was agreed and will be scheduled for the year at the Annual Meeting.

## 10 Planning Matters:

- **Wind Turbines at Norton:** permission has not been granted.
  
- **Quarry Planning Meeting:** The meeting has now been scheduled for 6th June 2017. It was reported that a resident had been run off the road and was most upset and reported it to the Police. Anyone experiencing a similar incident must report it to the Police quoting the following reference number: OP Spartan 1703170435 and also report to James Blythe. Clerk will request for this announcement to be inserted in the magazine.
- **Kimberley Appeal:** It was reported that an appeal has been sent to the Secretary of State appealing against SDC's decision to refuse the planning application.
- **Hodge Lane Planning Application:** There were no objections.
- **18 Springfield Crescent:** It was reported that this application has been refused.

## 11 Financial Matters:

- The statement of account for the year to end of March 2017 was agreed and signed.
- Cheques were signed for: Speak IT recorder; clerk's salary; web site hosting; petty cash; YLCA membership fee.
- It was agreed to accept **Zurich** insurance quotation
- The VAT for £938.66 has now been claimed.

## 12 Any other Business for information:

- There was no other business

## 14 Date of next meeting:

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- The date of the next meeting which will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will be 11th May 2017 at 1930 hrs. The Annual Open Meeting of the Parish will be held on the same date at 1900 hrs.

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