**KIRKBY OVERBLOW ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Minutes of the 124th Meeting held on Monday 20 May 2019

at Kirkby Overblow School

Present:

Parish Councillors: Mr D Yeadon, Mrs R Denwood, Mrs P Perry, Mrs A Whiteley and Mr S Snowden.

7 residents

In attendance: Mr M Richards (Clerk)

1. **Apologies for Absence** Cllr N Rawson, NYCC Cllr C Trotter and HBC Cllr A Paraskos
2. **Minutes of the 123rd Annual Parish Meeting**The minutes of the meeting held on 21st May 2018 were agreed as a true record, proposed by Cllr Denwood, seconded by Cllr Whiteley and duly signed by the Chairman.
3. **Chairman’s Report**

The Chairman (David Yeadon), presented his report, for the year. He firstly explained the absence of the NYCC and HBC councillors which was due to their attendance at the HBC “Mayor making ceremony” This annual event seems to clash with the normal timing of Parish Council meetings (always the third Monday of the month) For the future, it may be opportune to select a different date for the May meeting.
This is the 124th Village Annual Parish Meeting. We have had 15 planning applications – rather less than last year. The most significant application was for the stables development down Swindon Lane submitted by Lanzarote Sales. The subsequent appeal against HBC’s refusal was dismissed by the planning Inspector and the Parish Council is grateful for the generous donations by residents to the “fighting fund” which enabled input from the Leeds based planning lawyers, to support the Parish Council’s case. Action on Enforcement Notice on the land however, still remains to be taken. The Parish Council is monitoring progress.

Following long awaited road repairs all of the three roads into the village had a tar and chip surface dressing, but already some sections are showing signs of deterioration. There is also a problem of standing water on Swindon Lane, just below St Helen’s, after pronged rainfall. Our NYCC Councillor is following up on these issues.

The Parish precept was set at £6500 - an increase of £250 from the previous year. We have again instructed Sam Hesselden to continue with our grass cutting, following a re-tendering process. The recent community litter pick was very successful, with around 40 villagers collecting some 60 bags of rubbish. Thanks to all those involved, but particularly Ruth Denwood and Kerry Pickard for organising.

A village questionnaire is at the draft stage but awaits key decisions on a village venue or a heritage centre alternative. Plans have been drafted for a possible extension to the church but problems exist with regard to any excavation work. Meetings are ongoing to progress the initiative.
The Star and Garter remains closed with no signs of reopening and the Parish Council continues to monitor the position. A successful Christmas Community lunch was held in the church and there was an excellent KODS production. Regular monthly coffee mornings continue to be held in church.

The Chairman concluded by expressing his thanks to Cliff Trotter, our County Councillor, and Andrew Paraskos, our Borough Councillor, for their attendance at meetings and for their helpful advice and contributions. Special thanks also to Mike Richards for carrying out his duties in such a professional and efficient manner. He then invited questions and suggestions from the floor.

1. **Questions from residents**a) With regard to the village questionnaire and the proposal for establishing a Heritage Centre, a resident stated that draft plans had been drawn up and a meeting with HBC planners had been suggested, but when further enquiries were made it seems a fee of £400 will be required. This seems unreasonable and the Chairman will take the matter up with Cllr Paraskos.
It was confirmed that the wording of the questionnaire has been finalised but further work is needed on style and presentation. It had been agreed that the final questionnaire would be produced by a commercial printing company and the Chairman agreed that the Parish Council would meet the printing costs.
b) A resident expressed concern at the potential damage to “flora and fauna” due to (legitimate) cutting back of grass verges and hedges on Walton Head Lane. The Chairman confirmed that this had not been carried out by the Parish Council’s contractor, his contract only covers grass verges within the 30mph limit, nor would it be HBC who carry out a “rural cut” once per annum. He will enquire of local landowners for more information.
c) Cllr Denwood mentioned that the footpath between Follifoot Lane and Walton Head Lane needs attention. The Chairman stated that he was aware and had it in mind to infill with rubble – he will follow up.
d) A resident complained that the agenda for this meeting and the one for the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council had not been posted on the website. The clerk apologised for this oversight and undertook to make sure it did not recur.

The Chairman then concluded the discussion by thanking all for their attendance and participation.

The meeting terminated at 8.25, and all residents remained, to attend the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

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**The Meeting closed at 8.25pm**

**The 125th Annual Parish Meeting is planned for May 2020, 8pm at Kirkby Overblow School**

**(Date to be confirmed)**