

PARISH OF CONONLEY
You are invited to the
Annual Parish Meeting
To be held at
The Village Institute, Main Street, Cononley
on
Tuesday 12th March 2019 at 20.00

Agenda

1. **Welcome by Nick Swain, Chairman of the Parish Council.**
2. **Minutes of the 2018 Annual Parish Meeting.**
3. **Chairman of the Parish Council's Report.**
4. **County & District Councillors' Reports:**
Cllrs. Patrick Mulligan and Andy Brown.
5. **Playing Field Trust:**
Report on the progress of the organisation for the Cononley Gala 2019.
6. **Village Institute Trust:**
Report of Parish Council's Trust Advisory Committee.
7. **Reports by Village Organisations.**
Please feel free to report on your organisation's activities.
8. **Open discussions, questions and answers.**
*This is your meeting and any matter directly concerning the residents of Cononley may be brought up or reported on. If you seek detailed information on a specific topic relating to Cononley Parish Council please inform the Clerk to the Parish Council well before the day of the meeting.
Contact the Clerk on: cononleypc@gmail.com*

It is anticipated that the meeting will finish before 22.00.

'Persons entitled to attend are those who are registered as Local Government Electors for the Parish'.
Anyone is welcome to observe but only persons who are registered as Local Government Electors for the Parish may take part in, or vote on, any formal business brought to the meeting.

Signed: N. Swain, Chairman of the Parish Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of Cononley Annual Parish Meeting held in Cononley Village Institute
on Tuesday 12th March 2019 at 20.00**

Present: N. Swain (Chair), Cllrs C. Clark, M. Dracup, H. Lambert, R. Minton-Taylor, and D. Timbers.
In attendance: Mrs H. Gibbs (Clerk & RFO); Cllrs A. Brown (CDC) and P. Mulligan (CDC & NYCC); and 13 members of the public

19.01 The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed those present. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr M. Allum.

19.02 The minutes from the previous year's Annual Parish Meeting were read and approved.

19.03 The Chair of the Annual Parish Meeting gave a report from Cononley Parish Council
Welcome

Good evening and welcome to you all. Thank you for coming to this, your Annual Parish meeting. I must stress that this is not a Parish Council meeting. It is a meeting of residents to which the Parish Council contribute. The Parish Council will be pleased to receive comment at this meeting and all comments received will be noted and included in a future Council meeting.

As Chairman, it is my responsibility to report the progress and activities of the Parish Council since the last Annual Parish Meeting in March 2018.

Parish Councillors

There have been a number of changes in the composition of the Council over the past year. In fact, with the exception of myself and Councillor Mark Allum and of course our Clerk, Helen Gibbs, the entire council has changed over the last year!

Councillors Helen Lambert, Robert Minton-Taylor and Dan Timbers joined the Parish Council in February 2018, filling the vacancies left by the resignations of Lois Brown, Jill Cockrill and Marten Lougee.

Alan Parker, our former Chair, sought not to be re-elected in May 2018. We would like to thank Alan for his sterling contribution to the Parish Council and also to the community over his long tenure.

Kath Clark was appointed to Parish Council in May 2018 to fill the vacancy left by Alan.

Following the resignation of Alan Parker, I was elected as Chairman and Councillor Hugh Rudden elected as Vice-Chairman.

Hugh tendered his resignation in October 2018. We would like to thank Hugh for his superb contribution to the Parish Council and also to the community over his many years. Hugh remains a member of the Cononley Village Institute Advisory Committee.

Following Hugh's resignation, Councillor Helen Lambert was elected as Vice-Chair of the Parish Council.

In February we welcomed Mike Dracup to the Parish Council, filling the vacancy created by Hugh's departure.

Finance

The Council is in a healthy financial state. The Council's funds are used primarily to cover the cost of the administration, insurance, allotments and grants and also the work undertaken by the Lengthsman. These costs are incurred not only to finance the council's responsibilities as a Parish Council but also the Council's responsibilities as the Sole Trustee of two Charities. These Charities are the Cononley Playing Field Trust and the Cononley Village Institute Trust.

Charitable Trust Administration

These two Charities are administered in different ways:

The Playing Field Charity is managed by the Council as the Sole Trustee. The Council does all the day-to-day work and arranges all the income and expenditure directly. Within this, the Council runs the Cononley Gala with the support and assistance of our villagers.

Unlike the Playing Field Charity, the Institute has an Advisory Committee which, as the name suggests, does all the groundwork and day-to-day management on behalf of the Sole Trustee and then advises the Sole Trustee what action to take for the Sole Trustee to make the final decision.

Currently both charities are financially sound with funds available to cover reasonable contingencies. The Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to thank the Institute Advisory Committee for their work during the past year, without which we would not have this vibrant and pleasant environment which is such an asset to the whole community.

Allotments

The Council also manages two Allotment Sites with around 70 plots. These are managed by the Allotments Committee which is a Sub-Committee of the Council and has delegated responsibilities.

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The day-to-day running of the Allotments is in the hands of the Clerk with policy decisions being made by the Allotment Committee. Earlier this year work was started to repair walls and enhance the access.

Planning Applications

Inevitably Planning Applications continues to be a key focus for the Parish Council. We have reviewed multiple applications during the year and have challenged applications by providing feedback to the Craven planning team where appropriate.

We maintain a close eye on progress with the Green's Mill development by Candelisa and are working with them to ensure disruption to our community is kept to a minimum.

As you may know, there will be a planning gain of currently £225k from this development. A team from the Parish Council has been in consultation with the community to determine how this money could be spent.

(More on this later in the meeting).

Progress and achievements over the past year include:

- The Parish Council has facilitated the public meeting to allow the community to voice their concerns and suggestions about how the community could save the shop and post office. Subsequently the Cononley Community Group was formed which is supported by the Parish Council.
- The PC has arranged for the "Unsuitable for HGVs" signs to be erected at approaches to the village
- We have implemented a process to report HGVs travelling through the village
- Following onsite meetings with Highways, roadside delimiter markers and gully improvements on Cononley Woodside
- We are also in dialogue with Highways on parking and road safety issues, particularly along Cononley Lane
- The PC supports the Speedwatch Group, led by Kath Clark, who have recently been awarded funding to purchase an interactive speed sign
- A team from the Parish Council has completed a consultation with the community regarding the S106 planning gain
- We have established a Footpath Working Group set up to improve and maintain footpaths in the community
- We have held discussions with the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust with a view to them helping potentially manage Dead Eye Pond and so to help the community get more from it as a natural asset
- We have arranged improvements to the allotments' boundary wall and pathway (school side allotments)
- We have arranged for the installation of a secure door replacement on the stone shed in the playground

Conclusion

The Parish Council welcomes input and support from the community. Please do come to our monthly meetings here at the Institute (second Tuesday monthly at 19:00, except July when the meeting is the third Tuesday with no meeting in August) with your thoughts, concerns and any information you wish to share.

Thank you

I would like to thank all the members of the Parish Council team for their ongoing commitment, hard work and support throughout the year.

In addition, I would like to particularly thank Helen Gibbs for her diligent and sterling work and for the support and advice she gives to the Parish Council.

19.04 County and District Councillor Reports

(a) CDC Cllr Andrew Brown gave his report.

Work remit: Cllr Brown advised the meeting that much of his work is responding to local issues which are usually planning ones but can include traffic, footpaths, potholes in roads issues. Latterly he has become involved with the Cononley Community Shop Group.

Green issues: Cllr Brown highlighted the fact that he is, so far, the only Green Councillor that CDC has ever had. Since his election to the CDC, the District Council is taking green issues more seriously. For

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example, there are no electric vehicle charging points located in any public space in Skipton. However, at the beginning of March 2019, approval was gained for charging points to be placed in public car parks.

Similarly, Cllr Brown advocates for electric charging points to be included in all development plans. Also, when the current rubbish collection vehicles are replaced, they will be replaced with electric vehicles.

Cllr Brown is taking a strong interest in the current controversial issue concerning the potential for Hellifield Flashes and some green area behind Skipton Castle, not to be designated as open space in the Local Plan.

(b) CDC and NYCC Cllr Patrick Mulligan gave his report.

Overview of NYCC and CDC: both councils have faced challenges over the last 10 years, not least the reduction in spending power. The Council pound is now worth 60p compared to 10 years ago., when it was worth 100p. Both councils have done well.

NYCC is facing more cost pressures particularly in health, adult services and schools. In particular, in Special Educational Services there has been an overspend of £5million because the demand for services has risen and continues to do so. To finance the overspend, money has been taken from the referral budget and mainstream schools' budgets. This is obviously a difficult situation all round. What is needed is more certainty over budgets.

CDC used to receive revenue support grants but these have now gone. As a result, the Council tax will have to be raised to help fund services.

However, generally Cllr Mulligan advised that both CDC and NYCC are both well run councils with balanced budgets able to meet the challenges.

Locality Fund: there is currently £5,000 available to spend. Any groups within the village which are engaged in worthwhile projects should contact Cllr Mulligan in the first instance for an application form. So far, the Cononley Bowling Club has put in an application.

VAS and NYCC: NYCC has changed its protocols and it will now allow parishes to purchase VAS and display them in villages. There are restrictions as to the permitted type of sign – they may only display a speed limit and the words 'slow down' – no smiley faces allowed!

There will be some financial assistance from NYCC and will also be eligible for the Locality funding. The signs are battery powered and may only be placed in a temporary location.

CDC projects: CDC has succeeded in winning some grant funding to help with projects. Projects this year have included:

- Towpath improvements from Bradley to Kildwick;
- Railway Station regeneration – a major plan has been commissioned with the aim of giving travellers a better flow into the town from the station. As part of this, the station car park will be moved;
- The Town Hall project – there is now a new museum and stage space in the building;
- The Great Places Project – aimed attracting younger people into Skipton and the Craven district; and
- The Film Festival in Skipton, held in May using public spaces and also aimed at attracting younger people into the locality.

19.05 Playing Field Trust.

The Clerk reported that preparations for the Gala this year is underway with Cllrs Lambert, Timbers and Swain co-ordinating the organisation. Several major items and attractions have already been booked. Cllr Lambert advised the meeting that progress was good to date however, volunteers will be needed both before the day and on the day itself. The date of the Gala is Saturday 15 June 2019.

19.06 Village Institute Trust.

Cllr Minton-Taylor, as Sole Trustee Representative on the Advisory Committee, gave his report.

The Trust's finances are in good shape. Hall bookings continue to be good and the hall is obviously a great community asset.

There will be some renovation work to the clock tower cladding shortly. There is a slight problem of woodworm in the clock tower too.

There are also plans to repaint the building both externally and internally.

The radiators in the toilets will be replaced as they have gone rusty.

Cllr Minton-Taylor expressed his thanks on behalf of the Advisory Committee and the Trustee to Kim Hardy who manages the booking and cleaning of the village hall.

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19.07 Reports by Village Organisations

a) Cononley Village Community Shop Group

Richard Woolf gave the report. The group was formed after a meeting facilitated by Cononley Parish Council in October 2018 after the shop had ceased trading. Initially it was an ad hoc group but more recently has formalised its structure, primarily because the Group needs to open a bank account. The group has deliberately stated its purpose broadly so that it may also look at other locations for a new shop, and not just the old post office/shop building.

The Group has set out the following approach to find out if the shop is really for sale as it is not advertised on the internet:

- A new valuation of the property – shop alone/shop&flat/residential only – has been commissioned
- Once valuations have been secured, then the Group will approach the owners with an offer. However, the offer will not be more than the valuation.

The Railway Pub has also been included in the Group's discussions. Various people have approached Punch Taverns to find out what is happening with the pub since its closer recently. The group would like to know if there is any scope for the community to work together with the new tenant to provide essential services lost since the closure of the shop and the Chinese Take Away.

The Group would like to know what the development plans are for the pub.

The Group are also concerned about the recent closure of the Chinese Takeaway. There is no local knowledge as to the new owner.

b) Cononley Morris Dancers

Report given by the Squire of Cononley Morris Dancers, Richard Gibbs. The side has gained a couple of members this year but has changed the practice venue to the Crosshills Social Club. Practices are held every Friday from 8.15pm. The dance repertoire continues to increase. The side is practising for a May Day dance out and for its traditional gala appearance. All new dancers and musicians are welcome.

c) The W.I.

Report given by Julie. The membership is static and the WI would like to see some younger women coming along. However, the current membership is thriving and the meetings are very well attended with good speakers. Financially, the WI is excellent.

d) The Cononley Singers

Report given by Lois Brown. The Cononley Singers will be taking part in a Music Festival at Christ Church Skipton in mis March where they will be competing for a trophy. All welcome.

e) St John's Church, Cononley

Report given by Lois Brown. Renovations to the church will begin in August. They are expected to take 4 months. This is a big project costing £130, 000. The work will be carried out by Harrisons. During that time, services will be held in the Village Institute.

f) Cinema Club

Report given by Richard Woolf. There is always a good attendance at the Cinema Club. An event to look forward to will be a sing-a-long Mama Mia in May led by the Cononley Singers. The audience is encouraged to come along in dressing up clothes!

g) Cononley Parish Newsletter

Report given by Cllr Minton-Taylor who expressed his thanks to Rana Wall the designer of the newsletter. The newsletter is dependant on contributions from organisations in the village. So please the contributions and pictures coming in.

There is a longer internet edition of the newsletter which is hosted on the Parish Council's website.

19.08 Open discussion, questions and answers:

a) The S106 Committee

Cllr Dan Timbers gave the presentation concerning the Open Space Funding, the text of the presentation follows:

What is the s106 fund?

- Large Development of the Mill site with no open space included
- Contribution to community to improve existing outdoor spaces
- £228k calculated by Craven District Council
- Money to be spent in following areas:
 - Playing fields and recreation ground (including Cononley Sports Club)

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- Parish allotment sites
- Provision of new play and/or recreation ground.
- Money due upon completion of 65th dwelling (summer 2019)

Consultation Process

- Parish council set up consultation
 - Village clubs & societies
 - Primary School
 - Social Media
 - Survey
- Craven District Council liaising with Sports Club
- Results
 - Clubs / Societies
 - Small response – purchase of Madge Bank, bowling club equipment
 - School children
 - Water play, swings, monkey bars, pump track / skate park, Youth Shelter
 - Survey – 123 responses
 - Tennis Courts, fitness trail / outdoor gym,
 - Clubs / classes
 - Water to allotment
 - Footpath improvements

Ongoing work

- Attaining quotes and feasibility study
 - Contacted suppliers
 - Liaised with school regarding land
 - Quotes for
 - Multi Use Games Area
 - Tennis court, basketball and football area
 - Fitness Equipment
 - Swings
 - Water play (Archimedes screw)
 - Water supply to allotment
 - Daily mile track (school)
 - Path across playing field
 - Contacted owners of Madge Bank

The way forward

- Put together quotes and consult with Craven District Council (May)
- Currently 4 projects for PC to take forward:
 - Water to allotment
 - MUGA (tennis / football area)
 - Playground additions and Recreation are improvements (swings / static gym equipment / water play/ path / equipment for bowling club)
 - Daily mile track in school
- Plus, Sports club plans
- Go to tender for finalised ideas
 - 3 quotes for each
- Implementation

Q- A member of the public asked where the new Mutli Use Games Area will be. Cllr Timbers indicated that it is likely to be where the current skate park is located.

Q- A member of the public commented on the fund reserves need to maintain the new equipment. Cllr Timber replied that 10% of the planning gain money is earmarked for maintenance.

Q- A member of the public commented that the Sports Club is chiefly for boys and men and that the Sports Club is also used by non-residents. She also said that more sports facilities were needed for females in the village. The member of the public said that party of the planning gain money allocated to the Sports Club was managed by CDC and shouldn't there be consultation with the village on how this money is spent at the Sports Club? Cllr Timbers replied that this needs looking into.

Q- a member of the public asked if there will be youth shelters. A discussion on the pros and cons of youth shelters followed.

Q- a member of the public asked if the planning gains money could be used as leverage to secure additional grant funding. Cllr Timers replied yes.

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Date:

Cllr Timbers reminded the meeting that the most difficult aspect in this project was that the committee was struggling for space. The meeting concurred with this.

b) Traffic

Q- A member of the public commented that once the development has been completed there will be an increase in the volume of traffic – more than was originally thought when the planning permission was granted. He is concerned about the Lane End junction with the A629

Cllr Mulligan replied that Highways only reacts to situations. He reminded the meeting of the work needed to secure the pedestrian refuge a couple of years ago. All road works are expensive.

Cllr Clark asked Cllr Mulligan why after having a meeting with Highways nothing seems to be done. Cllr Mulligan confirmed that Highways will only act when somebody gets hurt. Therefore, it is important for the community to log any accidents. Cllr Mulligan will find out why Candelisa are not paying for any improvements to Lanes End.

Q- A member of the public raised the issue of who owns the pedestrian/cycle lane through the new development and who is therefore responsible for the condition of the surface.

At this stage no answer was forthcoming.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 21:35

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