**Sinnington Parish Council**

**Parish Council Meeting 11th July 2016**

1. **Apologies for absence:** from Bill Baldwin.
2. **The Chairman** welcomed all to the meeting including two members of the public.
3. **Election of new councillor Martin Baxter.** The chairman welcomed Martin to the committee. He has now completed all the necessary forms and declarations to enable him to undertake full duties as a councillor.
4. **The minutes of the last meeting** held on the 11th May 2016 (previously circulated) were approved.
5. **Matters arising**:-

(a)Honesty Box. The amount collected was £160.06. The next two months to be collected by Cllr. Browes. The Clerk requested that the parking box be emptied every month and the monies to be banked now on a monthly basis.

(b)Foot paths in Stables and Roffe Woods. As Bill Baldwin was absent no further information was available regarding the footpaths. It is known that he is still awaiting a visit from the Woodland Trust to access the situation.

(c)  Village hall extension and green parking. As there is no longer a requirement to deregister the land involved with the extension a letter has been sent to the village hall committee to go ahead with the plans. There has been a slight change to the original plans involving 2 access areas to disabled toilets. They now need to allow for wheelchair access. Therefore new plans will need to be submitted and paid for by the village hall committee. The new car park seems to be working well now the sign is in place. It was brought up by Martin Baxter that the method of funding should be available in case of public scrutiny. This has already been discussed and clarified at previous meetings.

(d) Dog bin/Rubbish bin village green. After a meeting with one of the street scene operatives it was agreed that the current bins are no longer fit for purpose due to vermin infestation and general poor state. It was proposed that we replace all 3 bins with one new large bin to be sited next to the current dog waste bin and then remove the old bins. The new bin will be for dog and general waste and will be signed accordingly. The cost will be £150.

(e)Condition of footpaths. A member of public has complained about the state of the footpath at the top of Dark lane and also the Cropton footpath. There is a lot of grass now growing over the path, although the path itself is in good condition. It was agreed that a working party could be organised to tidy this up in the near future.

(f) Land drains. After the problems of recent flooding off the land at the back of Friars hill and also around church lane the clerk contacted North Yorkshire County Council to see if the current drains could be improved. After checking with the primary school it was established that there are no extra drains to deal with water off the fields behind and that the current drains and gullies onto Friars hill could not be improved due to cost. They stated that the current drains are cleaned on a regular basis. It is not known who is responsible for the drains on church lane although it was thought to be the land owner’s responsibility. We are looking into improving the effectiveness of the land drains in the fields behind the main street, but will need to contact the contractors who farm the land.

(g) Village trees. The clerk has been advised that the trees the village is responsible for will need to be inspected by a tree consultant for insurance liability purposes. The clerk will seek advice from John Clayton at Ryedale council.

(h) Letter received regarding road safety at village junction. A letter has been received from a Mr Stokes who unfortunately witnessed a fatal accident on the junction on 30th March 2014. He raised concerns to the safety of the junction and wanted to make some suggestions to the council for improvements which then could be passed on to the highways dept for consideration. After much discussion it was concluded that we should write to Mr Stokes to say we agree with his concerns and that we are looking into safety and would like to have the junction reaccessed by the highways dept . Roger has written to the traffic dept in the past highlighting the problems and suggesting that new red lining to show no overtaking be put on the road. The reply was that due to cost it was not appropriate. Roger suggested that we put together a file of all the past problems and proposals to improve safety for consideration. We will therefore contact the highways dept to open a discussion about the past and ongoing problems at the junction with a view to making changes to the layout.

**6. External meetings. (a) YLCA Annual branch meeting. (b) Slowing the flow meeting.**

(a) Roger attended the meeting and reported the following. There is still money available under the transparency fund for hardware relating to parish business being reported on the website and also internet costs etc. He also reported that the parish website may not be supported by Ryedale council in the future and that some parishes have now set up their own websites. If we ever went for this option it was stated that the webmaster at Ryedale council would still be prepared to service our website. It was also reported that the membership cost would increase by 4.9% and next year by 1.4%. There is also a possibility that all new planning applications would be sent via the internet instead of getting a paper copy as present.

(b) Roger attended the meeting and reported the following. There were 15 dams damaged after the heavy rainfall late last year of which 12 have been repaired at a cost of £5.000 The repairs did not cost the village anything as they are on forestry commission land. In future the costs may have to be met by landowners and parishes were they are on their land. Although river levels have stayed ok there has been some flooding off the land. The parish has written to the drainage board with a view to improving drainage through land management. Alan Eves will be involved in giving details of the problems for investigation and possible solutions.

**7. Finance**

(a) The clerk confirmed that the annual accounts return had been sent off to the external auditor last month. The current bank balance was £2,739 before any further bills were presented.

(b)Invoice for The Garth £10.00 paid on 10/6/16

(c) Clerks salary and expenses for previous 3 months £207.04 paid 8/7/16

(d) New football net £26 outstanding

**8*.* Planning applications**:-

(a) 16/01030/FUL Ms Elizabeth Newbronner Formation of a 20m by 30m all weather area for horse turn out and riding for private use only on land East of Main St Sinnington.  Registered  No objections raised by committee                                                             

(b) 16/00090/FUL Mr & Mrs N B Hobbs, Erection of an agricultural building for the storage of equipment and machinery. Approved

(c) There will be a separate meeting of the council to discuss the recent planning application made on Main Street by Mr and Mrs Ward. 

**9. AOB.**

A mower has been donated to the village by Bernard Clements to help with the maintenance of grass areas in the village. The committee wish to pass on their thanks for this kind donation to help with the upkeep of the grass areas throughout the village. Roger discussed the village sign on the east side of the village and would like thoughts and suggestions on a new sign to improve the entrance to the village.

The gas logger post on Main Street will be moved to a more suitable position near the bus shelter on 18/7/16. The gas board use this to monitor gas pressure and requirements for the village. A member of the public also raised a problem with the drain near box tree cottage. It was agreed to contact NYCC to discuss a longer term solution to the problems.

**Date of next meeting: Monday 12th September 2016 at 7.00 pm**

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.