

A meeting of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Thursday, 7th January 2016 at 7.30 pm

Present: Ms L Bullus (LB) (Chair), Prof A Long (AL), Mr T Joynson (TJ), Mr R Naish (RN), District Cllr A Alton (AA), County Cllr R Windass (RW) , Ms H Stuart (HS) Clerk

Apologies: Mr N Duxbury (ND)

Members of the public present: 14

Declarations of Interest: None

The minutes of the last meeting were signed and dated as a true and accurate record by LB.

County Issues:

- There is a £500 immediate grant available from NYCC for houses affected by the flooding. The PC believed no houses in the Parish had been affected by the flooding. RW was asked to follow up when the drains will be cleaned in the village as the one on Church Lane in particular isn't draining away and is causing localised flooding. RW to take forward.
- There has been significant flood damage in the County, including to the bridge at Tadcaster. Investigations are ongoing as to whether it can be repaired. A temporary bridge is not feasible and it is expected to be closed for a year. Repair costs are expected to be in the region of £3m.
- Smell and litter at Allerton Waste Recovery Park (AWRP) - RW is aware and has asked NYCC to investigate this further. He has been advised it is not related to the incinerator site but may be from the landfill site. The litter along the A168 is from trucks that have not been adequately cleaned prior to leaving the site and operators have been asked to rectify this.
- A large crane was installed on site at the AWRP this week that will represent the height of the permanent chimney.
- RW has attended a briefing on the Chancellor's autumn statement. The impact between now and 2020 is expected to be in the region of £65m of cuts from Central Government - down a further £5.4m on top of the previously advised cuts that had already been factored in for 2016/17. NYCC could be looking at an increase in Council Tax of 3.99%, rather than 1.99% this coming financial year.
- RW was asked to challenge the costs that could have been saved if the Allerton Park building had not gone ahead at this time, which would have meant NYCC would not be in the severe financial position it currently faces. PC strongly feel that people need to be held accountable for this. RW will raise the issue and feedback the response.
- Concerns were raised about air quality monitoring in relation to the AWRP. It was confirmed DEFRA issues the licence to the waste authority but the local site has

responsibility to monitor the air quality and pollution, and for publishing the results of the regular monitoring reports. RW to follow-up.

District Issues:

- Council tax likely to increase by 1.9% in 2016/17
- The sale of Crescent Gardens has fallen through and the site will be re-advertised in March
- HBC website in the near future will be showing a list of sites submitted for proposed new home developments - the Clerk will circulate a link. This does not mean that any of these sites has been approved for development - just submitted for consideration.
- HBC are currently reviewing the process in which planning decisions are made. Currently council officers make 70% of the decisions with the remainder going to the Member for Planning or planning committee. It is proposed that in future only large/controversial applications will go beyond the officers. AA will keep the PC abreast of progress on this.
- Rabbit Hill development - AA's advice was sought. GreenTech currently advertising office space. Planning application stated for business use only. Clerk to submit breach of planning advice to HBC.

Matters Arising:

1. Playing Fields

- Identification of PC land is required as part of the Transparency Act - PC verified proposed identified land (as per attached) to be published on website. TJ & Clerk to action. To add to Standing Orders for annual review.
- Thorns and self sown ashes to be removed and car park addressed once weather conditions improve.

2. Village Shop

- Tenant wishes to change from Sole Trader to Limited Company. ND to be requested to check terms of the lease and advise PC of any required action at next meeting.

3. Village Hall

- As part of the rolling programme the village hall will be closed 11-27th March 2016 for redecorating.

4. Planning

- Holly Bank Farm (Rabbit Hill) - HBC Planning enforcement notice - reopening of field access unused for several years.
- Holly Bank Farm (Rabbit Hill) - breach of planning conditions reported to PC - office space for rental - planning enforcement to be advised.

- Glen Garth, Thorny Hill Lane - HBC notice of decision - approved.
- Grafton Manor Barn - alteration to planning application - no objection from PC
- Primary school application - HBC notice of decision - approved.
- Christ Church - extension to entrance porch to include w.c., under a legacy left by Andrew Ainley. Consultation of interested parties required in view of Grade II listing prior to submission of a formal planning application. More detailed plans will be available in the church and on the church page on the village website.

5.School parking

The PC discussed the proposed revised plans submitted to NYCC by the School Governors. PC endorsed the revised proposal but are conscious that there may be a knock on effect that may need to be addressed in the future. NYCC to be consulted regarding adding “term time” to the signs. NYCC will be advised that residents at Reas Cottage would like to be consulted re location of signs.

Accounts:

In: £1200 (shop rent)

Out: £224.80 Total = £100 (Clerk salary) £124.80 (Morrisons grass cutting)

Correspondence:

- HBC and Parish Council Elections are scheduled to be held on 5th May 2016, necessitating a revised date for the PC’s AGM (see under AOB).
- HBC - Council Tax Support Grant 2016/17 - £71 council support grant will be paid to the PC to make up the Precept
- HBC - Community Defibrillator - funding available. PC agreed to apply. Clerk to consult Great Ouseburn as to how they manage their device as it is believed they operate a rota system.
- YLCA - Changes to the External Audit Regime - on the advice of our internal auditor the PC elected to opt in to the new scheme, so no action is required at present.
- YLCA - subscription fee 2016/17 - to increase by 4.9% to reflect increased activity. PC endorsed the value of membership and proposed continuation at the revised cost.
- YLCA - The Queen’s 90th Birthday Beacons - PC did not consider linkage to the formal programme to be appropriate to the village.
- Allerton Park air pollution - see above. To be raised at next Liaison meeting.
- New Police contact - Tim Craven - to be invited to a future meeting.

Any other Business:

- Date of AGM (May 2016) - Wednesday 11th May 7pm
- Clerk to follow-up Jan Garrill re: mapping

The meeting was opened to the public:

- A query was raised about maintenance of Bawter Carr - RN confirmed this was undertaken by the Drainage Board every two years.

Date of the next meeting: 4th February 2016 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.

Signed Dated

A meeting of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Thursday, 4th February 2016 at 7.30 pm

Present: Ms L Bullus (LB) (Chair), Mr T Joynson (TJ), Prof A Long (AL), Mr N Duxbury (ND), Cllr R Windass (RW), Ms H Stuart (HS) Clerk

Apologies: Mr R Naish (RN), District Cllr A Alton (AA),

Members of the public present: 14

Declarations of Interest: None

The minutes of the last meeting were signed and dated as a true and accurate record by LB.

District Issues:

- HBC is to consider the proposed £39 charge for brown / green waste bins next week. If endorsed it will be a separate charge to the council tax and will be shown accordingly on the invoice. Residents will be able to elect out of the service.
- The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has commenced an electoral review of Harrogate Borough Council and a public consultation is currently in progress ending 4 April 2016. Full details have been circulated via email by the Clerk to the residents.
- Strategic Housing and Economic land availability assessment (SHELAA) sites released - information has been circulated via residents email.
- It has been confirmed there will be a 1.99% council tax increase for 2016/17.

County Issues:

- There will be a 3.99% increase in council tax from NYCC (1.99% HBC, 2% for adult social care).
- Leader of NYCC is to meet with other shire county leaders in view of the significant cut from central government, in comparison with that imposed on metropolitan councils. Some small concessions have been made from government yet long term implications are unknown. One cost cutting option being considered is to review waste disposal sites eg close a second day in the week or put a charge to use the site which runs a risk of fly-tipping. Alternatively look at Yorwaste operating it as a private enterprise. Either way RW reported it will result in redundancies.
- Allerton Park smell - site has been inspected and it has been reported the smell is emanating from the landfill site. FCC contacted to address issue. Responsibility lies with the Environment Agency (EA) to manage the situation and any complaints should be reported directly to EA. EA is now aware of this issue. Correspondence from Ian Fielding at NYCC dated 25.01.16 noted.
- Stockfield Lane verge damage highlighted by a resident- RW advised this does not meet the criteria for intervention from NYCC.

Community Police Constable - Tim Craven:

- Tim Craven, who has replaced Sue Brooks, attended to introduce himself. He is based in Knaresborough but covers rural villages and gave a summary of his role and responsibility. Drink driving is particularly a problem in rural areas - breath tests and arrests are being made. Residents are urged to contact 101 to report any non-urgent incidences.

Matters Arising:

1. Playing Fields

- Parking area still to be addressed when the weather improves and once improvements to the playground have been made. Clerk to explore if it is possible to incorporate improvement to the parking area as part of the village playground project.

2. Village Shop

- Lessee is changing from sole trader to limited company - the PC confirmed it is willing to continue for the remainder of the term without formally changing the present lease, as is the tenant.

3. Village Hall

- Nil to report

4. Planning

- Holly Bank Farm - HBC Planning enforcement feedback:

“The fact the office space is being advertised does not put it in breach of any planning conditions. Condition 17 stated

17. A Post Construction Stage Certificate issued by BRE for the development shall be submitted for the approval in writing of the Local Planning Authority prior to the first occupation of the development.

So as long as the Certificate is approved before the occupation of the building, there will be no breach. I know some of the conditions have been discharged (15/00150/DISCON Conditions 4, 6, 7, 10, 11 & 13 & 15/01940/DISCON Conditions 3 & 15) but not 17”

The PC are on the understanding that occupancy has taken place and office space is being rented out. Clerk to inform HBC of this potential breach.

- Manor Barn - HBC notice of decision - approved
- Claro House - demolition - following investigations by a resident HBC & NYCC have admitted that no permission had been granted. Resident has lodged a formal complaint and will keep PC informed.

5.School parking

NYCC's proposed parking solution, endorsed at last month's meeting, has met some objections from local residents. Traffic cones are currently being used as a temporary solution with some effect. RW will clarify with NYCC re legality of using cones long term. Tim Craven advised cones are not illegal but cannot be enforced.

Whilst understanding residents' concerns, the PC decided child safety was paramount and agreed that Highways' proposal should proceed.

A request was made for a 20mph limit, without speed bumps etc. Whilst the last monitored speed check did not justify action, the Clerk will ask Area 6 for advice.

Accounts:

In: Nil

Out: £2250.00 (Yorventure) £127.31 (Clerk salary & expenses) Total = £2377.31

Online banking - YLCA advice has been sought. Audit trail required. Payments to be proposed at each Parish Council, authorised and signed in the accounts book. PC approved a transaction limit of £200.00 without prior approval.

Correspondence:

- HBC - Community Defibrillator - EOI submitted. Feedback awaited. It has been clarified that Great Ouseburn do not operate a rota. It is in a locked box that the ambulance service give instructions on how to use over the phone in an emergency.
- Parking on pavement in Marton - resident has brought to the PC's attention the increasing amount of vehicles being parked on the pavement between the pond and Ivy Farmhouse. Tim Craven - community police constable happy to follow this up.
- Empty house adjacent to Coach House on Thorny Hill Lane, Grafton. PC informed out of courtesy that a Section 215 notice is to be issued on property requiring the owners to update.

Any other Business:

- An increase in on-line storage of PC correspondence was approved. Archiving of documents - Clerk to seek YLCA advice.
- Limebar Lane - there is a constant overland flow that requires a culvert to prevent significant road damage. Clerk to report to NYCC.
- Helmes Charity - following Andrew Ainley's death, ND/LB are up-dating documentation and bank records.
- ND starting his District Councillor campaign for Claro this weekend.

The meeting was opened to the public:

- Hedgerow between old chapel and top of the hill between Marton and Grafton is overgrown and pedestrians now unable to access the grass verge to be able to walk more safely up and down the hill - Clerk to report to NYCC.
- Celebration of the Queen's 90th Birthday. PC would support a small working group if they wished to organise something in the village.
- Business activity repairing vehicles is being carried out at varying times of the day and in late evening in Marton. Concerned re children safety. Up to six cars are parked outside the property. ND to take forward with HBC.

Date of the next meeting: 3rd March 2016 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Signed Dated

A meeting of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Thursday, 3rd March 2016 at 7.30 pm

Present: Ms L Bullus (LB) (Chair), Mr T Joynson (TJ), Mr N Duxbury (ND), Mr R Naish (RN), Cllr R Windass, Ms H Stuart (HS) Clerk

Apologies: Prof A Long (AL), District Cllr A Alton (AA),

Members of the public present: 6

Declarations of Interest:

The minutes of the last meeting were signed and dated as a true and accurate record by LB.

County Issues:

- Allerton Park re emission monitoring - RW said the Environment Agency will require regular sampling. Mark James, site manager at AWRP has confirmed emissions will be monitored on a continuous 24/7 basis through Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS). Information will be available on the AWRP website. Any breach of emissions of more than 10 minutes will require a report be submitted and an explanation given. It was clarified emissions will be monitored from the stack but no monitoring in local vicinities. RW & ND to ask for clarification at the liaison meeting. TJ to formulate a question to be taken forward.
- Devolution - NYCC's preferred option is for Greater Yorkshire. Leeds City Region preference is for West Yorkshire to remain. If not Greater Yorkshire, then look at York, East Riding and Hull. Another option is for Harrogate District to join Leeds City Region as an associate member but this would mean "a voice but no voting power".
- NYCC looking at cost savings post budget. Waste recovery parks closing time will be reduced from 7pm to 5pm from April which will result in a significant saving. Weekend operation hours will remain unchanged.
- Children and Young People - good news for North Yorkshire. NY good or outstanding OFSTED reports in 2015 - 80.4%, rose to 85.9% in 2016. For secondary schools 80% (national average 75%). Early years 95.2% (national average 70.2%).
- AWRP - attended meeting with Site Manager and Ian Fielding. External plant near to completion. Wanting to extend working hours of building site operation. Trial burnings scheduled for 2017.
- Smell continues and has been reported to Environment Agency.

Matters Arising:

1. Playing Fields

- Tesco bag appeal - Clerk informed PC of current voting open in local Tesco stores
- RN will address the moles
- Rob Shepherd keen to start more management for saplings near car park area.

2. Village Shop

- Nil to report

3. Village Hall

- Notice board - committee to address maintenance

4. Planning

- Holly Bank Farm - HBC Planning enforcement feedback:

The PC understand that occupancy has taken place and office space is being rented out. Clerk to inform HBC of this potential breach.

5. Charities commission

ND & LB are trustees of the Helmes Charity, one of four charities registered with the Charity Commission. The Helmes charity, established in 1699, currently has a balance of £4900. The remaining three charities appear dormant and ND proposed that these are closed as there are no registered assets or value in them. Tony Hunt was asked to explore the history of the establishment of the charities and any registered assets prior to any closure. It was acknowledged there are annual returns outstanding following the death of the former administrator. ND has contacted the Charity Commission to explain the situation.

Accounts:

In: £50.00 £105.48 VAT refund (to be received)

Out: £12.00 (T3TC Ltd) £100.00 (Clerk salary) Total = £112.00

£2250.00 previously approved cheque not sent as payment not required as yet.

Correspondence:

- HBC - Community Defibrillator - application successful. Grant awarded £900.00. The PC agreed to use the electrician recommended by the village hall committee to install. Clerk to liaise re payment, installation and subsequent training.
- Zurich Insurance - Discussed renewal quotations and agreed to renew for five years with Zurich. The buildings cover was considered accurate but it was decided the Clerk would check contents value with the village hall committee to ensure we renew at an appropriate level.
- Local District Plan (HBC) updated local plan timetable published. Main change is the postponement of the consultation on the draft plan from July 2016 to Oct 2016 to avoid consultations over summer.

- Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) Initial site list (HBC) - HBC advises that the list published are sites that have been put forward as available for development. However, HBC wished to note:
 - o The sites are being published for information only. Consultation will be carried out later in the year.
 - o Inclusion of a site should not be taken as an indication of whether HBC would consider the site suitable or not suitable for development.
 - o Inclusion of a site does not mean the site will be allocated for development in the new Local Plan
 - o Inclusion of a site should not be taken to imply planning permission would be granted.
 - o HBC will assess suitability of all sites later this year.

Any other Business:

- Ongoing concern re safety on hill between Marton and Grafton. TJ proposed a painted line indicating a shared pedestrian / road. Clerk to contact NYCC to submit request.
- Knock on consequences re parking towards Marton as a result of restrictions outside of school acknowledged.
- Martin Parker has cleared litter on Grafton Lane. PC wished to acknowledge and thank Martin for his contribution in helping to keep the village clean. Peter Sutton, who has picked up litter on Braimber Lane for several years, will be missed when he leaves the village. PC Tim Craven to be informed of persistent fly tipping and littering.

The meeting was opened to the public:

- Celebration of the Queen's 90th Birthday (12th June). The Church Wardens are planning a special Evensong - the Queen's Chaplain has been invited to preach but expected they will be already committed. Village Hall Committee to be approached to support for drinks and refreshments in the hall afterwards. Suggested WI also be approached for support.
- Claro House attached barn - demolition - following investigations by a resident HBC & NYCC have admitted that no permission had been granted to demolish, only to renovate. Therefore in breach of own planning and consultation process. Official investigation is being undertaken.

Date of the next meeting: 7th April 2016 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Signed Dated

A meeting of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Thursday, 7th April 2016 at 7.30 pm

Present: Ms L Bullus (LB) (Chair), Mr N Duxbury (ND), Mr R Naish (RN), District Cllr A Alton (AA), Ms H Stuart (HS) Clerk

Apologies: Prof A Long (AL), Mr T Joynson, Cllr R Windass,

Members of the public present: 9

Declarations of Interest: None

The minutes of the last meeting were signed and dated as a true and accurate record by LB.

District issues

- Number of required new houses continues to change. Latest figure 578 per annum.
- Devolution - discussions continue. HBC currently applying to be an associate member of Leeds City Council but this is not binding (cannot be a full member of Leeds CC because NYCC still has responsibility for transport).
- HBC's new headquarters building is on schedule to open summer of 2017.
- Changes to planning delegation continue - planning officers now deciding 90-95% of applications. New builds only to go to planning committee.
- Rabbit Hill development - This issue was raised with AA, who advised the PC to write to Dave Allenby (Head of Planning), copied to himself, regarding the potential breach of planning permission.

Matters Arising:

1. Playing Fields

- Tesco bag appeal (for new playground) - the working group were successful in second bid to receive a total of £10,000 towards this project.
- Working party met - area near top of car park cleared recently. RN contacted Steve Rimmer to reinstate bank once all works completed and also requested a quote to put a roadbase down for car park area.
- Need to consider a potential early spray for management of Himalayan balsam.
- Moles - RN is monitoring this problem.
- Dog bin to be installed once all works completed.
- RN to co-ordinate ongoing maintenance of grass maintenance

2. Village Shop

- Nil to report

3. Village Hall

- Notice board - Village Hall committee (VHC) to address maintenance. Their next meeting is on Wednesday.

- PC wished to thank the VHC for their, and their families' clean up efforts following the recent redecoration and congratulated them on a robust maintenance programme.
- Funds - The VHC reported that they have £15000 ring fenced for maintenance.

4.Planning

- Holly Bank Farm - HBC Planning enforcement response still awaited.

5.Charities commission

ND and LB are current trustees of the Helmes Charity, along with the Vicar. ND reported that three other charities, also registered with the Charity Commission, have no assets and are dormant - he proposed, LB seconded and the PC agreed that these defunct charities be closed. The Helmes Charity currently has £5900 in the bank account. It was agreed the three Trustees would continue and ND has applied for online banking, with ND/LB as signatories.

6.PC elections 2016

Two current Parish Councillors (Mr Roger Naish and Mr Nick Duxbury) are standing down and two new residents are standing for election; Mr Paul Gill and Mr Robin Shepherd. If no further nominations are received the five nominees will be automatically elected.

The Chair thanked ND for his excellent service as a Parish Councillor. He has been nominated to stand as a District Councillor at Harrogate in the forthcoming election and the PC wished him well for the future. Special thanks were expressed to RN, who has given sterling service as a Parish Councillor for forty years. He has generously given of his time and efforts over the years and will be much missed.

Accounts:

In: £1470.32 HBC maintenance £105.76 VAT refund (received) £1200 shop rent (to be received and invoiced). Total = £2776.08

Out: £954.48 (Nestbox Ltd) £100.00 (Clerk salary) £669.97 Zurich Insurance £193.00 YLCA membership . Total = £1917.45

Correspondence:

- NYCC (Area 6) speed restriction request outside school response - accident statistics on Reas Lane reviewed for the last 5 years indicate there have been no accidents attributable to vehicle speed. It has therefore been assessed that there is no evidence to warrant provision of funding for a traffic calming scheme. Should concerns remain for speed in the area there is a Speed Management Protocol that can be followed (a joint collaboration with North Yorkshire Police, NY Fire & Rescue and the District Councils) available from Area 6.

- NYCC (Area 6) - painted footpath request response (on the hill between Marton and Grafton) - Area 6 (NYCC) advised the proposed area of road is not wide enough to allow for a painted footpath. Vehicles would be running constantly in the footpath zone. Area 6 have assessed the site and motorists are sufficiently warned to expect pedestrians in the carriageway.
- Zurich Insurance renewal endorsed. £669.97 per annum for 5 years.
- Odour from Allerton Waste Recovery Park - email from resident. PC has raised the issue with NYCC, AmeyCespa liaison meeting and Environment Agency.
- YLCA - Local Government Act 1972: Section 137 expenditure limit 2016/17. £7.42 per elector. Gives PC ability to incur expenditure where there is no other specific statutory power to do so. Can be used where the council feels the expenditure is in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, its area or any part of it, or some of its inhabitants.

Any other Business:

- NYCC to be informed of continued blocked drain on Church Lane opposite Orchard Cottage. Recent water has been 1 foot deep. Occurring frequently.
- Back Lane - just past Scuttlepond causing road flooding. NYCC to be notified.
- Junction of Priest Carr Lane & Braimber Lane- complaint from resident - caravan appears to be permanently in situ. HBC to be informed

The meeting was opened to the public:

- Bird boxes for the woodland have been received and will soon to be installed.
- Litter an issue on incoming lanes into the village.
- Need to clarify ownership of fence between Mays and PC land as fence needs attention.

Date of the next meeting: 11th May 2016 at 7.00pm (to include Annual Meeting)

The meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.

Signed Dated

The Annual Meeting of Marton cum Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Wednesday 11 May 2016 at 7.00 pm

Present: Miss L Bullus (LB) (Chair), Prof A Long (AL), Mr T Joynson (TJ), Mr R Shepherd (RS), Mr P Gill (PG), County Cllr R Windass (RW), District Cllr Mr N Duxbury (ND) Ms H Stuart (Clerk)

Apologies: None

Members of the public present: 15

AL proposed, TJ seconded and all approved LB as Chair of the newly elected Parish Council.

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed and dated as a true and accurate record by LB.

There were no matters arising.

Chair's Report

I'd like to welcome everyone to this, the first meeting of the Parish Council following the election on the 5th of May. Before proceeding, can I welcome the two new members of the Parish Council, Rob Shepherd who lives in Marton and Paul Gill, resident of Grafton. We are delighted that you have joined the Parish Council and it's always good to have some new blood, bringing fresh energy and ideas. We hope you'll enjoy your term of office and will have the support of the residents in representing local issues.

Sadly, two of our members stood down at the election, firstly Roger Naish who had achieved the amazing feat of serving as a parish councillor in the village for 40 years. He has served in the past as Chair, and the minutes show that he has consistently taken a major role in village life. As a farmer his experience and practical help have been invaluable, and will be sorely missed, as will his extensive knowledge of village life and parish council history. Roger has assured us he intends to continue to do his bit for the village, and I know that everyone present will join the Parish Council in expressing our thanks and best wishes to him for the future.

You will probably be aware that Nick Duxbury stood down from the Parish Council this time in order to move on to higher things, and we are delighted that he was elected with a large majority to serve as District Councillor at Harrogate Borough Council. Congratulations, Nick from the Parish Council and I'm sure from everyone at the meeting. You've been an active and good humoured colleague and we will miss you. We look forward to seeing you at some of our monthly meetings as our HBC representative and will try and think of lots of meaty issues for you to take forward.

Looking back I notice that twelve months ago our District Councillor was advising us about the proposed housing quota, in the light of the Government's requirement for a longer term housing supply plan. The PC fed back its views on plans for new housing in the district, believing that development should be concentrated within easy reach of good transport links, schools, jobs and services. We suggested low cost housing, whilst important, should primarily be geared to locations where there is proven need, access to

jobs, transport and services. It was suggested that new development should be restricted to a maximum 5-10% increase in dwellings, to preserve character and restrict impact on infrastructure and local services. We are aware that HBC is committed to fill its quota which will mean that many rural communities, such as our own, will have to accept some new building over the coming years. As I write this report, I am conscious that a proposal for new housing on agricultural land is scheduled for discussion at our next meeting.

A previous contentious issue, the incinerator at Allerton Park, is going ahead apace with the main stack intended to be in place by this summer. Our representatives have attended liaison meetings, and raised issues such as concerns about air quality. We have been made aware of the funds that are available via Two Ridings Community Foundation and it's important that we take advantage of this. It's possible that once the extent of the site is visible we could apply for tree planting to screen the views, with the agreement of the appropriate landowners, but we must ensure we benefit from the available funds.

We have seen drastic cuts in Central Government funding resulting in the County and District Councils having to scale back many services. As a Parish Council we have already been required to take on more responsibility for grass cutting maintenance. The major cost-cutting at NYCC led to a review of bus subsidies throughout North Yorkshire and it became likely that our service would be drastically curtailed and terminate at the Poppleton Park & Ride. At the 11th hour TransDev decided to continue to operate but usage is still low, and unless residents make use of the service it is probably not going to be viable to keep it going for much longer.

We have generally seen fewer planning applications over the past year. The former Holly Bank Farm, now known as Rabbit Hill, was approved as a wholesale outlet for the landscaping trade and is currently expanding, in our view beyond the scope of the planning approval. This is despite the Parish Council's efforts over many years to prevent ribbon development on the A168. We have raised concerns at the scale of the development and await feedback from HBC.

During the year the village school flagged up a request for seating in the woodland to provide an outdoor classroom, and this project was taken up by the Woodlands group. In order for the children to walk safely to the new classroom, it was also agreed to create a footpath in the fields between the school and the woodland area. This is an exciting project which will greatly enhance the school experience for the children. The Woodlands group is doing sterling work managing the area, with working parties of volunteers to clear Himalayan balsam etc, and has been successful in obtaining grants to install bird boxes in the trees.

The children's playground had become somewhat dated and needed refurbishment. We were delighted when four village Mums agreed to form a working party to revive the area. They have done a wonderful job in pushing this forward and a key element was the appointment of Groundworks, a not-for-profit charity that has offered fantastic support in raising the necessary funds. We hope that work will start later this year. On behalf of the village, the Parish Council would like to thank Heidi Beattie, Philippa Cook, Georgina O'Connor and Heather Stuart for their sterling efforts.

The issue of parking outside the school came to a head in May last year, and featured on the agenda at several meetings in an attempt to find a solution that would improve the

safety of young children walking to school, without making life too difficult for those residents whose own freedom to park would be impacted. This was a difficult problem to resolve, and it remains to be seen whether the compromise proposal, yet to be implemented, of a single yellow line with parking restrictions will resolve the issue to the satisfaction of all concerned.

HBC finally accepted that action needed to be taken to ensure the safety of the dilapidated barn in Grafton which was becoming a hazard to passers-by, and an excellent job has finally been done in making this safe. The removal of warning cones after four years and completion of the work has greatly improved this corner of the village.

Once again, we've seen a fantastic voluntary effort by many people in the village who have willingly taken on various jobs to make all of our lives better. Actions willingly offered by individuals include going on the grass cutting rota, planting bulbs, emptying dog bins, picking up litter, helping with weed clearance and probably lots more. The village hall is well maintained, the tennis club is thriving. The shop is doing well. We are very lucky to live in such a community-minded location.

Finally, thank you to my fellow councillors for all the work and time you put in over the year, and to our Clerk, Heather, who has become a key part of the team and keeps us all in good order

Election of Offices

Chair:	Lynda Bullus - proposed by AL and seconded by TJ
Vice Chair:	Tim Joynson - proposed by LB and seconded by AL
Charities:	Lynda Bullus - PG proposed seconded by RS
Police Liaison:	Antony Long - LB proposed seconded by RS
Village Hall Committee:	Tim Joynson and Paul Gill - AL proposed seconded by RS

Internal Auditor: Frank Beckett

All nominations were unanimously approved.

Standing Orders

The PC considered and approved the following standing orders which are reviewed annually:

Risk Assessment
Register of Assets
Financial Regulations
Standing Orders

Any other business

- Nil

Meeting opened to the public: There were no issues arising.

The meeting ended at 7.20 pm.

Date of the next meeting: May 2017.

Signed Dated.....

A meeting of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Wednesday, 11th May 2016 at 7.30 pm

Present: Ms L Bullus (LB) (Chair), Mr T Joynson (TJ), Prof A Long (AL), Mr R Shepherd (RS), Mr P Gill (PG), Cllr R Windass (RW), District Cllr N Duxbury (ND), Ms H Stuart (HS) Clerk

Apologies: None

Members of the public present: 19

Declarations of Interest: None

The minutes of the last meeting were signed and dated as a true and accurate record by LB.

County Issues

- Allerton Park is progressing at a rapid rate. Work to route the electricity to the national grid is causing road closures and impacting on surrounding villages. The amount of electricity to be produced would feed up to the equivalent of 40,000 houses.
- Heritage and Landscape Fund - administered by Two Ridings - RW has been elected Chair of the Fund. Three bids have been submitted of which one was successful.
- Bus services are now run on commercial lines with no funding from NYCC - usage continues to be extremely low and many services are being cut.
- Road service dressing is being undertaken in the local area (Limebar Lane in this village) - sealant, chippings, then further sealant in an attempt to pre-empt road maintenance in the long term. The current procedure costs 1/5th of the price of fully resurfacing.
- A Peers review of NYCC has been undertaken by officers and leaders of other councils - the NYCC report was very favourable.
- Allerton Park - Emissions from stacks will be monitored online. RW suggested the PC might invite the Site manager to a future meeting for more information. After numerous complaints regarding the smell at the site it has been confirmed it is coming from landfill. Any smells should be reported to the environment agency.
- RW is now on the planning committee at NYCC. A major fracking application is to be considered on 20th & 23rd May in Ryedale - numerous protestors are expected.
- RW welcomed ND as District Councillor.

District issues

- ND attended District Councillor induction this afternoon.
- He thanked everyone who supported him and achieved a significant overall majority.
- Harrogate conservative AGM takes place on Saturday when the current Leader is expected to re-stand and be re-elected.
- ND is likely to be put on a finance committee.
- Affordable housing will be high on the planning agenda but achieving the quota will be difficult and depend on generation of private sector development.

- ND will welcome any projects the PC would like him to act on.

Matters Arising:

1. Playing Fields

- Report from Village Playground Working Party - all funding bids have been successful and funding has been secured for £62,000, including £7000 third party contribution. A site meeting has taken place to finalise plans which will be presented at the next PC meeting. It is anticipated work will commence in the first week of July with completion scheduled for 22nd July in time for school summer holidays.

2. Village Shop

- Nil to report

3. Village Hall

- The annual inspection has been completed and submitted.
- The hall cleaner has been replaced, with the hall to be cleaned monthly or twice a month as required.
- Notice board - it was clarified this was the responsibility of the PC. AL and TJ will have a look at repair.

4. Planning

- Holly Bank Farm - HBC Planning enforcement feedback - officer inspecting site later this week.
- Field off Braimber Lane at the entrance to Marton: Outline application for 22 dwellings

The Chair reminded the PC that following central government's rejection of HBC's plan, they must consider any planning application put forward even where the potential sites submitted have not yet been validated. HBC have already built/ approved large scale housing in Knaresborough, Harrogate and Ripon and have indicated that in order to meet government targets for new homes many villages will also have to accept some level of new development. Planning applications can be submitted on any site and will be considered against existing planning policies. Facilities are not necessarily a deciding factor, for instance villages surrounding Boroughbridge might be considered satellites of the town and its services.

After a full discussion the Parish Council agreed to object to the application for the following reasons:

“Contrary to Policy SG3 which requires that development in the open countryside must be strictly controlled. The applicant should undertake a sequential test to prove that there are not alternative available sites in the District that do not adversely impact a conservation area.

Contrary to Policy EQ2. This development site, as acknowledged by the applicant, contributes to the significance of the conservation area. The development, as outlined in the application, will result in the significant loss of a greenfield site, including the loss of open views that the applicant notes “cannot be mitigated”.

Although an outline application, the impact of ridge lines and lines of sight through the conservation area not material because they fail to show full block heights. They have taken photographs of the hedgerows in full summer and have not shown winter conditions when the visual impact will be higher.

The development is excessive in scale, accounting for a very significant increase in the total number of houses and residents in the village. We disagree that the proposal will result in a “rounding off opportunity and will respect the grain of development in this part of Marton”. This is NOT a rounding off, but a large, bulbous addition on the periphery of the village. In no way can the development be seen to be respecting the grain of the village, which is recognised as being “linear”. There is no comparable development on the periphery of any of the entrances to the village and conservation area”

At this stage the meeting was opened to the public. The Parish Council took on board the opinions and comments expressed by residents regarding the proposed development.

Accounts:

In: £150.00 (from WI - contribution to defibrillator)

Out: £54.00 (Webster & Sons) £169.95 (Clerk salary & expenses)

Year 6 presentation

Three young representatives from MCG Primary school gave a presentation on a project they are working on and would like the PC to consider. It is part of the Archbishop of York award and they proposed siting picnic benches on the green near the shop at a total cost of £658. Sponsors would be approached and the County Councillor indicated he would be happy to consider a donation from his locality budget. The PC agreed to consider the proposal.

Correspondence:

- The PCC has commenced work on car parking near the old graveyard on Legram Lane. The Clerk will seek commuted sums reimbursement and it was agreed the PC will match fund.
- TCV have written with details of hedge work etc done by this charity - RS will follow-up regarding potential work on the woodland paths and steps.
- Autela auto enrolment acknowledged by PC.

Any other Business:

- Two Ridings - Allerton Park fund - £800,000 over 5 years. RS was surprised how few applications have been received and welcomed any further suggestions on future projects.
- Open Gardens - happy to accept applications from village community projects.
- PC to consider plan for road up to playing fields at next meeting.

The meeting was opened to the public:

- Villagers are asked to be more considerate regarding dog fouling in the village.
- Queen's 90th birthday celebration - suggested something be done about the bench on Grafton Hill.

Date of the next meeting: 2nd June 2016 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Signed Dated

A meeting of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Thursday, 2nd June 2016 at 7.30 pm

Present: Ms L Bullus (LB) (Chair), Mr R Shepherd (RS), Mr T Joynson, Mr P Gill (PG), Cllr R Windass (RW), Ms H Stuart (HS) Clerk

Apologies: District Cllr N Duxbury (ND), Prof A Long (AL)

Members of the public present: 6

Declarations of Interest: None.

The minutes of the last meeting were signed and dated as a true and accurate record by LB.

County Issues

- RW advised that he had been on the planning committee for the recent fracking application in Ryedale and explained the background and why the planning officer had recommended approval. The application was approved; 7 votes to 4.
- He reminded the PC that the next AWRP community liaison meeting was on 14th June 2016.

District issues

Nil

Matters Arising:

1. Playing Fields

- Report from Village Playground Working Party - final plans were presented to the Parish Council. A pre-planning site meeting is being held on 3 June. The Group will liaise with representatives from the cricket club to inform them of the work schedule and will also send an email to residents, advising them of progress and thanking them for all their support. It is anticipated work will commence in the first week of July with completion scheduled for 22nd July in time for school summer holidays. It is planned to locate a container and portable toilet at the bottom of the access road during the works. Plans will be laminated and placed on the notice boards and onsite for everyone to view and the Group will endeavour to give regular updates on the site developments. The PC endorsed the plans and thanked the working party for their excellent work. The Clerk will check the insurance policy to confirm what is covered.
- RS is seeking quotes from the volunteer trust and Groundworks to recondition paths in the woodland, and possibly create new pathways. He would like to submit an application to Two Ridings for funding prior to the 16th July deadline.

2. Village Shop

- Nil to report

3. Village Hall

- Nil to report

4. Planning

- Holly Bank Farm (Rabbit Hill) - HBC Planning enforcement are in discussion with the owners regarding developments not approved in the original planning application.

5. Road access up to playing fields

- Improvements to the road need to take place once the work on the new playground has been completed. RS agreed to contact Groundworks to get a quotation.

6. Primary school proposal - picnic seating area

- The PC met on the green prior to the meeting. They have concluded that, whilst sympathetic to the children's plans, they feel it is important to preserve the village green areas and do not see a need to pave over the grass and provide picnic benches on the green. The Chair will approach the school and suggest they might consider replacing the broken concrete bench between the villages to mark the Queen's 90th birthday. If this does not suit, the PC would be happy to consider alternative suggestions.

Accounts:

The 2015/16 end of year returns have been audited and approved by the Internal Auditor.

Annual Governance Statement - This year the Annual Governance Statement has moved to Section 1 of the Return. The Parish Council confirmed that suitable controls are in place and it was agreed that points 1-8 should be answered in the affirmative. Point 9 was not applicable.

Annual Return - The Annual Return has been completed and reviewed and signed off by the Internal Auditor. The Accounting Statement was considered by the PC. It was proposed by PG and seconded by RS that the Statement be approved, and this was passed unanimously. The forms were then signed by the Chair.

The Clerk reported on payments in and out in the last month:

In: £1675.00 (HBC precept)

Out: £122.40 (Clerk salary)

Correspondence:

- HBC have requested clarification of the use of the caravan that has been reported through enforcement - PC believe that it has been in situ since late last year and is being used for storage.
- Limebar Lane resurfacing damage to be reported to NYCC Highways Department.

Any other Business:

- Manor Barn - land adjacent to the demolition site has been raised by at least 1m and levelled which was not on the original planning application. HBC planning to be notified.
- Community Defibrillator - this has now been installed adjacent to the front door of the village hall. Training will be arranged, and it was agreed that if it's possible to do this on a Saturday, then after a coffee morning would be a good time.
- RS advised that Amey have a 6-man working party available to do one day's work in local communities free of charge, which the PC might find useful perhaps on woodland project work.

The meeting was opened to the public:

- A resident advised that barbed wire had been installed on top of the gate and fencing in the field near Braimber Lane which might be dangerous to children walking past, grass cutters etc.

Date of the next meeting: 7th July 2016 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.

Signed Dated

A meeting of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Thursday, 7th July 2016 at 7.30 pm

Present: Mr T Joynson (Vice Chair), Mr R Shepherd (RS), Prof A Long (AL), Ms H Stuart (HS) Clerk

Apologies: Cllr R Windass (RW), District Cllr N Duxbury (ND), Ms L Bullus (LB) (Chair), Mr P Gill (PG)

Members of the public present: 8

Declarations of Interest: Nil

The minutes of the last meeting were signed and dated as a true and accurate record by TJ.

County Issues

- RW advised Mark James - Project Manager at AWRP willing to attend a PC meeting to give a progress report and answer any questions. PC to contact Mark if they wish for him to attend.

District issues

- HBC housing 5 year housing requirement has been considered resulting in an annual requirement of 754 dwellings per annum. HBC reports currently having difficulty finding developers wishing to undertake the construction.
- ND not on planning committee due to weekly commitments. Mrs Zoe Hartley-Metcalfe is now on the planning committee. ND is on the Planning Referral Committee.
- ND informed PC about small grants surplus. Current proposals:
 - Contribution towards defibrillators - supported
 - Car free days in Ripon, Knaresborough - not supported
 - District school competition for litter bin posters. Winning poster would be displayed on litter bins - supported
- ND advised HBC are considering the proposal of third party rights of appeal on planning applications. ND will keep PC updated on this.
- Marton housing development application - ND will attend application committee and oppose application. Clerk to ask planning for the meeting date.
- HBC Electoral Boundary consultation - number of councillors to be reduced from 54 to 40, effective from 2018 elections. The review has given an allocation of 3400 residents per councillors with a 10% variance. Consultation is available online until 22 August 2016.

Matters Arising:

1. Playing Fields

- Woodlands Group - RS updated PC - 16th July deadline for funding for footpaths - reconditioning and potentially new paths.
- Outdoor classroom - bid submitted for 80% to environmental charity - advised to submit substantial application. RS pursuing small grants from HBC for remaining 20%
- Two ridings report for nest boxes being compiled and submitted
- Balsalm clearing evening - small turn out - proposing more dates probably at a weekend. RS to contact North Yorkshire water from infestation.
- AWRP community work day - 23rd August - working on playing fields - Paul Varney from Groundworks co-ordinating
- Roger Naish thanked for the mowing in the paddock adjacent to playing fields
- Footpaths trimmed

2. Village Shop

- RS to discuss size of bin with shop

3. Village Hall

- Nil to report

4. Planning

- HBC Planning enforcement feedback at Rabbit Hill - Jason Grove investigating officer left HBC, replaced by Chris Kedde. Requires time to familiarise self with pending cases and then will report back to PC.
- HBC Tree Preservation order - Sycamore Lodge, Grafton Lane - PC to submit response in support of applicant.
- Felling of protected tree application - Givendale House - no objections

5. Primary school project - picnic benches - suggested looking at siting them alongside the tennis courts. 2 x 8 seater picnic benches. Currently ongoing.

Accounts:

In: £7500.00 (75% of Tesco's Bags for Help grant for Village Playground)

Out: £156.00 (Electricians - defib installation) £22.50 (Autela payroll services) £7.40 (HMRC VAT return) £130.75 (Clerk salary & expenses) **Total £316.65**

Correspondence:

- Commuted sums - PC reviewed updated commuted sums sent from HBC. Clerk to keep copy on record.

Any other Business:

- Nil

The meeting was opened to the public:

- Cyclists in the village increased particularly down Grafton Lane towards Grafton Green. Particularly dangerous to children playing on the green who cannot hear the cyclists. Clerk to consult with Area 6 regarding sign options.
- Car parked permanently on footpath on Church Lane - appears abandoned - to be reported to NYCC.

Date of the next meeting: 7th Sept 2016 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

Signed Dated

A meeting of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Wednesday, 7th September 2016 at 7.30 pm

Present: Ms L Bullus (LB) (Chair), Mr T Joynson (Vice Chair), Mr R Shepherd (RS), Prof A Long (AL), Mr P Gill (PG), Ms H Stuart (HS) Clerk

Apologies: Cllr R Windass (RW), District Cllr N Duxbury (ND)

Members of the public present: 6

Declarations of Interest: Nil

The minutes of the last meeting were signed and dated as a true and accurate record by LB.

County Issues - none

District issues - none

Matters Arising:

1. Playing Fields

- Monthly inspections - AL - rabbit holes continue to be an issue. RS suggested rabbit management be addressed in the autumn. RS to lead on this.
- AWRP community day 23rd August - this was successful. TJ will paint roundup on the stumps. Additional work will be necessary around November time. RS will continue to liaise with AWRP.
- Track up to the playing field needs to be addressed. Quotes to be sought. Drainage to be addressed at the same time. Clerk to contact HAGGS via Groundworks. TJ to liaise with Nick Spence.
- Playground installed and open. Snagging list to be completed. The PC approved payment to the contractors, HAGGS-SMP, of 90% of their invoice, agreeing to follow Paul Varney's (Groundworks) recommendation to withhold 10% of the final payment until the snagging list is completed.

2. Village Shop

- RS reported on the size of the bin outside the shop. PC to look at installing a second bin.

3. Village Hall

- Defibrillator training arranged for 17th September in the village hall.

4.Planning

- HBC Planning enforcement feedback -
 - Siting of caravan - HBC are trying to contact the owner of the land to ascertain its purpose
 - Barn - Grafton Manor - no breach of planning conditions
 - Rabbit Hill development - retrospective planning application to be submitted
- Felling of tree - Givendale House - HBC refused consent. The applicant has submitted an appeal.

5.Parish Council Clerk vacancy

Following interview by LB and TJ the successful applicant is Wendy Bartlett. Wendy is already Clerk for Little Ouseburn Parish Council and has been appointed with effect from 01.10.16. She has offered to attend a Training day on 8th October and it was agreed that the course fees be shared between Little Ouseburn and McG PCs.

Accounts:

The external auditors have requested an explanation of variances in the accounts - now submitted and accepted. However they are still querying the amount of reserves. Despite our expected expenditure over the coming year, the PC still has reserves totalling more than twice as much as precept. For this reason, the matter has been referred upwards to a more senior manager.

The Parish Council approved and acknowledged the following payments:

In:

£2500.00 (75% of Tesco's Bags for Help grant for Village Playground)

£22,500 (Yorventure Grant)

£22,500.00 (WREN Grant)

£1,200.00 (village shop rent)

£497.24 (Commutated sums - cemetery car park)

Total £49,197.24

Out:

£58,771.01 (90% of payment to HAGS-SMP - village playground supply & installation)

£1000.00 - (PCC - cemetery car park - commuted sums + PC match funding)

£31.88 (T3Tc Ltd) - website hosting

£3000.00 (Groundworks Project Management fee - village playground)

£245.00 (Clerk salary - July & August)

Total £63,047.89

The VAT return has been submitted - £10,718 reimbursement is being claimed in respect of the large invoice for the village playground. As a result of this abnormally large claim HMRC have contacted the PC and requested that a VAT compliance check be completed. LB and HS will submit the requested documentation by 20.09.16.

Correspondence:

- Sport England active places - maintenance of national databases of sports facilities - clerk to respond
- Parish Consultation meeting - 6pm Knaresborough House - 24th Oct - items can be sent in advance and two representatives can attend. PC had no items on this occasion and were unable to attend.
- Dog fouling in the village - residents have reported fouling on the playing fields and elsewhere. It was agreed an email be sent to residents, particularly asking them not to hang filled bags on hedges as these are a hazard to machinery. Dog warden to be contacted for sticker signs. Residents to be reminded to be more vigilant.
- Community led housing - Rural Action Yorkshire - TJ will complete survey.

Any other Business:

- The PC acknowledged that accessibility from Marton to the new village playground is difficult especially for pushchairs and wheelchairs. PC considered the suggestion to create a new pathway from the back of the Punch Bowl to the playing fields/playground. It may be possible to apply for funding from Two Ridings and match or contribute funds from the PC. NYCC to be consulted too. Clerk to request Paul Varney of Groundworks to contact TJ to explore this further.

The meeting was opened to the public:

- A resident highlighted the extent of the size of the AWRP plant. It was suggested by a resident that local land be purchased for tree planting to screen the site. Surrounding PCs could be consulted to submit a joint application. This proposal is being brought up at next AWRP liaison meeting.

Date of the next meeting: 6th October 2016 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed Dated

A meeting of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Thursday 6th October 2016 at 7.30 pm

Present: Ms L Bullus (LB) (Chair), Mr T Joynson (Vice Chair), Prof A Long (AL), Mr P Gill (PG), District Cllr N Duxbury (ND), Ms W Bartlett (WB) Clerk

Apologies: Cllr R Windass (RW), Mr R Shepherd (RS)

Members of the public present: 13

Declarations of Interest: Nil

The minutes of the last meeting were signed and dated as a true and accurate record by LB.

County Issues - none

District issues - ND provided an update covering the following points:

- Harrogate Borough Council is to sell its offices at Crescent Gardens for just under £6m. The building will be developed into luxury apartments
- HBC Housing Proposals - the proposed developments at Flaxby will definitely be put forward and it is likely that the proposal for Green/Kirk Hammerton/Cattal will also be put forward. Infrastructure is recognized to be an important consideration. Flaxby will add 1500-1800 dwellings to existing housing stock.
- Devolution project - Harrogate is finding it hard to find partners. ND expressed his preference that we partner with York & East Yorkshire not Leeds.
- Harrogate Borough Council is forecasting a budget shortfall over the next 5 years although there is a contingency fund. They are looking very much to promote the commercial opportunities afforded by assets such as the Turkish baths.
- Harrogate International Conference Centre makes a loss in the region of £5-600k per year, however in terms of the revenue it brings into the town this is considered to be just about acceptable.
- Difficulties with Planning - Officers are having a difficult time operating without a Local Plan in place. ND expressed his wish to speak to the meeting (3-minute allocated time slot) when the next proposal for the multiple housing development in Marton cum Grafton comes through.

1. Playing Fields

- A meeting is to be held on 18th October at 11am with Angela Pease from Yorventure. LB to attend.
- TJ asked that removal of the pile of debris (spoil) left outside the gate should be added to the snagging list. WB to action.
- An estimate from Nick Spence for repairs to the road and car park was passed to TJ. Further quotes are being sought from HAGGS-SMP and another company recommended by Paul Varney.
- A discussion took place regarding the bulbs to be provided by Harrogate Borough Council. WB to collect and deliver to Rob Lewis who will plant them in the appropriate places. If a choice is still possible crocuses are preferred.

2. Village Shop

- A discussion on the possible purchase and installation of a second bin is to be carried forward to the next meeting.

3. Village Hall

- The noticeboard needs a repair to the lock and additional work to prevent the rain getting in. The village hall committee will try to fix the lock and AL/TJ will check if it is feasible to seal the top or whether a new board should be purchased by the PC.
- Mike Popple advised that the Hall AGM had taken place and everything is in order. A copy of the accounts to be provided to the PC.

4. Planning

- No update from HBC Planning Enforcement.
- An appeal regarding the refusal to allow the felling of a tree at Givendale House has been received by HBC.

5. Parish Council Clerk

Having been introduced as the new Clerk earlier in the meeting, the PC approved to continue reimbursing the Clerk at a salary of £1500 although LB suggested that WB keep a record of hours spent on PC work to allow a review in due course.

Accounts:

The External Auditor has now approved the PC Audit 2015/16 and copies of their report are available on the village notice boards or from the Clerk. In their report they advise the PC to consider the level of reserves in relation to future precept requests. The PC proposes expenditure of reserves as appropriate on projects including the track and footpath access to the playing field, a new bench and car park.

LB advised the meeting in regards to the Inland Revenue VAT compliance check which was now complete. Advice had been given as to which particular items should be included on future VAT returns and a recommendation made in regards to the PC invoice for garage rent paid annually by a resident which should be made subject to VAT (rate to be determined by the PC).

The Parish Council approved and acknowledged the following payments:

In:

£10,718.00 (VAT reclaim)
£50.00 (Village Shop contribution to insurance)
£40.09 (Northern Powergrid Wayleave payment)
£3.39 (Northern Powergrid Wayleave payment)
Total £10,811.48

Out:

£1140.00 (N Wilson - grass cutting)
£290.00 (Stephen Marklew - grass cutting)
£120.00 (PFK Littlejohn Auditors)
£28.91 (Autela Payroll Services)

£127.08 (Clerk's salary September plus expenses)

£7.60 (HMRC Months 4-6)

£12.50 (SLCC for Clerk's Training Day, 8th October)

Total £1726.09

Correspondence:

- A letter had been received from the PCC thanking the PC for their contribution to the churchyard.
- Northern Powergrid - asking for PC views on their request to have access to lay a cable across the Green at Grafton Lane from their pole to the road. WB to respond - the PC's view being that the work was acceptable provided the ground was reinstated and subject to wayleave payment.
- AWRP liaison meeting report (RS attended). Questions from the public were asked as follows: 1. Is enough being done to repair the walls around the estate, as £1m had been allocated? 2. Apparent increase in traffic movements doubling from 160 to 320 movements per day as trucks will be allowed to go both ways up and down A168? RS to raise at the next liaison meeting and Clerk to contact Cllr Windass.
- Volunteering Oscars - an HBC initiative. Nominations from the community sought by 10th October.
- Wheels to Work - an initiative which makes scooters available on loan to individuals wishing to progress in life but disadvantaged by a lack of available transport between home and work. WB to circulate to village email list and place poster on noticeboards.
- HBC/Ripon Museums Trust/Dementia Forward - call for volunteers for a pilot project to develop opportunities within the community for people affected by dementia. WB to circulate to village email list and place poster on boards.

Any other Business:

- The PC agreed to press on with the purchase of a new bench to place on the hill. WB to provide information on types available for the PC to consider. It was suggested that this bench should sit on railway sleepers and perhaps Nick Spence could install it. WB to investigate further.

The meeting was opened to the public:

- A resident advised that a tree was overhanging the footpath in Marton. LB agreed to speak to the householder.
- A question was asked regarding the acceptable frequency of maintenance of the defibrillator. WB to contact Yorkshire Ambulance Service and to further discuss possibility of a second training session in the Hall.
- It was noted by a member of the public that the new house adjacent to Lime Bar Lane has a garage which is outside the building line. The PC confirmed that it had noted this on their comments to HBC and despite this approval had been given.
- A resident noted that planning permission was given for a new house to be built at Glebelands Farm on Grafton Lane, on the sharp bend between Grafton and

Boroughbridge, on condition that the old house was demolished. It is alleged that this has not happened. Although the farm is not within this parish but comes under Boroughbridge Town Council - WB to raise with Planning.

Date of the next meeting: 3rd November at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Signed Dated

A meeting of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Thursday 3rd November 2016 at 7.30 pm

Present: Ms L Bullus (LB) (Chair), Mr T Joynson (Vice Chair), Mr P Gill (PG), Mr R Shepherd (RS), District Cllr N Duxbury (ND), Ms W Bartlett (WB) Clerk

Apologies: Cllr R Windass (RW), Prof A Long (AL)

Members of the public present: 7

Declarations of Interest: Nil

The minutes of the last meeting were signed and dated as a true and accurate record by LB.

County Issues - none

District issues:

ND provided an update covering the following points:

- Sale of Crescent Gardens by HBC is going ahead for £6m. Offers are on the table for Scottsdale House and Victoria Park House.
- HBC Housing Proposals - lots of opposition to Flaxby. It is possible that both Flaxby and Green Hammerton will be developed to some extent.

Matters Arising:

1. Ongoing village development projects

- Clerk to obtain another quote for the installation of a bench on the hill from Rich Grant, Green & Tidy and order the bench from Marmax Products - delivery to PG.
- TJ to fix up the Yorventure plaque in the playground. Clerk to liaise with Paul Varney, Groundworks regarding the Yorventure questionnaire.
- RS gave an update on the woodlands and outdoor classroom projects:
 - (i) Outdoor classroom - £2k has been awarded from HBC Small Grants Scheme and £8k from Cobbett Environmental. The area needs clearing first and Amey Cespa may provide a working party to do this. Work on creating the classroom should commence early Spring 2017.
 - (ii) Woodlands - Allerton Park LCH Fund has granted £44,984 to recondition the path network in the woodland & to construct the two new paths. RS is awaiting a 3rd quote for this work. The school is also working on the creation of a path into the woodland.

LB thanked RS for his work on these projects on behalf of the PC and residents.

- TJ reported on progress with the playing field and carpark project. TJ to obtain a revised quote for a carpark surface like that used in the graveyard carpark project recently completed.
- RS suggested that a smaller bin could be installed in the playground nearer the benches, perhaps attached to the railings. Agreed to defer ordering this item until it was possible to identify who would empty it.

- The issue of dog waste being left outside the dog waste bins was raised. Clerk to send out a village email.
2. Village Shop
- AL can make a new bin available. Agreed to ask AL to look into the installation and obtain any quotes as necessary.
3. Village Hall
- The defibrillator has been checked. LB relayed advice from Phil Pease that the defibrillator itself should not be opened too often as it will cause the battery to run down. It is enough to check the green light through the case door only. Clerk to send out a village email reminding people to let the PC know should the defibrillator have been used. TJ suggested that paper tape could be applied to the defibrillator which would provide a visual check if it had been opened.
4. Planning (dealt with between meetings)
- 6.71.KIOSK. 16/04228/KIOSK BT proposal to remove the kiosk on Reas Lane. PC had responded as follows: C - The PC does not object to or support the application but would like to be contacted regarding possible adoption. Clerk to circulate village email to ask for opinions on adoption and possible future use. PC needs to be wary of costs associated with adoption which will be further explored as necessary.
 - 6.71.73.F.FUL. 16/04299/FUL Conversion of existing buildings to form additional accommodation and erection of a single storey link extension. Alteration to existing outbuilding/annex at Highfield House, Thorny Hill Lane. PC had responded as follows: A. The Parish Council has no objections.
 - 6.71.187.A.CO.U. 16/04247/CO.U Change of use - Rabbit Hill Park Retrospective application for the change of use of agricultural buildings to form office space (use class B1), retail space (use class A1) and cafe (use class A3). PC had responded: B. The Parish Council objects on planning grounds, summarised as follows: the development which has taken place is a material change from the permission requested in the original application which was for the conversion of agricultural buildings to create office and warehousing space. It is at odds with the stated aim of HBC to resist ribbon development along the A168 corridor.

Enforcements update

- 16/00532/BRPC - 09/00721/FUL Glebelands Farm (reported at October 2016 meeting) - added to caseload, no further update.
- 16/00203/PR15 Land comprising field at junction of Braimber Lane/Priestcarr Lane. Siting of caravan. HBC are not clear further to a land registry search who owns the land. Clerk to advise HBC that the PC do not require any further work on this at this time.
- 15/00340/BRPC Holly Cottage, Breach of Conditions. The Clerk had been advised that this is still on the HBC caseload and the Planning Enforcement Officer is awaiting feedback from the HBC legal team.
- 6.71.160.A.TPO 16/00064/REFTPO Felling of 1 Ash Tree and planting of replacement tree at Givendale House, Thorny Hill Lane. An appeal had been made against HBC refusal to allow the above. The appeal has been dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate.

Accounts:

The Parish Council approved and acknowledged the following payments:

In:

£1675.00 (HBC second precept payment)

£1430.00 (HBC grounds maintenance)

Total £3105.00

Out:

£95.00 (W Bartlett VAT Training)

£6530.00 (HAGGS - SMP)

£69.49 (H Stuart, additional hours and post redirection expenses)

£140.70 (W Bartlett, salary and expenses)

Total £6835.19

Mandate - an amendment to the bank mandate was signed to add WB, PG & TJ and remove Roger Naish. The signing rules will remain as two Councillors.

Precept - it was agreed by the meeting to ask for the same amount of precept for 2017/18 as this year - £3350.00. Clerk to request this from HBC.

Correspondence:

- HBC Local Plan. Consultation begins on 11th November until 23rd December. Exhibitions will be held locally during the consultation - a list has been placed on noticeboards and circulated to the village email list. The nearest to Marton cum Grafton are Tuesday 22nd November 2pm - 7pm at The Jubilee Room, Boroughbridge and Tuesday 29th November 2pm - 7pm at Green Hammerton Village Hall.
- Andrew Jones MP asks the PC to support his view that Marton-cum-Grafton should not be moved into the Selby & Ainsty constituency as a result of proposed changes by the Boundary Commission. LB to draft a letter in support. Clerk to circulate to village email list.
- Northern Powergrid have advised they no longer need access to lay a cable across the Green at Grafton Lane from their pole to the road. They have also advised that current wayleave payments are in line with recommended guidelines.
- YLCA Council Tax Referendum Principles Consultation. YLCA and parent body NALC are lobbying against Government consultation which proposes to apply referendum principles on town and some larger parish councils (which may also be extended to smaller councils) who want to raise their precept above a certain level. Cost of carrying out a referendum would create a 2% rise in itself to be borne by local ratepayers.

Any other Business: none

The meeting was opened to the public and the following points were made:

- PC agreed to pay for the costs of refilling the salt bin.
- Feedback from Cllr Windass on query re AWRP traffic movements raised at the October meeting. HBC Planning confirm that there has been no further update to permissions sought in the original application.
- Mud on the road at Rougham Farm. Clerk to write letter to landowner.
- Broken stile - grid reference 416629 (on footpath from Methodist Chapel crossing overgrown hedge) - previously reported

Date of the next meeting: 1st December at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Signed Dated

A meeting of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Thursday, 1st December 2016 at 7.00 pm

Present: Ms L Bullus (LB) (Chair), Mr T Joynson (TJ), Prof A Long (AL), Mr P Gill (PG), Mr R Shepherd (RS), County Cllr R Windass (RW), District Cllr N Duxbury (ND) and Ms W Bartlett (WB) Clerk

Apologies: None

Members of the public present: 11

Declarations of Interest: None

The minutes of the last meeting were signed and dated as a true and accurate record by LB.

County Issues: RW advised on the following:

Boundary Commission - objections are being received to the plans to take Boroughbridge & Claro ward into Selby & Ainsty. If the move goes ahead Marton cum Grafton PC would still report to Harrogate as District Council.

Devolution - likely to be a grouping of the East Riding, City of York, West Yorkshire (including Leeds) and North Yorkshire. South Yorkshire has already linked to Lincolnshire.

Finances - NYCC has £14m of savings to find so there will be further cuts to services. The aim is to be self-sufficient by 2020. The 2% increase on the precept to cover Adult Social Care is likely to be imposed again 2017/18.

Highways - drainage works at Minskip. The road there will be surface dressed Spring/Summer 2017. Plans for a Harrogate relief road are under discussion (as distinct from a Ring Road). It is costing £2m to get information together for the bid. The preferred route will be announced mid-2017. Problems with wagons passing through Boroughbridge and parking along the road to Roecliffe have been noted. The Council is looking to apply HGV restrictions at a cost of £35k to be met by Reed Boardall (£10k), Highways £10k and the remainder from Boroughbridge Town and Roecliffe Parish Councils.

Allerton Park - a visit had taken place recently. The build is on schedule and there will be trial burns June/July 2017 with the plant being commissioned shortly thereafter. The person currently managing the build (Mark James) will stay on to manage the plant afterwards. There is currently lots of cable laying for electricity to the Coneythorpe substation. This meant closures to Arkendale Moor Lane, a process which was handled well by Amey Cespa. The aim is to generate electricity sufficient to power an area the size of Harrogate.

Trading Standards - two people were jailed this week over a tarmacking scam.

District Issues: ND advised on the following:

A full council meeting is to be held on 7th December at which consultation on the Stray will be discussed.

The Local Plan (housing) process continues.

Plans for the pub at Minskip and the land behind it will be discussed at a planning meeting on 6th December. Plans are for the pub to re-open and for two houses to be built behind it.

Matters Arising:

1. Playing Fields

- The new bench has been installed on the hill between the villages. Sleepers provided free of charge by Richard Grant, Green & Tidy.
- Having provided the cheapest of three quotes Nick Spence has been appointed to complete the track project and work is due to start very soon.

2. Village Shop

- Nothing to note.

3. Village Hall

- Everything up to date. LB advised that there had been an issue with the light on the defibrillator recently when the power source had been disrupted. Although the power came back on, the red cross which appears on the unit to show disruption stays there until the next self-check 24 hours later. Volunteers are being sought to do weekly checks.

4. Planning

- Givendale House - the Planning Inspectorate report had been received. Primary reasons for not overturning the decision is that in their opinion the tree has an intrinsic value to the character and appearance of the area.
- BT Kiosk - adoption has been proposed and the school will use the box as a children's book exchange and be responsible for looking after it.
- Highfield House - the recent planning application has been approved by HBC.
- Local Plan Consultation - LB advised that having attended one of the recent consultation meetings the view being expressed by HBC officers is that they would prefer to protect the Conservation Area. The land on the road coming into Marton does not fall within that area and so development is likely to go ahead possibly scaled down in number. The PC will respond to the Local Plan consultation to the effect that the principles set out in the Village Design Statement and the recommendations of the conservation area review undertaken by HBC a few years ago should be upheld, particularly in maintaining the green space between the two villages.

Accounts:

In: Nothing to report

Out: Marmax (new bench) £432 inc VAT; Green & Tidy (bench installation) £120 (inc VAT); Clerk's salary and expenses £108.98.

Insurance has been extended to cover the new playground equipment for public liability. The additional cost next year will be £86.62. Although the equipment is now on the policy from mid-November there will no additional charge this year.

Correspondence:

- North Yorkshire Now November issue had been circulated on the residents email list

- NYCC Minerals & Waste Plan - LB summarised the contents, including the Council's plans to create Energy from Waste (Allerton Park) and the development of anaerobic digestion. RW advised that recycling rates are going down and HBC are planning a reminder to residents. There is to be a judicial review of the decision to allow fracking at Kirby Misperton.
- Police Liaison Meeting (SNG) - 14th December in Boroughbridge. RW to attend.
- New Community Beat Officer - Jan Powell (male) will come to a future PC meeting. RW advised that when Boroughbridge Police Station closes personnel may move to Ripon.

Any other Business: None

The meeting was opened to the public:

- A report was received that a business involving many parked cars appears to be being run on Reas Lane which is causing problems. The PC will make contact with HBC to raise the issue.
- Thanks were offered to the PC for all their work during 2016.

Date of the next meeting: Thursday 5th January at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.

Signed Dated