

## SMEATON WITH HORNBY PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023 at Great Smeaton Village Hall

**Present:** R Goodchild, C White, P Spence, J Evans & 1 Member of the Public

- 1. Apologies:** A Wilkinson, S Ferrie
- 2. Minutes:** Minutes from the meeting held on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023 were agreed and signed.
- 3. Crime report** – Received and discussed. There was one crime reported of anti-social behaviour in Great Smeaton during the month of June.
- 4. Matters Arising -**

**Public Open Space and Recreation Plan** – Two of the three proposals are now in place (benches and interpretation boards). The third allocation of funding which amounts to £2960.00 is suggested for childrens play equipment.

Discussions are still ongoing as to how this money could be spent.

**Community Infrastructure Levy** – Following another payment received, Smeaton with Hornby Parish Council now have a fund totalling £16,030.26 that can be used to enhance the public areas in the Parish. It is proposed that this could be also used to help with the childrens play area, combined with the Public Open Space and Recreation Plan funding. Discussions are still on-going with Great Smeaton Primary School to investigate the potential of a joint play area. The Board of Governors from the school are keen to pursue this further.

A new School Governor structure has slowed this progress down. There is now a new Chair and Vice-Chair and Cllrs Goodchild and Evans will arrange a meeting to recommence discussions after the Summer holidays.

**Speeding** – The VAS sign for Great Smeaton is now in production with the supplier, SWARCO, and should be in situ in the near future.

Unfortunately, due to the street lighting being solar-powered in Hornby, a different model of VAS is required. A quotation has been obtained from SWARCO for this, which is £3600 excluding VAT. It was agreed to proceed with this, and the Clerk will ask SWARCO to go ahead.

The location of the sign in Hornby has been agreed, and this will be confirmed with Highways.

**Little Smeaton Bridge** – Unfortunately, the repair works still haven't commenced. Cllr Wilkinson is continuing to pursue this with Highways, but unfortunately works aren't a

priority due to the bridge not being on a major road. The bridge was closed for a day to allow stonework to be removed from the river, and removed for safekeeping by Highways until the works can commence. This could be several years, depending upon finances available to North Yorkshire Council.

**Grasscutting** – It has been identified that there are some areas of Great Smeaton that are being missed or we would ideally like to see cut by Walkers. Complaints have been made by several residents that some areas are looking unkempt. Clerk to speak with Walkers Grasscutting to advise which areas should be cut.

**Village Signage** – It has been reported that the entrances to the Villages, mainly the Village name signs, are looking rather worn. We would also like to see the areas round the signs maintained. An idea submitted would be 'gateway' style entrances to the villages; this would highlight to motorists that they are entering a village area and hopefully help to alleviate speeding issues. Cllr Spence has been investigating costs and will continue to do so.

Any replacement village name signs would need to be purchased by the Parish Council and fitted by a Highways approved contractor – Clerk to contact Highways to obtain the list in preparation.

**Communication** – Following the resignation of Cllr Thomas, who was responsible for the newsletter and website, it was agreed that priority would be given to the website initially as an important information portal for the Parish. Unfortunately, as a handover wasn't given, it's proven rather difficult to update it as the software is unique to the provider. Cllr Spence is to set up a 'website group' involving several members of the Parish Council and members of the public in order that it can be kept updated. The first meeting will take place during August.

**Village Greens** – Cllrs Tuer and White looked at the trees and notice board on Hornby Village Green. Both were of the opinion that the trees appear in good health, but it would be prudent to instruct an expert to survey them. Cllr White will look into this further.

With regards to the notice board, the back is in need of replacement. This will be done as soon as possible.

**Parish Council Vacancy** – The vacancy for a Parish Councillor for Hornby was advertised, but unfortunately North Yorkshire Council received no applications. We are therefore able to co-opt and will approach suitable candidates.

Unfortunately, Cllr Tuer has now resigned from the Parish Council due to work commitments. This leaves a second vacancy for Hornby. Clerk to notify North Yorkshire Council.

**Footpath from Great Smeaton to Hornby** – Following correspondence received from a resident with regards to the 2007 Parish Plan questioning whether a footpath could come

into fruition, this was forwarded to Highways for consideration. This was the reply received from Alex Kay, Senior Transport Planning Officer, Highways & Engineering:-

*From a very high level desktop exercise I have looked at the route between Great Smeaton and Hornby with regard to potential footway/cycleway. The proposed route is approximately 1.6km along a category 4a road and links to NCN 165 at Long Lane. A temporary traffic counter (in place for a week during October 2022) at the western edge of Hornby indicates that there are 1,310 vehicles per day using the route between Great Smeaton and Hornby. In this location and given the rural characteristics a 3 metre shared use path would be compliant with the latest cycle design guidance (Local Transport Note 1/20). However, given the speed limit Active Travel England (the inspectorate) would require a minimum horizontal separation of at least 2 metres from the carriageway to the shared use path for safety reasons. Therefore to deliver cycle provision on this route a width of 5 metres will be needed from the edge of the carriageway. From the highway extents this looks extremely challenging with a number of constraints along the route causing pinch points of 1.5 metres and below (within the highway extents). Having looked at the Public Rights of Way routes in the area they do not provide an alternative to the highway that would cohesively link the two villages so I do not believe a better alternative route exists. A route could potentially be provided behind the hedge row but would obviously require land take which would incur additional costs (also dependant on agreement with landowner/s).*

*To provide a footway only, the minimum specification requirement would be 2m in width, with 1.5m the absolute minimum. The Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) states that on roads where the speed limit is 40mph and above, the separation from the carriageway should be at least 1.5 metres. We use DMRB and Manual for Streets as a design standard, but also engineering judgement and Road Safety Audits to identify any risk. This buffer zone makes delivery of a footway within the highway extents challenging. Again, provision behind the hedgerow is an option but would require land take. A footway/cycleway behind the hedgerow away from the carriageway would be more attractive to potential users but just how this links to existing footways within the villages would need some further thought.*

*Using cost rates from previous walking and cycling schemes, a **very high level** cost based on the scheme length can be estimated. The cost to build a 3m wide 1.6km shared use path is likely to be in the region of £300k+. However this does not include design stages, risk, prelims etc (which can add substantial costs to a project) or any additional costs due to land purchase. This is very much an educated guess as further detailed development and design work can identify additional costs and savings but should provide a feel for the type of funds needed to provide a compliant route between the two villages.*

*Apart from the survey (mentioned in the Parish Plan) there is no data on baseline numbers of walkers/cyclists and therefore it is difficult to estimate uplifts in walking and cycling as a result of the potential scheme. We use tools provided by Active Travel England and the Department for Transport to forecast uplifts which can then be used to provide an indicative value for money position of the scheme. However, given the population of the two villages we can assume base demand and therefore uplift will be on the low side.*

*We will add the route to our longlist of potential schemes which is evaluated against every time an active travel funding opportunity arises. Funding such as Active Travel Fund does focus on propensity to convert short journeys to walking, wheeling and cycling which favours areas of high demand and high forecast uplifts. This means a route between Great Smeaton and Hornby is unlikely to be suitable for Active Travel Funding. I am not aware if any development is planned in the area, but s106 funding through developers could be a way to fund such a route in the future.*

## 5. Planning Applications

Erection of an agricultural building to cover existing silage clamp –White House Farm, Great Smeaton (Ref: ZB23/01450/FUL) – NEW – No observations

Replacement roof structure and alterations to windows, introduction of bi-folding doors to bar and swimming pool and balcony to rear courtyard – Salutation Cottage, Little Smeaton – NEW – No observations

Repair and Reconstruction works following fire damage - Mill Farm, Hornby (Ref: ZB23/01546/FUL) – No observations

Construction of 3 highly energy efficient dwellings – Land adjacent to The East House, Great Smeaton (Ref: ZB23/OO945/FUL) - Ongoing

Conversion of Barn to form 2 dwellings - Barn Adjacent to Bon Lea House, Little Smeaton (Ref: 22/02668/FUL 23/0001/REFUSE) – NEW – APPEAL MADE TO SECRETARY OF STATE

Remove or reduce the height of a sycamore tree in a conservation area– The Green, Great Smeaton (Ref: 22/00078/CAT) –(No observations, if not in breach of TPO) - ONGOING

Application for outline planning permission with all matters reserved for 1 dwelling – Land to the South of Craig Isla, Long Lane, Hornby (Ref: 22/O1179/OUT)– (No observations) - ONGOING

## 6. Finance

### Cheques Signed Off

£244.80 CE & CM Walker Ltd – Invoice 23136

£216.00 CE & CM Walker Ltd – Invoice 23137

£150.00 Claire Copeland – Clerks Salary

£24.00 ThenMedia – Website, Invoice TMS 14896

## 7. Correspondence

**Parish Charter** – Clerk to circulate to Councillors.

## 8. Any Other Business

**East Farm Development, Great Smeaton** – It was agreed to write an email to the planning department, re-highlighting the concerns about the development, particularly regarding access. This is due to the plot now being available for sale, due to the previous contractor withdrawing.

**9. Date of next meeting – 19.30, Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2023, Great Smeaton Village Hall**

Signed:..... Date:.....