

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF COWLING PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON :- 6th February 2017
At 7 pm at Saint Andrews Church**

Present Councillors P Boocock, M Benson, A Lynch, Cllr Denning and C Carter.

In Attendance: 4 members of the public, S Mason (Lengthsman), Cllr P Mulligan and A Mallinson clerk

09/1668 **Apologies**

Accepted apologies from Cllr Mercer due to work commitments.

09/1669 **Disclosures of interest**

None

09/1670 **Minutes**

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on the 9th January were accepted as a true record.

09/1671 **Clerk and Lengthsman's report**

The clerk had dealt with the Npower over charge and negotiated a £90 credit to the account due to inconvenience, as well as having the late payment charge of £40 cancelled.

A site meeting has been arranged for the 8th Feb with Creative Play and Mr G Devine to consider options for a new MUGA on the recreational field, ahead of a public meeting.

The Lengthsman reported that the big increase in dog fouling all around the village continues and there are approximately 80 piles of dog poo in the field at present. A local resident was allowing their dog to roam around the toddler's area and when challenged declined to remove their dog. The Lengthsman is not employed to pick up after dogs and does not have any legal powers to enforce issues.

09/1672 **Reports from invited guests**

Cllr Mulligan reported that the bridge at Lane Ends Lane had now been repaired. It was likely that the council tax at NYCC would go up by 3.99%. Accidents involving cyclists across North Yorkshire had gone up by 25%, possibly due to the increased number of cyclists on the roads because of the recent high profile cycling events. Cllr Boocock raised a concern that grit was now not being provided at the bottom of Lane Ends Lane and that the local farmers would have difficulties getting out. Cllr Mulligan agreed to look in to the matter.

09/1673 **Solar powered Christmas lights**

The clerk has received the invoice for the 2016/17 festive lights and an offer to reduce this by 25% due to the poor quality of the lights and the fact that most of them failed in the run up to Christmas. Councillors were not happy about the level of service that had been provided and that the company had not fulfilled its contract in providing festive lights for the festive period. It was acknowledged that the company did have to install and remove the lights and were prepared to pay an element of the invoice to recognise this.

Resolved: That the clerk be authorised to negotiate a discount of between 75 and 100% and report back to council with the company's decision.

09/1674 **Christmas lights**

Cllr Denning and Boocock have contacted a number of companies that provide festive lights and have been given an offer by Christmas Plus Ltd in Keighley to purchase some refurbished lights at a much-reduced cost. This was a time limited offer and was based on a first come basis.

The lights are ex rental and would be tested and cleaned before purchase.

The average cost of a refurbished single pole mounted LED light was £115 +vat, which compared favourably with a cost of £420 for new ones.

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Resolved: That 12 refurbished festive lights be purchased from Christmas Plus and the clerk be authorised to negotiate the best deal possible.

09/1675 **“Battles Over” National tribute**

The clerk had been contacted regarding a national event that is taking place in Nov 2018 whereby a minimum of 1,000 beacons would be lit across the country as well as other events taking place to commemorate 100 years of remembrance. By applying to be a part of this the Parish Council would be recognised in future media and correspondence and would require a working group to put together a programme of events.

Resolved: That the Parish Council joins in this celebration event and that Cllr Boocock heads up a working group to develop a programme of events.

09/1676 **Finance**

Resolved: That the accounts presented for payment were agreed.

Payee	Cheque No.	Details	Amount
A Mallinson	201528	January wages + paper	£431.86
S Mason	201529	January wages	£256.00
HMRC	201530	PAYE	£167.40
JBA Consulting	201531	50% payment Inv 2017/0297 drainage inspection	£900.00
Getmapping Plc	201532	On-line mapping service Inv 36ub022	£50.40
S Mason	201533	Litter picker equipment	£23.69
St Andrews Church	201534	Room hire	£144.00
		Total	£1,973.35

09/1677 **Planning**

Resolved: That the following comments are sent to CDC planning department

Planning Ref No.	Site Location	Brief Description of Proposal	Comments
22/2016/17639	Higher Stone Head Farm	Detached Building For Storage Of Tractors	Recommend refusal. See note 1
22/2017/17728	Lower Lane Ends Farm	Proposed building to house machinery	No comment
22/2017/17696	Lower Lane Ends Farm	Proposed building to house “dry cows”	No comment
22/2017/17748	Park House	Amended position to approved plans 22/2016/17598	No comment

Note 1

History:

The property featured on “Right-move” several years ago; described as follows:

“Higher Stone Head Farm dates from 1780 and will give a growing family a rare opportunity to acquire a charming four bedroom family home beautifully appointed throughout. Adjoining the house is a superb two storey barn with five stables and a substantial first floor area above - ripe for conversion subject to the necessary consents.”

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So, the property had an unconverted barn in early 2014. In April 2014 an application was put forward for conversion of that barn to domestic use, and this was passed. In this instance the property was referred to as “High Stone Head Farm” – not Higher.

Almost immediately after successfully removing the barn from the “Farm”, the owner decided he now needed a barn, and applied for one. This application for an agricultural store was refused for very good reasons. Essentially, the application was a poorly-disguised application to build a domestic-style stone house with windows and garden curtilage.

Reasons for refusal:

This current application differs very little from the previous one. It does not look like a tractor store or an agricultural building; having doors, windows, internal walls, interlocking doors and a house-type roof. There does not seem to be any access to the northern entrance; only the eastern entrance has a driveway.

The “Farm” is not a working farm; a small-holding at best. The owner has already stated that there is no need for a barn, by converting the original one which existed in 2013. The proposed building is essentially a domestic bungalow in appearance and style.

Cowling Parish Council consider that the proposed “tractor store”, due to its use of materials, its site location, its proposed domestic-garden-style curtilage and drive, its internal and external domestic elements (such as internal walls and adjoining doors), and its scale would have a negative environmental impact on the character and appearance of the area.

It would also adversely impact on the main adjacent listed building, its setting, and significance. Any potential benefits of the proposal are significantly and demonstrably outweighed by the harm.

The application is contrary to the aims and objectives of the National Planning Policy Framework, guidance contained within the PPS5: Planning for the Historic Environment Practice Guide and Saved Policy ENV2 of the Craven District (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) Local Plan.

09/1678 Verbal reports from working groups and committee reps

- a. **Planning and environment:** Nothing further.
- b. **Residents group:** Nothing further.
- c. **Rec grounds:** Cllr Boocock agreed to use his chairman’s allowance to pay for room hire to host the public meeting to discuss plans for the recreational field. It was aimed to have the meeting on the 14th March in the village hall. Mr Devine was co-ordinating the event.
- d. **Mapping and Assets:** Nothing further.
- e. **Finance and staffing:** Nothing further.
- f. **Festive lights:** Nothing further.
- g. **Allotments:** The clerk will investigate a potential sub-let issue.

09/1679 Correspondence (For information and to form future agenda items)

Planning consents noted, CDC have offered to install a CCTV camera in the recreational field to try and catch owners who let their dogs foul on the grass and do not pick it up afterwards. CDC no longer have dog wardens for this purpose.

09/1680 Members community reports

Cllr Denning had met with some local children to discuss facilities in the recreational field and they had requests a large cycle track and that a youth club be set up. The children had also complimented the Lengthsman on the work that he does.

09/1681 To agree and note the time and date of the next Parish Council Meeting

Resolved: That the next meeting is to be held on Monday 6th March 2017 at 7pm at Saint Andrews Church.

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Draft Minutes Subject to Confirmation at the meeting
6th March 2017

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Meeting closed at 9.30 pm

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