

Kirkby Malhamdale Parish Council

Minute 299 ? for Monday February 4th 2013 @ 7.30pm

Present - Parish Council: C Wildman (Chair) P Dewhurst (Clerk) A. Bradley, N Hart, N Heseltine, I Swales, M Throup.

Public: K Holmes, R Ingham, M Willingham, A Sutcliffe (until 9.05pm), S Marshall (until 8.30pm) A Heseltine (arr 7.55pm) R Curtis-Machin,(NT) M Davies (NT)

Routine Business

1.Public Questions. A resident of Scalegill enquired if the PC were aware of, or had discussed, the flooding problems near Hanlith bridge on the road between K Malham and Scalegill. The PC was advised that in bad weather conditions a stretch of the road of approx. 80 yards is flooded to a depth sufficient to prevent small cars from passing through it. This occurs because only 1 of 5 drains is taking away water flowing down Cockthorne Lane, the others are blocked or not effective due to deterioration of the lane. The problem may also be partly due to the accumulation of debris on Back Lane. The flooding issue was brought to the attention of J Malcolm (Highways) and Area 5 by the resident in November but no reply has been received. The lack of drainage is also causing problems with ice forming in sub- zero temperatures. The PC agreed to take up this problem with Highways and suggested the resident contact his local councillor (Pat Wherity) with a view to following up this problem and in the event of issues needing to be raised in the future.

2. Apologies – P Wherity

3.National Trust: Plans for the Future (item 10 on the agenda). M Davies (Property Manager for the National Trust in the Yorkshire Dales) introduced himself and R Curtis-Machin (consultant to the National Trust). Mr Davis outlined the current or recent activities run by the NT in the area citing the shuttle bus to the Tarn, geocaching, farm open days, mountain biking and the brass band at cove at Christmas as examples. He advised that the NT are looking at helping with the Malham Safari and are broadening their outlook to attract more people by holding more events in or near Malham. He suggested that perhaps a working group could be set up with representatives from the village to take this forward and some funding could be available for a community event. He went on to advise that the NT is planning / considering renting a small space in the National Parks Centre in Malham. Whilst NT merchandise will not be on sale, the plan is have educational information / screens showing what the NT is doing in the area and a “Grab & Go” (no seating – similar to the arrangement existing at Housteads on Hadrians Wall)) style snack bar selling tea / coffee / soup and a limited range of sandwiches and cakes. This undertaking would employ 4/5 people and the hope is that it would attract more people to the area and increase public perception about what the NT is about (not just stately homes). It was suggested it would also fill a gap in the market by selling food and drink into the early evening in the spring and summer when most cafes are closed but long distance walkers are returning and want a drink and a snack. The PC was asked for comments. The PC expressed concern about litter from the snack bar but more serious concern about its effect on businesses already providing catering in the village. Mr Davies attention was drawn to literature about “sustainable villages” and a suggestion was made that perhaps a NT “hub” could be sited in

a current business. Mr Davies and Mr Curtis-Machin left the meeting when the discussion finished.

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting – These were approved, prop: N Heseltine Sec: M Throup.

5. Matters Arising – C Kilner (YDNP) has advised that the NP will only provide signage about dog waste bins on footpaths. The necessary lopping work was carried out on the ash tree on PC land near the School House, Malham last week. The tree is in good health. The local residents have indicated that they are content with the work done. There will be a NT event on Tuesday 19 February (small charge) to make bat boxes to be put up in Malham. The leaves making the pavement leading to K Malham bridge slippery, are to be cleared away. CD Council have advised P Dewhirst that it is doing away with dog waste bins mounted on poles. Dog owners are to be encouraged to dispose of dog waste in rubbish bins. It had been suggested that dog owners should allow their pets to foul the fields rather than collect the waste in plastic bags that then end up in stone walls or hanging from trees but it was pointed out that dog excrement can be harmful to sheep. To cope with dog waste and visitor rubbish P Dewhirst will clarify whether rubbish can be collected weekly (as intimated by C Ridhough at CDC, although bins are currently emptied fortnightly) and C Wildman will e-mail the NP with a view to siting an additional rubbish bin (cost £147 + VAT) in the NP car park and education about disposal of dog excrement in the area. C Kilner has advised that the cost to cover our current 2 wheelie bins with wooden surrounds (providing doors, rubbish slit, roof) would be £310+VAT stained or £295+VAT unstained employing the joiner. It was agreed to have one bin, on the toilets side of the road covered including brown staining. This will be funded from the Lengthsman fund.

6. Council Matters – no change

7. County Councillors Report. S Marshall had left the meeting but promised to send her report. A Sutcliffe advised that the Council is trying to balance its budget and decide whether to increase Council Tax or not. The decision will be made by 12 February and no doubt reported in the local press. A Sutcliffe left at 9.05pm.

8. Planning - Nothing to report.

9. Finance

A/C No1 £19541.65 available. (£169.00 paid in respect of village hall hire for PC meetings)

A/C No2 £16406.34 available (EON Nov/Dec and Lengthsman Dec invoices have been paid)

£677 75 has been claimed from the Leader grant this month and £112.01 VAT has been reclaimed. The new brochure has been printed so payments should be credited next month.

10. Rural Affordable Housing Project – housing needs survey (update). The survey has been printed and delivered to most households. The bad weather has delayed delivery to households on Malham Moor - M Throup to deliver the remaining surveys. Approx 200 surveys have been delivered and there have been 27 responses returned to date. Several questions were asked of the PC about the background to the survey. There was concern that some of the questions are ambiguous and what action would happen if the reply % was

low. It was decided that P. Dewhirst should write to S Hall and J Wood c/o NYCC to express the concerns voiced at the meeting.

Other Business

11. Community

(a) LAFSC & Brochure. The lights in the ladies toilets have failed. Quotes (£475.00 and £886.00) have been obtained for rewiring inside and outside both ladies and gents toilets with a view to improving the facilities in the future. Quotes have also been received for other remedial and upgrade work. Before the Lengthsman is asked to redecorate the toilets it will be necessary for the PC to consider whether any upgrade work should be carried out beforehand.

(b) Village Green – Nothing to report

(c) Traffic & Transport. Two quotes (£4722.00 and £5400.00) have been received in respect of work required on the verges on the approach to Malham (NP centre side). It was agreed that the contractors who have provided quotes should be asked if the work can be carried out by Easter, how long the work will take (depending on weather conditions) and whether the quotes can be improved (reduced).

(d) Leader project – See Finance. It was agreed that after the verges (see (c) above) have been done the PC needs to decide whether / when to proceed with the new Village sign and moving the boulder from the NP centre car park across the road. A grant from Yorventure towards funding the new village sign still need to be investigated. The Malham Show committee have agreed that honesty boxes can be accommodated in the showfield wall (after the verges have been improved) but their maintenance would be the PC's responsibility.

12 Environment. No update on the risk assessments for Gordale and Malham Cove.. The registration of PC land has been completed. I Swales will provide a new notice for the honesty box in the gents toilets.

13. Correspondence. It was decided an offer to send a Yorkshire Dales Authority member to our PC meetings will be declined although an annual visit would be welcome. Our intentions will be mentioned to C Kilner first. An e-mail requesting funding assistance for the Settle swimming pool has been received – no action taken. The crime stats for our area have been received and a poster asking for views on Policing policy.

14. AOB. The WI has asked whether the PC have any area of land which it could use for a possible community garden project. It was agreed to suggest they could create and maintain 2 troughs (troughs to be provided by the PC) near the new Malham village sign when it is established. There has been no news about the progress of the insurance claim which is delaying the repair of the bridge in Malham. Highways will be asked to tidy the edges of the Cove Road in Malham and inspect the drain outside the Cove Centre which has water bubbling out of it.

Meeting closed 10.20pm