

INGLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 22 January 2020 at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall, Ingleton.

Present:

Councillors: S Leech (Chair); P Hunton (Vice-Chair); I Cartwright; P Humble
J Pressley; M Vickers and A Mead
Visitors: 8 visitors
Clerk: J Mead

Apologies for Absence: No absences

Prior to commencement of the meeting Cllr Leech, as Chairman, reminded Members and visitors that the meeting would be conducted under the Council's agreed meeting procedures including the recording of the meeting which would be deleted once the Minutes were presented and approved.

3 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made to the meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

A fifteen minute discussion period for members of the public to raise questions and/or concerns ensued.

4 Clerk's report on actions taken since previous meeting

Road Traffic Control at Springwell Junction

The Clerk reported that Durham County Council have suggested a speed survey could be carried out and possibly white lines extended further along the road on each side of the estate's egress in order to deter parking and obstructing the view of oncoming traffic. Although the lines would be advisory and not a legally binding signal for no parking, the council is to take the County Council up on their offer to add the lines, taking care not to unnecessarily impede the parking of cars by homeowners.

Cllr Cartwright reported that the Ingleton Community Speed Watch Team (CSW) had, for the past 3 years, been carrying out speed monitoring using official Speed Matrix equipment belonging to the Barnard Castle Police where the non-permanent equipment would be set up and taken down at each operation. This amounts to at least one operation per week, occasionally 2, and always for a minimum of 60 minutes. In that 3 year period there was initially an average of 11-13% cars identified as speeding but it is important to record that as the CSW are not police officers they do not 'catch' people speeding but they do identify the cars to the Police authorities. To date the percentage of speeding vehicles is down to an average of 3-5%. In relation to the agricultural vehicles, Cllr Cartwright stated that whilst in operation, the CSW have not identified a tractor as speeding but that this is not to say there have been no speeding tractors in the past 3 years, there may have been, but that none have been identified as such.

On behalf of all the Council the Chairman gave a vote of thanks to everyone in the CSW who have been so pro-active in achieving such a reduction in speeding within the village. It was suggested that a comparison could be made between this survey and the one proposed by Durham County Council. The Clerk is to contact the officer at Durham County Council and ask for further information as to when the survey will be carried out and request a copy of the results.

Chairman's Signature

Information was also given to the meeting regarding an accident which took place at the junction of Manor Road. It was known that at the time of the accident there were no vehicles at all parked on the main road to impede the view yet still the accident happened. The clerk is to contact the Highways Division of DCC concerning the possible siting of a give way sign at the junction.

- 5 a) **Public Participation:** Comments on agenda items
No comments were made.
- b) **Public Participation:** Any other business.
No items raised.

STRATEGIC BUSINESS:

Issues of strategic importance that require priority attention.

6. Precept 2020/21

The Chairman reminded the meeting that at the previous meeting's agreed priorities:

1. to ensure that the income we get through the precept is adequate to run the council and maintain all facilities under the Ingleton Parish Council care.
2. to invest in further community assets and facilities where there is evidence and demand for it, and,
3. to work in partnership with community groups voluntary organisations and other local authorities, including neighbouring local councils to the benefit of the community.

To maintain this the precept would be an extra 11p per week per household for the average band D equivalent household, totalling £5.59 per year per household. This would allow the Ingleton Parish Council to meet all the predicted costs including some of the costs of an election scheduled for 2021.

Councillors and visitors were invited to make comment on the proposal but no comment was made.

The Chairman proposed that the Council accept the precept, as outlined in the document produced for the meeting, and that an official request be made to the relevant offices at Durham County Council.

Proposed by: Cllr Leech Seconded: Cllr Hunton Vote: Unanimous approval.

Upkeep of Public Footpaths and Application to DCC for Grant Funding

The Clerk produced a plan of the public footpaths which would be included in all correspondence and communications with landowners and grass-cutting contractors in order for the Clerk to ascertain which footpaths would be included in the contracted services and also get the costings of the work in order to find out from Durham County Council how much grant funding would be made available towards the cost.

Cllr Vickers asked for the public footpath through farmland, running parallel to the north side of houses on the Main Road be included and Cllr Pressley asked that two further footpaths outside the boundary of the village be included in the consultation.

7. Offers to Tender for Grass-cutting Contract

The Clerk produced an advertisement to be placed in the next available Teesdale Mercury to advertise the grass-cutting contract and ask for tenders from relevant contractors. She explained that she would be asking for costs of cutting the village grassed areas, an extra quote for the cost of both cutting and removing the grass cuttings and then a separate quote for the public footpaths to be kept in good order at ground level. Responses to the advertisement to be brought to the next meeting.

Chairman's Signature

Discussions also took place with regard to a pathway which, although is marked as a public footpath and under the care of the local parish council, it is also stipulated that it is the responsibility of the householders living adjacent to keep the pathways clear. The Council is happy for this to remain the case if this is the wish of the householders themselves.

8. IPC Website

A meeting is to be convened between the Parish Clerk, Cllr Hunton, Peter Rimmington and a prospective web designer to discuss the future design and application of a website for the Parish Council. The Clerk to report to the next meeting.

9. MP Surgery in Ingleton Village Hall

Mr Oates of the IDCA reported that the new MP for Bishop Auckland, Ms Dehenna Davison, was holding an MP's surgery in the village hall on Saturday 1 February between 10am and 12 noon. The Clerk advised that both she and Cllr Mead had made an appointment to attend in order to discuss the threat of the Stroke and After Care Wards in Bishop Auckland Hospital being relocated to University Hospital Durham. Members and visitors agreed that no matter what reasoning was given for the removal of the units, the people of the south of Durham do not want to lose the facilities and so permission was given to the Clerk to write with the full backing of the Parish Council on the matter as well as circulate the letter to all other parish councils in the Teesdale, Darlington and surrounding areas in order to ask also that they contact their MP on this matter.

ROUTINE BUSINESS:

11 Minutes of the last meeting:

The Minutes of the previous meeting dated 27 November 2019 was accepted as a true and accurate record.

Proposed by: Cllr Leech Seconded: Cllr Hunton Vote: Unanimous approval.

12 IPC Finances

The Clerk offered the statement of accounts for approval, it showing all transfers of funds between accounts to accommodate extra funding and highlighted the utility bills as paid up to date. No questions were raised regarding the statement of accounts and these were accepted by the Council as an accurate record.

13 Pavilion and Field Working Group (PFWG)

Cllr Vickers reported that a meeting would soon be organised to discuss the boot camp and the cleaning of the pavilion. She had also been asked to make arrangements for another 'Heart Start' event

LOCAL MAINTENANCE / VILLAGE ISSUES

14 Picnic Table repair in Jubilee Field

Cllr Mead reported that he had, along with Mr Jack Vickers, had begun work on the repair of the picnic table but as a replacement leg was not now available from the manufacturers, and part of the original leg was still missing, they would work on it further in order to make it useable again, at the same time as resiting them nearer to the children's play area.

Tree Week Trees

The Chairman thanked Mr Norman Davies for both his time and expertise in helping the Parish Council to source 4 trees for the price of £94.64, a sum which is well within the budget allowed in the grant for which Cllr Leech had applied previously.

Chairman's Signature

The proviso in the grant funding was that the trees should be planted by the end of February but the land has recently been so wet it seemed impractical to do any work. However, it was decided that the damaged trees would be removed by the end of the week and, with predicted improvement in weather conditions, the trees would be planted in time. The Clerk is to advertise the availability of logs when the trees are felled.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15 Pilgrims' Walk (The Northern Saints' Trails)

Now officially renamed 'The Northern Saints' Trails' and details are on the website. One of four routes in County Durham will begin at Gainford and end at Durham called 'The Way of Life', all four are to become national trails as part of a tourism attraction based on the religious faith. There is to be a meeting on Sunday 26th January between 2-4pm in Gainford Church where all four trails will be discussed. Then on 5 April, there is to be a service at St Mary's, Gainford for an official launch of the opening of the Northern Saints' Trails. On Monday 6 April the Bishop of Durham along with other dignitaries including possibly the Bishop of Jarrow, will walk from Gainford, through Ingleton, to Durham. Discussions ensued regarding possibility, at a later date, placing a board in Jubilee Field, giving information on what the walk was all about and possibly include maps of the routes and information about Ingleton etc. Clerk to place item on next meeting's agenda in order to make plans for this.

Cllr Pressley further reported that, in June, the schoolchildren of County Durham will be doing a relay walk of the trails, passing a Bishop's Crook as the baton.

Cllr Pressley stated that with all this attention and focus on the trails, it should engender a lot more visitors to Ingleton and so she advised that if there were anyone who wished to offer accommodation to visitors they could attend the meeting on Sunday at Gainford Church to further discuss the matter. It was believed, during ensuing discussions, that refreshments would possibly be being supplied by the Parochial Church.

Vehicle Parked on Village Green

A resident made comment that a trailer, which is not in a good state of repair, had been parked on the site of a vehicle previously removed from the green as possibly a means of showing their displeasure. Councillors responded that as the vehicle required neither road tax nor licence; does not represent a permanent impediment to use of the village green and no other complaints had been received by the Council, then no real objection could be made, but it was agreed that the matter would be monitored.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 25 March 2020 at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall, Ingleton

Joyce Mead
Parish Clerk
3 Rayson Court
Ingleton
DL2 3JQ

clerk.ingletonparishcouncil@gmail.com

Chairman's Signature