

TEMPLE SOWERBY PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday 15th January 2018 in the Victory Hall. This commenced at 7pm

Present were Councillors Kevin Overs (KO) (Chairman), Martyn Cannon (MC), Angela Mathers (AM), Caryl Varty (CV) and District Councillor Sawrey-Cookson (HSC). Also present was Caroline Fennell (Clerk) together with 12 parishioners.

Item 1 – Apologies – Jonathan Richardson (JR), County Councillor David Whipp (DW)

Item 2 – Minutes

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 7th November be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Item 3 – Requests for Dispensation – None

Declarations of Interests – None

Item 4 – Introduction to Amy McGowan, Operations Manager at Acorn Bank

Amy McGowan introduced herself to the Parish Councillors and the parishioners as the new Operations Manager at Acorn Bank. She discussed the recent planning application made by the National Trust for internal alterations for fire protection, and that this was in place due to the national Trust improving fire safety at their historic houses following a major fire at one of the properties some time ago. This is something that is being done at all the National Trust Historic Houses. Ms McGowan confirmed that David Cox from EDC Planning Dept and the conservation Officer had visited the property and had no objection to the plans, however Acorn bank were still awaiting a response from EDC.

Ms McGowan also confirmed that Acorn Bank will be opening 7 days a week from 23rd March, and that they are looking at the possibility of opening some of the facilities year round. This years Apple Day was confirmed to be on 14th October 2018.

Item 5 – Adjournment of Meeting

No items raised

Item 6 – Chairman will report on matters from last minutes, not listed on agenda.

It was confirmed that the Digital Inclusion Event will be going ahead on 23rd January 2018. Parishioners are encouraged to attend, and a leaflet drop will be undertaken throughout the village to make all villagers aware of the event.

Item 7 – Parish Houses

Confirmation had been received from the Valuations Office that the Fair Rent for 3 Crossfell View has been increased to £47.50 per week. Tenant aware.

CF confirmed that the tap and lock repairs to 2 Crossfell View were now completed.

Item 8 – Planning Matters

Planning Application 17/1032 - Myrtle Cottage – removal of trees and crown reduction – no objection

Planning Application 17/1047 – Meadows End – removal of birch tree – no objection

Planning Application 17/1080 – Cob Cottage – 2 x beech: fell trees, 2 x birch: fell trees; replant away from wall with suitable species – no objection

Planning Application 17/1099 – Village Green – removal of rowan T16 and various pruning works to trees on village green – should have confirmation through for work to commence by 1st February 2018

Planning Application 17/1018 – Acorn Bank – listed building consent for internal alteration (fire protection) – no objection

Planning Application 17/0984 – Swan Cottage – listed building consent for works to kitchen – granted by EDC

Planning Application 17/0985 – Swan Cottage – listed building consent for installation of bunded oil tank and associated works – granted by EDC

Item 9 – Village Greens, Play area, Trees, etc.

- The council currently have use of three notice boards in the village. The lock on the Victory Hall notice board is currently jammed, the Victory Hall committee are aware. There are plans to upgrade the notice board when building works to Victory hall are complete. In the meantime, the Parish Council agreed to stop using this notice board until works are completed.
- Hardcore parking area at Sunnybank was discussed along with a recent letter from the occupant of 2 Sunnybank. The Parish Council agreed that people don't fully understand the constraints regarding Village Greens and discussed how this could be communicated better – information regarding this could go in to the village newsletter.

The residents of 1 Sunnybank were present at the meeting and have kindly offered to remove the top layer of gravel to allow grass to grow back. The residents confirmed they are in full agreement in supporting the Village Green but would like to see a wider plan in place to protect the Green.

The Parish Council thanked them for their kind offer. AM suggested it would be worthwhile for the Parish Council to do a walk around the Village Green to come to a long-term plan about any areas that may need attention. This will be discussed further at the next Parish Council meeting.

- The Playsafe Ltd playground inspection report has been received. Two areas of concern were highlighted as needing attention, namely an area of loose matting and some worn down grass. KO and MC will take a look and address the issue.
- The three tenders for the upcoming tree work on the Village Green were discussed. It was agreed to award the tender to Orchard Tree Services who offered the most competitive quote.

A parishioner raised an issue regarding T45 affecting a dry-stone wall due to its [positioning very close to the wall. He confirmed that he had sought advice from Rob Sim at EDC who had no objection to the felling of the tree, but that ultimately this decision lay with the Parish Council. Parish Councillors wanted to familiarise themselves with the tree and CF to gain feedback from Rob Sim to pass on to councillors. CF to recontact parishioner and update following this.

- The upcoming contract for grass cutting was discussed. It was confirmed that Countrywide have a 12-month contract which ends March 2018. Whilst some issues have been raised, it was agreed that it had been an unusually wet year with exceptional grass growth. It was also agreed that Countrywide were a lot cheaper than any other tenders for the contract. It was agreed to try them for a further 12 months. CF to obtain a quote for the grass cutting, and a quote for collection of the grass from the Village Green.
- AM brought an issue from JR regarding changing the contact names with the Land Registry for the Village Greens. Arnison Heelis Solicitors have kindly offered to undertake this at no cost to the Council. The Parish Council agreed to go ahead with this.
- Feedback was received from CV following a meeting with EDC and CALC regarding the devolution of footway lighting. EDC have provided a list of 'agreed' and 'non-agreed' lights in each Parish. EDC have offered, should Parish Councils agree to sign up, to provide annual grants towards the running costs of the 'agreed' lights, reducing each year until 2022 whereby the Parish Councils will take full control over the running costs of the lights. Parish Councils have until 1st April 2018 to decide whether to sign up to this agreement with EDC. The first year will be funded 100% by EDC, however running costs will then have to be picked up by councils, namely in the form of the parish precept. EDC have agreed to update and replace all 'agreed' lights prior to 2022. CV suggested that at some stage we should have an open meeting about the lighting and options, involving the whole village, since this is an issue of significant public interest. Parish Councils also must agree what direction to take with the 'non-agreed' lights. EDC will run these lights until the point at which they fail or are deemed unsuitable, at which time they will be removed. Parish Councils do have the option to take on the running of these lights however the full cost of this will fall to the Parish Councils. There are currently a lot of unanswered questions from EDC regarding the transfer of the lights. It was agreed that

the Parish Council will further discuss this at the next meeting when more information is available, and a final decision will be made.

Item 10 – Defibrillator Pads

The current defibrillator pads expire in April 2018, at a cost of £29 + VAT to replace. There is currently a set with the defibrillator and a spare set. After some discussion about the use of the defibrillator and what happens when it is used, it was decided that a spare set was not required, as the defibrillator would initially be removed by paramedics if used. This would give the Parish Council time to order a replacement set of pads as and when required. It was agreed to order one set in replacement, although this is not required until March.

Parishioners were reminded that there is Resus and First Aid Training to be held in the pub on 17th January at 1pm which parishioners are welcome to attend.

Item 11 – Council Tax Consultation Survey

The public consultation asking for views on increasing council tax for policing was discussed. The general consensus was that this would probably happen regardless of feedback. It was agreed there would be no Parish Council response, but councillors and parishioners could respond individually in they wished to.

Item 12 – Parishioners complaint to EDC

As this was an agenda item suggested by JR, CV proposed that in JR's absence this should be addressed at the next Parish Council meeting. This was agreed.

Item 13 – Accounts and Financial Report

Income:	1 Crossfell View – November & December	£ 540.00
	2 Crossfell View – November & December	£ 640.00
	3 Crossfell View – November & December	£ 368.32
	TOTAL	£ 1548.32

Expenses:

Metcalfes Plant Hire	£ 600.00
Countrywide (Oct & Nov)	£ 440.00
Clerks expenses	£ 61.60
TS Victory Hall (hire fees)	£ 120.00
BDO External Auditors	£ 120.00
PCC of Temple Sowerby	£ 250.00

Balances at		
31/12/2017: Community Account	£	4,638.90
Business Money Manager Account	£	4,799.07
Penrith Building Society (Maypole Account)	£	1,170.34
Penrith Building Society (Parish Houses Account)	£	7,091.56

Cheques to authorise:		
Countrywide (Grass Cutting Dec & Jan)	£	440.00
CALC Course Fees	£	32.50
Clerks expenses	£	33.24
C Fennell reimbursement for locksmith	£	50.00
A Fancott-Beynon Plumbing	£	70.25
Playsafe Ltd	£	88.20

The Parish precept was discussed, alongside looking at the Parish Councils accounts. It was agreed that the precept should remain the same for the upcoming year 2018/19. CF to submit precept application to EDC.

There was also a discussion regarding taking a membership of Open Spaces, an organisation that promotes and offers advice on Village Greens. CF to arrange

Item 10 – Correspondence

All correspondence received since the last meeting has been circulated.

An issue of a blocked drain was raised outside the Victory Hall – United Utilities to be contacted.

The Chairman thanked those present and announced that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 6th March 2018 at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed Date