

Minutes to be ratified at next Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of Rokeby, Brignall and Egglestone Abbey Parish Council held at 19.00 on 23rd March in the Garden room of the Morrith Hotel, Greta Bridge.

Present: Cllrs. P. Gilbertson (Chair), R. Errington, F. Errington, A. Watson, P. Moss, M. Stead, J. Hare, G. Sanderson, C. Thornton

In attendance: Mr. M. Alderson

1. Apologies for absence Cllr. Hashagen; Dr. Peat (Clerk)
2. Minutes of last meeting – the minutes were signed by the Chairman as correct.
3. Matters arising. A paper was circulated by the Clerk prior to the meeting - see below
 - A meeting between a representative of DCC and Dr. Rebecca Jellis, the Chairman and Cllr. Thornton took place on 3rd March to discuss placement of bus stop signage for the no. 79 bus between Barnard Castle and Richmond.
 - The Bank Mandate was finally set up in mid-February with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk all as signatories
 - Cllr Thornton has now determined that regular checks of the defibrillators are being undertaken by staff at the Morrith. It is also apparent that the pads for all three defibrillators will need to be replaced by May 2022.
 - The Clerk wrote to Highways England to express the Councillors' concern about the dangers posed by the speed of traffic on the stretch of the A66 between the Cross Lanes and Rokeby junctions and requesting a 50mph speed limit. A response was received and circulated explaining that no speed limit would be imposed on the section.
 - The Code of Conduct has been revised and uploaded on to the Parish Council Website.
 - The pointing of the wall over the R. Greta in Greta Bridge was reported by the Clerk. There was a relatively quick response but the conclusion on visual inspection was that repairs were not urgent so the issue would be noted
 - The issue of the collapsed wall of Old Brignall Church was reported by the Clerk and after significant problems with explaining the site of the Old Church the report has now been 'noted' and a fuller response is awaited.
 - The Clerk liaised with the Clerk of Startforth PC and she brought the matter of the overhanging trees on the B6277 to the attention of her Cllrs at their meeting earlier in March. With their agreement Clerks to both parishes have put aligning requests to DCC to cut back the overhanging trees as was suggested by Rokeby, Brignall and Egglestone Abbey Parish Council. Waiting for a response.
4. Election of new Councillors
Mr Matthew Alderson was duly elected as representative for Egglestone Abbey. (Proposed by Cllr. R. Errington, seconded by Cllr. Harrison, and unanimous agreement). (Clerk to follow up with required paperwork etc.)
5. Update on proposals for the A66 Upgrade
Cllr Watson confirmed that he had attended the most recent liaison meeting to represent the Parish Council but that the 'black route' was going ahead despite significant local disaffection.
6. Finance
The Chairman reported that the current balances were: *
Current account £4416.32
Deposit account £306.36
*Balances correct on 17th March 2022

7. Parish Clerk's remuneration. The Chairman suggested a 2% increase in the Clerk's annual remuneration. Proposed by Cllr. Harrison, Seconded by Cllr. F Errington and unanimously agreed.
8. Platinum Jubilee
9. The Chairman reported that he had been asked by Sir Andrew Morritt and Mr Willie Salvin, agent to the Rokeby Estate, to promote an event to mark the Queen's forthcoming Platinum Jubilee. A questionnaire had been circulated to all households in the parish asking for an indication of interest in an event and what form it should take but response was disappointing (only about a dozen responses in total were received).
A decision was made, based on the responses and discussion, to plant a tree in each of the parishes along with a small commemorative plaque to mark the occasion. A reception on the lawn of Rokeby or in the stables if inclement weather was also discussed along with a scarecrow competition.
10. AOB
 - Cllr Moss raised his ongoing concern about the speed of traffic on the section of the A66 between the Cross Lanes and Rokeby junctions. The chairman agreed to arrange a site visit with MP Dehenna Davison, Local Councillor Richard Bell and Chief Constable of Teesdale Edward Turnbull
 - Cllr. R Errington reported the condition of the road surface (lack of give-way lines) between Moor View to Moorhouse Farm again
 - The Chairman reported the condition of the road surface in Greta Bridge.
 - Swing missing from Brignall.
 - Something about layby in Rokeby?

Date of next meeting: May 4th 19.30, Garden Room, Morritt Hotel.