

KIRKBY MALHAMDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes (279) for Monday 3rd April 2017 @ 7.30pm

Present: C Wildman, P Dewhurst, N Heseltine, T Bullough, C Newhouse, M Throup (from 8.20pm) and A Bradley (from 8.45pm)

Observing: Margaret Rand, Roger Rand, Sandy Todd, Linda Hodson, Joyce Thacker, Ronnie Ingham, Laura Parker, Mick Parker, Angela Jackson, Malcolm Wilson, David Newhouse, Shelagh Marshall, Gill Quinn and Alan Sutcliffe

Alan Sutcliffe and Gill Quinn departed at 8.05pm. Shelagh Marshall departed at 8.45pm

ROUTINE BUSINESS

1. Public Questions

The ongoing and escalating parking problems in Malham Village was raised by the audience and chairman Chris Wildman agreed that this would be covered in the normal course of events during the meeting as it was a major discussion topic.

2. Apologies

Pat Wherity.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

March '17 Minutes approved – prop. Neil Heseltine, sec. Tony Bullough.

4. Matters Arising

Tony Bullough confirmed that the National Trust will pay 50% (c. £113) of the cost of one of the new dog poo bins that the PC are purchasing. He also confirmed that the National Trust will install the new dog poo bin on the footpath (gate) towards Malham Cove in the agreed location and they will also remove the existing concrete bin sited near the first pedestrian gate by the campsite at the top end of Malham Village.

Alan Sutcliffe pointed out that Item 6 in Feb '17 Minutes referred to Gargrave Library and in fact it is officially known as Gargrave & Malhamdale Library.

Shelagh Marshall pointed out that the Locality Grant is intended to benefit the community and for wider benefit of the community. Also confirmed that the £1,000 grant available in 2016/17 has now been fully allocated but from May '17 a further, new £1,000 would become available for grant purposes and therefore suitable application should be submitted asap from May '17.

Gill Quinn as the new District Councillor confirmed that her correct name is Gill Quinn and not Joan Quinn (as referenced in Point 7, March '17 Minutes).

Update on Monthly Action Points from March 2017:

- TB to ask the National Trust about siting a new bin on the cove path and for possible contribution. **Done.**
 - CW to email café re 'Keep Britain Tidy' posters – **some posters/papers now been received by CW.**
 - PD to write in support of the school and Windy Pike planning applications. **Done.**
 - CW to check dates to facilitate search through the Minutes to see if there has been a vote on trading our claim on the court costs for Mr Cawood's claim on Village Green access (?). **Ongoing.**
 - PW to contact A Boatwright re missing benches. **Benches have now reappeared after winter maintenance.**
 - PW/PD to check details before updating Risk Assessment document following insurance changes. **Ongoing and to be actioned as part of updating Risk Assessment for AGM at May PC meeting.**
 - PC to clarify brief for children at Kirkby Malham school to devise cartoons, posters, etc. **Deferred until action plan on litter and Keep Malham Tidy project has been agreed.**
 - PD to contact Highways re poor pothole repair and the BT manhole cover by Malham Primary School. **Done and repairs now completed satisfactorily.**
 - PW to contact Maude Construction about access kerb to Green, path to the bench and turf to replace seeding behind the new setts. **Ongoing. PW has had regular email communication with Maude Construction. Nearing decision.**
 - CW to talk to Mr Chandler about path to bench and access to his gate. **Actioned.**
 - PC to monitor illegal parking on Green before making decision about Magistrate involvement next month. **Discussed at April PC meeting.**
 - PD to write in support of William Wildman. **Done.**
 - PC to draw up policy document re filming. **Ongoing.**
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- Also, Rima Berry consulted at Leader Project for grant funding towards Village Green repairs but indication seemed not to be favourable and therefore PC not progressing this route of potential funding assistance.

5. Council Matters

Registration papers for Carol Newhouse being appointed as a Parish Councillor have been completed and to be submitted to CDC by Phill Dewhurst.

6. County Councillor's Report

Cllr Shelagh Marshall confirmed that Highways have allocated additional funding for road repairs as Yorkshire has more Km's of highways than any other county in GB. Also advised that Highways review winter gritting routes every September so comments should be fed back to Highways by June/July ideally in order to be considered in the Highways September review. Confirmed that there was no new money available for winter gritting meaning that any additional gritting requirements would have to be offset by reduced gritting in other areas/locations.

Chairman Chris Wildman proposed a sincere vote of thanks to Shelagh Marshall, who is now retiring, for her many years of fantastic support provided to KMPC. As this was Shelagh's last attendance at a KMPC meeting she was presented with a bouquet of flowers on behalf of KMPC and the wider community in thanks for her wonderful contribution. Cllr Marshall expressed her sincere thanks for this gesture and the support she has received in return over many years.

Cllr Gill Quinn attended her second KMPC meeting and will now replace Cllr Marshall as our County Councillor.

7. District Councillor's Report

Cllr Alan Sutcliffe reported on plans to build new homes for shared ownership and that this will be moving forward. CDC have chosen Barnfield Construction as their partner who will be putting in 70% of costs and taking 70% of any profits. CDC's contribution and profit share will be the remaining 30%. S106 Agreements using commuted sums to accelerate these developments by funding purchase of affordable housing and then letting out of that housing on an affordable basis, thereby hopefully generating income for CDC in the process. AS confirmed that the planning authority now are not only responsible for planning applications and suitability but now also responsible for delivering of housing stock, matching planning needs and delivery of required housing. This only applies to delivery of developments for over 10 houses. In order to fund these wider responsibilities for planning department CDC will be increasing planning fees by +20% on developments of 10 houses or more. This increase in planning fees will take effect only when approved by CDC, expected to be in a 2 – 3 month timeframe from March/April 2017. CDC elections to take place on 5th May 2017.

8. Parking Strategy

Update – Chris Wildman had received an email from Sandy Todd on parking survey information which provided heartfelt views and suggestions regarding the growing parking problems being experienced in Malham Village.

Chris Wildman confirmed that a meeting is being arranged with Highways to visit Malham for a site visit and walk around the Village to discuss this key Parish matter. A parking strategy committee/group has been established and it was agreed that details of the Highways visit would be circulated to this group for participation and discussion.

Additional comments that were made or discussed which the parking strategy group should take into account were as follows:-

- Suggestion for yellow lines to be painted on the Listers side of Finkle Street all the way up to Cherry Tree Cottages in order to try and remove the incidence of parking in this area of very narrow road.
- Finkle Street and Malham Brow were both areas that were largely gridlocked over the weekend of 1/2 April when the parking problem reached crisis point and access into/out of Malham was extremely problematic and at some times impossible.
- The parking problems over the weekend of 25/26 March were exacerbated by the Maverick arranged running event at Malham Tarn. Although prior communication had been established between Maverick and KMPC it seems that the organisers of the Maverick event ignored and disregarded requests from KMPC to not park in Malham.
- It was suggested (but not verified) that YDNP may have agreed to sell 50 parking tickets to the Maverick event organisers for that date and this would have then absorbed 50 parking spaces that would otherwise have been available to tourist visitors and day trippers coming to Malham. If this was the case it would have unnecessarily contributed to the major parking problems that occurred during that weekend created by a combination of the now very high visitor numbers to Malham at the same time as a major organised event in the Malham Village area. Consensus view was that this situation was very badly handled and managed by the Maverick event organisers and KMPC recorded their major disappointment at this behaviour by Maverick.
- Confirmed that parking tickets were being issued to cars illegally parked on Malham Brow over weekend of 1/2 April.
- Phill Dewhurst suggested there is now a definite need to discuss with Highways the introduction of double yellow lines all the way up Malham Brow, on both sides, to avoid repeat of parking gridlock and dangerous accessibility issues for emergency services and/or local farming businesses requiring essential regular access through Malham Village. This should be raised as a priority discussion point with Highways at their site visit to Malham.
- Suggestion of wooden 'No Parking' signage to be positioned on Malham motorway as a further option.
- Suggestion of banking up the grass verge on Malham motorway to also alleviate double parking issues.

Neil Heseltine made the point that it is the National Parks (YDNPA) responsibility to help deal with this parking problem under some form of visitor management policy. KMPC should therefore communicate with YDNPA about what they can do to assist and how YDNPA can play a positive part in helping manage the severe parking problems that are not going away in Malham. Neil Heseltine stated that in the meantime KMPC is working closely with local land owners (Robert Hudson, Malham Show Committee and David Newhouse) to help manage the parking problem by opening various fields in the Village at peak visitor times. The strong point was made that KMPC is being proactive in trying to help the Village deal with its parking problems and positive progress is being made even though it is a difficult area to control.

David Newhouse offered to open up a field he owns at the top of Malham Brow and requested that KMPC consider the option to allow him to be included in the parking strategy for Malham Village. He confirmed that he was willing to invest in making the field accessible and suitable for car parking if KMPC supported his offer. There was a highly positive reaction from KMPC and the audience to this offer and suggested option for additional parking capacity. David Newhouse specifically stated that he would be willing to offer this additional field based parking capacity on Malham Brow after Robert Hudson's field car park (in Malham Village centre) was full, indicating that he was looking to offer additional parking capacity rather than direct competition to existing field parking availability.

Cllr Shelagh Marshall confirmed that any field can be opened up for parking for up to 28 days per year without the need to obtain planning permission.

With increased availability of field based parking there is greater scope to plan ahead to cope with 'peak parking periods', with examples being given of good weather weekends in March/April, Easter periods, etc. and perhaps in periods following press coverage of Malham area on TV or in newspapers/magazines which do lead to an increase or spike in visitor numbers.

9. Planning

Decisions – Malham Tarn Field Centre, Malham Tarn House (planning ref: C/55/42K/LB) was approved, subject to conditions.

New applications – Badger Hill, Hanlith application was considered. KMPC agreed to support this planning application on the basis that it would represent a material improvement and benefit compared to the existing structure being replaced within the planning application.

10. Finance

The Treasurer (Pat Wherity) will provide a full financial report at the May PC meeting. This was deferred on from the April PC meeting due to time constraints.

It was reminded to all present that the milk churns (being Sandy Todd's original initiative several years ago) have been a very successful source of revenue raising for KMPC. This cash generation has been (and will remain) very useful to the KMPC community with the proceeds being reinvested to achieve enhancements and improvements for the whole Parish with a particular focus on Malham Village.

It was suggested that the signs on the milk churns indicating a 'suggested parking donation of £1' should be changed to a 'suggested parking donation of £2' in order to establish whether this would further increase the revenue generation from the cars parking on roadsides in Malham. Chris Wildman is to identify a vinyl/laminating signage provider who can produce new signs on this basis and these are to be installed as soon as is practical.

11. Community

Brochure – largely completed and sorted.

It was noted that the lengthsman will be away on holiday (29th April – 14th May) and therefore KMPC require a volunteer (paid) to replace the lengthsman during this period for essential maintenance such as cleaning of public toilets and replacement of toilet rolls, etc. Phill Wood from the Youth Hostel has kindly volunteered to cut the grass in Malham Village during this period. Chris Wildman will place a notice on the Malhamdale website page advertising for a temporary replacement/cover for the lengthsman in the period 29th April – 14th May.

Village Green – Chris Wildman called to see Mr Chandler at Malham Café. With no response from the visit a telephone call resulted and Mr Chandler made it clear to Chris Wildman that he was not happy with the proposed change to reclaim Village Green from his illegal and unauthorised parking of a car on the Green. Mr Chandler's daughter (Natalie Irvine) has also spoken to Chris Wildman and indicated that they are seeking their own legal advice. KMPC agreed to write again to Mr Chandler to advise of the start date for the works to reclaim the Village Green and build-up the setts along the full border of the Village Green. To facilitate access for Mr Chandler a footpath will be provided across the Village Green but with no parking on the Village Green.

There has been no reply from Mr Cooper at Eastwood House, Malham regarding the removal of the newly installed hedge. This is very disappointing and further communication should be made to Mr Cooper to request that he acts in a community spirited way by removing the hedge that he should not have planted across what is Village Green.

Traffic & Transport – Phill Dewhurst confirmed that a communication has been received from the Kirkby Malham Village meeting regarding road markings and poor road surface conditions in Kirkby Malham. KMPC agreed to put in a request to Highways for this remedial work to be actioned.

The bus company providing the bus service to Malham has emailed a complaint about access into the Village and discussions about the siting of the Village bus stop in Malham Village centre.

Maintenance & Repairs – The benches in Malham which have had a winter overhaul have been re-sited. There is a suggestion to relocate some of the benches to an adjacent area so that the ground (grass) under/around the benches can be repaired and recover. This was agreed as a sensible suggestion subject to risk assessment considerations and not siting the benches under overhanging tree branches. The verges on Cove Road from Beck Hall car park up to the Cove Campsite are very muddy and it is believed this might be due to lack of drainage. Highways are to be consulted, perhaps during their site visit to Malham Village (previously referenced) and Highways are to be contacted to establish when the road sweeper last visited Malham and swept its road (?). We are to check with Highways that the areas in our Parish are on the rota for road sweeping at least annually. An alternative proposal was suggested that this could become a job /task for the lengthsman – to be discussed further.

Highways also to be asked about maintenance of the road at Kirkby Malham Manor Barn leading down to Hanlith Lane. This road is in a terrible state of repair and some remedial work should be undertaken but need to establish whose responsibility this is via consultation with Highways.

12. Emergency Plan

Ongoing.

13. AOB

Nothing.

14. Correspondence

Letter received regarding proposal to open campsite at Malham Tarn. This detailed an initial consultation inviting KMPC's input. There is a drop-in meeting on 7th April between 9.30am – 1.00pm.

An application has been made to KMPC for a donation of funds (financial support) towards the Malham Village Hall restoration project. Following discussion it was agreed that this was an important and local community matter which warranted support and KMPC agreed to provide support of up to £1,000 donation. It was also agreed that if Kirkby Malham Village Hall committee made a similar application/request for support in relation to their restoration works KMPC would be willing to consider a similar donation.

15. AOB

Sandy Todd provided a resume of the Malham Village meeting, confirming that he was re-elected as the Chairman. Full details of the Malham Village meeting are contained in the Minutes of that meeting prepared elsewhere and available on the Malham Village noticeboard.

Linda Hodson provided a resume of the Kirkby Malham Village meeting. This was the first Village meeting in Kirkby Malham for 5 years and Linda Hodson has been appointed as the new Chairperson. A full copy of the Minutes from that meeting are available on the Kirkby Malham Village noticeboard.

KMPC agreed to pay for the cost of hiring Kirkby Malham Village Hall for the purposes of the Kirkby Malham Village meeting. KMPC has done similarly for the Malham Village meeting in terms of meeting the cost of hiring Malham Village Hall.

Actions for this month

- TB to liaise with PW regarding National Trust contribution towards half cost of one of the three new dog bins.
- PD to liaise with YDNPA regarding siting of three new dog poo bins.
- PD to confirm KMPC's support for planning application in relation to Badger Hill, Hanlith.
- CW to place advert on Malhamdale website regarding locum/interim lengthsman cover during period 29th April – 14th May as holiday cover.
- Various PC members and parishioners to agree date for meeting with Highways and walk around Malham to discuss parking and Highways related issues. This is an urgent action point.
- CW to obtain new vinyl parking notices to reflect 'recommended donation of £2'.
- PW/CW to continue communications with Mr Chandler regarding Village Green and related works.
- PD to email Highways regarding certain areas of remedial work that need carrying out, for example in Kirkby Malham.

Next Meeting: 8th May 2017 starting at 7.00pm with AGM, followed by normal PC meeting at 7.30pm (perhaps with restricted agenda).