Clerk: Mrs Natalie Cox

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Meeting of Waddington Parish Council
The Village Club – 7.30pm on 11th January 2016

1. To receive apologies for absence

Present

Councillor Doug Parker (DP)

Councillor Roy Edmondson (RE)

Councillor Michael Colley (MC)

Councillor Liz Haworth (LH)

Councillor Gil Fisher (GF)

Councillor John Hilton (JH) Councillor Paul Elms (PE)

Apologies

Councillor Bridget Hilton

In attendance

Natalie Cox – clerk to the Parish Council (NC) Simon Doyle – First Responder

2. Minutes of the last meeting to be approved and signed

The minutes of the previous meeting in December 2015 were approved for accuracy and signed by the Chairman Cllr Doug Parker.

3. Defibrillator presentation NWAS

Simon Doyle, a First Responder with the North West Ambulance Service, explained that in an emergency situation, for every minute a casualty does not receive their survival rate drops by 10% if an ambulance is local.

He explained that when a person dials 999 and gives the address they are at, the system will tell the operator where the nearest defibrillator is situated. An access code will be given, if appropriate, and then once defibrillator is taken from the case, taken to the casualty and opened it gives the person operating it all the information and guidance they need to use it. Mr Doyle demonstrated how the system, and the kit that comes with it works. Once used, the defibrillator records all the information which is then downloaded by the NWAS. Also once it has been used, the ambulance service is notified that the defibrillator has been deactivated. It is then "restocked" and the ambulance service is notified once the defibrillator is fully operational again.

The NWAS aims to have a publicly accessible defibrillator within 200m of every person, and ideally everywhere there is a fire extinguisher. Currently some defibrillators are kept in buildings which are not open 24/7.

The First Responders team is always looking for more volunteers. More information is available at www.nwas-responders where application forms are available.

It was suggested that if a public first aid course is held in Waddington that it is targeted initially towards the organisers of church groups, local clubs etc. before holding a second one for the wider community.

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4. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting (not covered elsewhere)

4.1 Community Emergency Plan

JH and NC had met prior to the meeting to start work on the CEP. The aim is to put a plan together to deal with the immediate aftermath of an emergency situation. JH and NC have decided that a file of information and contact numbers needs to be put together.

It was suggested that initially high-vis jackets to identify councillors are purchase.

In the medium term a battery powered loud hailer, whistles and lanyards be purchased together with some form of flood barrier (either sandbags or water bags)

Decision: DP to check the ownership of the garages as a possible storage facility.

Decision: DP to speak to Mary Coar regarding the storage of sandbags at the farm, if they are covered in tarpaulin.

Decision: JH to purchase high-vis jackets

Decision: JH and NC to continue work on the CEP.

4.2 SPIDs

NC has been given contact details by LCC and will continue to pursue.

4.3 Community First Aid event

Following on from the discussion earlier in the meeting it was agreed to target the leaders of certain village organisations initially to ascertain interest.

Decision: NC to contact representatives from the football club, cricket club, the school, the village pubs, pool team and social club regarding their interest in attending a short first aid course.

4.4 Christmas tree lights

The new lights and the additional transformers are currently at Dove Syke. DP informed the meeting that they will be collected by Ken Jackson.

Action: GF or DP to contact the electrician who put the tree lights up for Chatburn Parish Council to find out how to get them to "twinkle"!

4.5 Neighbourhood plans

NC to continue to pursue.

4.6 Community event 2016 for The Queen's 90th birthday

LH has agreed to coordinate the organisation of a community event to mark the Queen's birthday. It was suggested that a brass band be invited for the afternoon, followed by a picnic on the park and possibly a band in the evening. Other suggestions included having a beer bus, a bouncy castle and either a fancy dress competition or best crown competition, and a cake stall.

Decision: To hold a community event on Saturday, June 11th.

Decision: LH to contact both Slaidburn Silver Band and Clitheroe Town Band and make inquiries about other events.

4.7 Parish bus service consultation

JH, DP and NC had attended a meeting at RVBC concerning the future of bus service provision in the borough. From April 1st 2016 LCC will no longer be subsidising bus services, this will have a major impact in the Ribble Valley. RVBC had called a meeting of parish representatives to discuss the response and best way forward. The suggestions/solutions put forward by LCC were that parish councils effectively become transport companies to provide a service as required by their community. However parish councils were left with insufficient time to carry out any research before submitting a response to LCC. Since the meeting DP has also been in contact with one of the bus companies who will be affected by the change.

Action: NC has sent a response from WPC to LCC.

Decision: To write to Nigel Evans MP regarding WPC's concerns about the proposals.

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4.8 The Outbarn

NC informed the meeting that she had sent a letter to RVBC objecting to the plan. A letter from a nearby resident was handed into the meeting and will be circulated to councillors.

4.9 War memorial designation & insurance

The village war memorial has been given a Grade II listing.

Following damage caused to the protective railings round the war memorial, the third party claim has been successful and WPC will receive £100 to cover the excess.

4.10 RoSPA

LH will continue to pursue.

5. Police Newsletter

A copy of the newsletter had been received by NC, both directly from the police and also via RVBC. PE reported that in his capacity as a borough councillor, he has been appointed to a panel looking at frontline policing. He has been assured that there will continue to be a police presence based in Clitheroe and hopes that this might safeguard the future of the police station.

6. Village Maintenance & Lengthsman

RE reported that the finger post by the post office has again been damaged. The matter has already been reported to Duncan Armstrong who will carry out the necessary work.

DP reported that he has spoken to Andrew Herd about becoming the village lengthsman.

Action: To hold a village walk round in March to identify problem areas.

Action: Mike Fisher to be asked to look at overhanging vegetation on a public footpath and deal with the matter appropriately.

7. Allotment update

Notice has been served on the tenant of allotment number 17 that his tenancy will not be renewed as no contact has been made by him to the parish council.

The previous tenants of allotment number 15 have also informed the parish council that they do not wish to renew their tenancy.

Action: NC to contact those on the waiting list to offer the free allotments.

8. Website

LH and NC had met with Daniel Williams before Christmas to review the website. On average the site gets 90 new hits a month. Some amendments are being made to the way the site is managed in a bid to improve the layout.

Action: LH and NC to contact the two churches and the school and Country Kitchen with a view to encouraging them to post information on the website to improve its profile.

9. Accounts

9.1 Expenditure and Income update from 13/12/15 to 11/1/16

On 24/12/15 the balance on the account was £13,967.97.

9.2 Recreation Ground utility bills

NC expressed some concerns about an increase in the utility bills compared to the same time last year.

Action: MC to visit the changing rooms to inspect the meter.

Action: NC to contact E-On about the reading and the location of the meter.

9.3 Audit regime

NC informed the meeting that a new external auditor is being appointed.

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10. Correspondence received

10.1 RVBC Planning meeting agenda

10.2 Invitation to the Buckingham Palace Garden Party

11. Borough Council update

PE reported that the local authorities in Lancashire and the two unitary authorities are submitting an application to become a combined authority therefore receiving devolved power from Westminster. It is thought that the new authority would be run as a cabinet.

12. AOB

12.1 GF raised concerns about a caravan which has been left in a field near to the playing fields.

12.2 Concern was raised generally about the blocked gullies and grates. The matter has been reported to LCC but they are not cleared as part of a general maintenance programme.

All are very welcome to attend Parish meetings. If you would like to be added to the email distribution list please contact the Clerk, Natalie Cox, at the above address. Thank you.