

A meeting of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Thursday, 5th January 2017 at 7.30 pm

Present: Ms L Bullus (LB) (Chair), Mr T Joynson (TJ) (Vice-Chair), Prof A Long (AL), Mr R Shepherd (RS), Mr P Gill (PG), Ms W Bartlett (WB) (Clerk)

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

Members of the public present: 9

Declarations of Interest:

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

County Issues: None

District Issues: None

Matters Arising:

1. Playing Fields

- Councillors approved of the new bench installed. Clerk to arrange for a small sign acknowledging the sponsorship of Green & Tidy which mustn't impede mowing.
- TJ reported that he is waiting for an update from Nick Spence regarding progress on the track up to the playing fields.
- RS reported that two further quotes for the paths related to the Woodlands project are pending.

2. Village Shop

- Barrie Hall (BH) reported that Helen was now able to get the new striplight bulbs so the immediate need to update the lighting had been averted. Clerk to liaise with Helen as to future work. BH reported that Helen is planning to redecorate at her own expense in due course.

3. Village Hall

- Nothing to report.

4. Planning

- a) 16/04247/COU - Rabbit Hill
Notification had been received from HBC Planning advising that the work had been retrospectively approved.
- b) 6.71.KIOSK. 16/04228/KIOSK - BT Phone Box at Reas Lane
HBC have submitted comments on all phone boxes affected across the district to BT. Clerk to follow up direct with BT to ensure the request to adopt has not been overlooked.
- c) Local Plan Consultation
The Clerk had sent a letter to outline the PC's views which were that development within in the village conservation area which might harm its

character should be avoided. The PC asked that the green fields between Marton and Grafton be retained and for the principles set out in the Village Design Statement and also the recommendations of the conservation area review undertaken by HBC a few years ago to be upheld. Any development outside the conservation area should be small scale and fit in with the linear design of the village.

5. Accounts:

In: £516.38 (VAT Reimbursement)
 £1200.00 (Shop Rent Q3)
 Total £1716.38

Out: £112.50 (HMRC PAYE)
 £28.91 (Autela Payroll Services)
 £100.00 (W Bartlett, Clerk Salary)*
 Total £241.41

*approved pending arrival of new cheque book.

Advice had been received from HBC that the Council Tax Support Grant would be £57 in 2017/18. This amount to be shown separately on the Annual Return, not rolled in with the Precept figure. However, the Grant will cease thereafter.

The Clerk had been approached by the Clerk from Goldsborough/Flaxby PC who are looking for an auditor. Clerk to advise that we are unfortunately unable to assist.

Correspondence:

- North Yorkshire Now December issue - circulated on resident's email list
- Boundary Commission Review - the Commission is putting forward to Parliament its proposals for a reduction in the number of Harrogate Borough Councillors to 40 (from 54). This proposal necessitates the redrawing of ward boundaries and the resulting changes include Marton-cum-Grafton becoming part of Ouseburn Ward (moving from Claro) in the Selby & Ainsty Constituency (moving from Harrogate & Knaresborough). The draft order to be implemented by Parliament provides for the new arrangements to come into force from May 2018.

At the same time Harrogate Borough Council will change to whole Council elections (effective May 2018) so that Parish Council elections will align with the years of elections for district councillors.

- NYCC Budget Consultations - a live webchat took place on 13th December to which residents were invited to contribute.
- AWRP Liaison Meeting - RS reported back. Construction is on track. All exterior cladding will be in place by the end of February. Job interviews currently taking place. The next panel meeting to decide on large grants will take place in March. Complaints about litter on the A168 (falling from lorries?) - a scheme to monitor and improve this will be put in place. Claro House - work to commence on 24th Jan and to be completed by September. Onsite pollution monitoring by the Environment

Agency will be continuous and there will also be random monitoring within the locality. The next liaison group meeting will be in March.

- Draft Public Service Ombudsman Bill - draft legislation has been published setting out the Government's plans for a new Public Service Ombudsman. The aim will be to improve access to Ombudsman services and to bring local councils into their scope.
- Extension of Referendum Principles - these will not be extended to local councils in 2017/18 although local councils are expected to clearly demonstrate restraint when setting any precept increases.
- North Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner - consultation on the police precept. Individuals can respond online or by writing or ringing the PCC's office. The most likely outcome is for the precept to increase by 1.99% meaning that an average household would pay 8p a week more.
- Battle's Over - A Nation's Tribute and WWI Beacons of Light, 11 November 2018 Communities are invited to participate. Clerk to circulate on village e-mail list. Although McG may not light a beacon there may be other suitable events to consider.

Any other Business:

- The Clerk had asked if the March meeting on 2nd of the month could be moved to allow her to attend. A discussion took place regarding alternative dates. Clerk to liaise with Village Hall and Cllrs to confirm new date.
- LB advised that potholes had been noted on Grafton Lane before the turning for Grafton Mere. Clerk to report to HBC.
- Natural hazards. AL referred to the reported sighting of a wild boar on 3rd January on Thorney Hill Lane. It was suggested at the meeting that it may have been a farmed escapee. Village alerted via resident's email list. Post meeting note: animal now identified as a rare breed pig escaped from a local farm.

The meeting was then opened to the public:

- A resident drew attention to continuing drainage problems on the Church Lane junction (village end). Clerk to report.
- A resident reported a pothole on Church Lane. Clerk to advise HBC.
- A resident asked if the PC response to the Local Plan Consultation had in fact reflected the public view. Rather than no building in the conservation area, they felt that appropriate development would be acceptable. The resident advised that the planning application for the 22 houses has now gone beyond the timescale for a decision. District Cllr Nick Duxbury has the right to demand that the application be determined. Clerk/Chair to check the situation with Cllr Duxbury and with Mark Williams, HBC Planning.
- A resident advised that a formal request to create a brick-build BBQ at the tennis courts will be put forward to the PC in due course.
- A resident also advised that a Friends of Christ Church was to be set up (non-religious) for those who wanted to see the upkeep of the building and help maintain the fabric.
- Michael and Shirley Mellor of 4 Reas Lane asked to speak to the meeting further to reports that they were running a garage business outside their home which is not the

case. They wished to confirm that there are currently 5 cars in situ - 2 on the pad and 3 opposite the house. Of these 3, 2 are due to be sold in the near future. These cars are either for personal use or related to Mrs Mellor's cleaning business. Mr Mellor said he had in the past worked outside the house on another car belonging to someone else as a favour but any work that needed to be done on his 5 cars would be done elsewhere. Mr and Mrs Mellor asked that if residents wanted to discuss any perceived problems in the future please could they come to them first. LB thanked them for attending the meeting to clarify the situation.

- A resident will approach Websters to cut the roadside hedge and the banking by the tennis courts. Volunteers will be needed to help paint the ash stumps after cutting. The hedges have to be done by the end of February. Volunteers likely to be needed in March. Clerk to liaise with the resident and circulate request for volunteers on the village email list nearer the time.
- The same resident will also ask for the mole man to visit.

Date of the next meeting: 2nd February at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.

Signed Dated

A meeting of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Thursday, 2nd February 2017 at 7.30 pm

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

Apologies: None

Members of the public present: 12

Declarations of Interest: None

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

County Issues:

Council Budget - RW reported that the main budget meeting where decisions will be taken on council tax will be held in 2 weeks' time. The proposal (which is very likely to be passed) is for a 6% increase over the next 4 years, with a 2% increase for 2017/18. This takes into account an additional precept to cover the costs of adult social care. NYCC are taking money out of reserves to help meet the shortfall.

Allerton Park - test burns are planned for July/August with the plant set to go operational early in 2018. The bad news is that it is likely a planning application for a sugar beet refinery will be placed with Harrogate Borough Council which may be looked upon favourably by them as a means of utilising heat produced from AWRP. AL raised the issue of revenue raised from the potential sugar refinery operation and where that would go in view of the fact that AWRP is funded by public money. In answer to a question raised by a member of the public regarding lighting at night at the AWRP, RW advised that light pollution from inside the plant would diminish once the cladding was complete.

Highways - an additional £5.1m has been provided by the Government for highways to attend to potholes etc. Councillors have been advised that if money continues to be taken out of NYCC reserves at the current rate it will be totally depleted by 2023. NYCC still has £14.2m to save. However, compared with the financial situation of some other shire counties, North Yorkshire is still in a reasonable position.

District Issues:

Council Offices - ND advised that Victoria House has been sold and the sale of other Council buildings is going ahead.

Matters Arising:

1. Playing Fields/Woodland Project

- No further update on the path/track related to the playing fields.
- RS reported that TCV/Groundworks are due to start work on 27th February to recondition existing footpaths and to create 2 new ones.

2. Village Shop

- Nothing to report.

3. Village Hall

- LB advised of a flashing light in the newspaper storage room. Village Hall Committee are aware and this will be dealt with in the next visit of the electrician.

4. Planning

a) Building on land on the North side of Limebar Bank Road, Grafton
6.71.123.F.CLEUD 16/05525/CLEUD - Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for an Existing use.

The Clerk had been in touch with the Planning Officer who was intending to visit and would advise the PC if there was anything further to report. Clerk to ask for an extension for the PC reply. The likely response will be to ask for justification of agricultural use from the applicant.

b) Land on Limebar Lane known as “The Paddocks”

In view of previous issues the PC agreed to write to Planning to ask for confirmation that the building there is not being used as living accommodation.

c) Planning application for 22 houses opposite “The Orchards”

LB reported that the Planning Officer had confirmed that he is still awaiting amended plans (which feature alterations to drainage) for the current application which are due in the next few weeks. The amendments will be advertised with new green site notices. The PC will be re-consulted and local residents who wrote in will be notified.

Additionally, the applicants have made a separate submission to the Local Plan process where only the front of the site is allocated. Unlike the current application this would not involve development to the rear of the site. The Planning Officer is of the view that 10 units allocated to this would be ambitious and would be more likely to result in 5. It is likely that the current application will be determined well before the draft Local Plan is adopted.

5. Revised plans for waiting restrictions outside the school on Reas Lane:

A revised drawing had been provided for preliminary comment by NYCC Highways in response to suggestions that the scheme should be extended past the new school gate. Having participated in a discussion and taking into account the views of local residents, the Councillors took a vote. As a result of the vote the PC agreed to support the revised plan which takes the restrictions past the new entrance. The PC agreed to ask the new Community Beat Officer, Jan Powell to keep an eye on the situation. It was also agreed to write or send an email to the Board of Governors regarding the irresponsible parking that continues to be practised by some parents and possibly staff.

6. Two Ridings Fund

Two suggestions were put forward as projects for potential funding:

- a) New roof/improvements for the Village Hall
- b) Soundwall at the side of the A1 to mitigate noise pollution particularly in the Limebar Lane area.

It was agreed to progress both options by initially checking with Two Ridings as to

whether these projects would fall into the relevant scope of the Fund.

7. Accounts Summary

Out: £112.50 (HMRC PAYE)
 £28.91 (Autela Payroll Services)
 £100.00 (W Bartlett, Clerk Salary)*
 Total £241.41

Cheques signed at the meeting: £33.60 Get Mapping plc (Parish Online),
£100 (Clerk's Salary), £31.20 (Colton Signs).

Notification of a small increase in fees for 2017/18 had been received from Autela Payroll Services which was accepted.

Correspondence:

- YLCA had advised that Littlejohn would again be the Auditor for the PC's accounts in 2017/18.
- Minutes of the Safer Neighbourhood Group Meeting on 14th December. LB ran through the agenda items covered which had included the issue of HGV parking, CCTV cameras and the move of the Community Beat Officer Jan Powell from Boroughbridge to Ripon at a future date.
- North Yorkshire Now Online Newsletter, January 2017 - had been circulated to the village email list.
- Request for funding for Citizens Advice in Ripon. The PC felt it could not contribute at this time.
- HBC had contacted the PC to announce the decrease of grants for Parish Grass Cutting and total cessation by 2019/20. In 2017/18 the grant will be £1,248.26 and in 2018/19 £998.26 then cease thereafter. LB read a written objection by a member of the public unable to attend the meeting. It was suggested that it might be appropriate for the PC to purchase a new mower when that becomes necessary.
- NYCC - Countryside Access Service - Public Consultation. The PC is happy to be invited to rate village paths in terms of importance to help NYCC's Countryside Access Service prioritise management and maintenance in the future. Clerk to respond to the initial request for consultation.

Any other Business:

- A member of the public had emailed the council regarding the ash tree by Foxgloves house in Grafton. It appears to be dead in part and AL confirmed that a large bough had recently fallen off. Clerk to raise with NYCC Tree Officer.
- LB advised that Grafton Lane and Church Lane potholes had been reported and work completed to repair the former (the others fall outside the relevant criteria). Clerk to re-contact NYCC Highways regarding the drainage complaint on Church Lane which was also recently reported but not answered.

The meeting was then opened to the public:

- A member of the public advised that the railings on the A168 before the turn into Marton need attention. Clerk to report to Highways.
- Litter picks on Braimber Lane and Grafton Lane are proposed once the weather is better.
- Battle's Over - A Nation's Tribute and WWI Beacons of Light, 11 November 2018
A resident enquired if there had been any response to the circulation of information on this. The Clerk and Cllrs had received none however were advised that Christ Church PCC were minded to do something.

Date of the next meeting: 1st March at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

Signed Dated

A meeting of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Thursday, 1st March 2017 at 7.30 pm

Present: Ms L Bullus (LB) (Chair), Mr T Joynson (TJ) (Vice-Chair), Prof A Long (AL), Mr R Shepherd (RS), Ms W Bartlett (WB) (Clerk)

Apologies: Mr P Gill (PG)

Members of the public present: 8

Declarations of Interest: None

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

County Issues: None

District Issues: None

Matters Arising:

1. Playing Fields/Woodland Project

- TJ advised that the road planings used on the track and car park are industry-standard. If asphalt had been used the cost would have been three times as high. The new surface may need further compacting in future years. TJ will speak to Groundworks regarding tidying up the soakaway. LB thanked TJ on behalf of the PC for undertaking this project.
- RS reported that work is now underway with the project to recondition existing footpaths and to create 2 new ones in the Woodlands. TCV are looking again at the cost of creating the most ambitious (south west) path as it traverses a steep bank. Work should be completed by the end of March or early April. Work to create the school's outdoor classroom will start Monday 16th March.
- The proposal for the new BBQ at the playing fields/tennis courts was discussed and agreed unanimously. This will be a brick sided barbeque on a stone/concrete base. The grill will be kept separately and provided to people on request so that use can be controlled. The BBQ will be constructed opposite the entrance gate to the courts, immediately to the right of the steps leading up to the road. Some digging out of the earth bank will be involved although this will be minor and will not affect the integrity of the slope to the road.

2. Village Shop

- The lease expires January 2018 (5 years). LB to discuss with Helen Tesseyman.

3. Village Hall

- Nothing to report (a meeting will take place next week).

4. Planning

6.71.195.FUL 17/00394/FUL

Second and first floor extensions at Wheatlands. PC had no objection.

6.71.175.C.FUL 17/00590/FUL

Change of use from agricultural land (use Class Sui Generis) to domestic curtilage and erection of timber garage and workshop - Grafton Lodge Farm, Low Field Lane. PC had no objection.

6.71.147.E.CLEUD 17/00625/CLEUD Certificate of Lawful Development application Sycamore Lodge, Grafton Lane. PC had no objection.

6.71.20.H.FUL 17/00442/FUL Alterations to fenestration - Scuttlepond Cottage. PC had no objection.

6.71.26.0.FUL 17/00602/FUL - Erection of link extension between two existing holiday cottages to form one dwelling - Primrose Cottage. PC had no objection.

Ref 16/01277/OUTMAJ - 22 house development opposite "The Orchards". LB advised that it appears no amendment to the original planning application has been received by HBC Planning. Papers are to be put to the next Committee (14th March TBC) as is with a recommendation for refusal on various grounds. Clerk will liaise with HBC as to the possibility of representation at the meeting.

A resident advised that architects plans for the church porch extension would be available for review after the meeting in advance of formal consultation by HBC.

5. HBC Emergency Planning/Community Resilience

LB and Clerk will liaise with a view to drafting a suitable plan.

6. Insurance Policy Renewal

Renewal will be £781.92. The PC has a Long Term Agreement with Zurich (until 2021) and the price quoted reflects the appropriate discounts. Public liability cover is for £10m. Specific items covered under public liability cover include all the new items of playground equipment and the bench. The PC approved renewal.

7. Two Ridings Fund

TJ advised that he is awaiting further details from a contact at Area 6 regarding the estimated costs and feasibility of a soundwall at the side of the A1 to mitigate noise pollution particularly in the Limebar Lane area.

8. Community Litter Picks

Rob Lewis (RL) and RS were thanked for organizing the litter picks in both Marton and Grafton. LB/WB to send out a village email asking that villagers keep an eye out for litter and pick it up where possible. RL advised that obtaining loaned equipment from HBC and the subsequent pick up had worked very well.

9. Accounts Summary

Out:	£128.00 (HMRC VAT)
	£33.60 (Parish Online)
	£100.00 (W Bartlett, Clerk Salary)
	£31.20 (Colton Signs)
	Total £292.80

Cheques signed at the meeting: £38.38 (T3TC Ltd - web hosting),
£100.00 (Clerk's Salary), £5,500.00 (Groundworks).

The balance of the Community Account is £11,627.86.

Correspondence:

- Police report and Boroughbridge Police Station proposed closure. PC Jan Powell had advised that there had been one incident around two weeks ago of a suspicious person in a vehicle seen just outside the village who was moved on. He also advised that as there have been a number of night time burglaries in the villages around Knaresborough and Boroughbridge over the last few weeks, residents should be vigilant and report anything suspicious to the police. The PC did not wish to write to NYPCC Julia Mulligan objecting to the proposed police station closure and move to Ripon.
- Update on removal of grass cutting grant. LB advised that further to complaints from various councils the grant would not now be removed for 2017/18 but its phased withdrawal is still planned. WB to feedback on questions regarding implications for the PC.
- Tour de Yorkshire - HBC Small Grants Fund. PC felt that this did not apply to Marton cum Grafton.
- Great Yorkshire Bike Ride Event, 17th June 2017. 2,000 cyclists will pass through the locality on the above date. Route Marshalls will be in position.
- AWRP Liaison Meeting, 6.30pm on 14th March at Arkendale Community Centre. RS maybe unable to attend and will seek a substitute.

Any other Business:

- RS advised that TCV would welcome any volunteers who wished to help with the woodlands project.
- AL will arrange for the litter bin he has stored to be installed by the playground.
- LB gave updates on various issues recently raised with NYCC Area 6. In respect of recent problems with flooding on Church Lane, the four gullies, lines between them and manhole catchpit will be cleaned. The dying Ash Tree in Grafton will be assessed by HBC Parks Department. The damaged post and rail fence just before turning to Marton on the A168 has been repaired.

The meeting was then opened to the public:

- A member of the public advised that there was a problem with the hedge and detritus on the bank below on the hill between Marton and Grafton which makes pedestrian access very difficult. LB advised the member of the public to speak to the landowner first before attempting any cutting back.
- RL advised that he had been offered a very good deal on bulbs to supplement the few we receive yearly from HBC which would allow a proper planting plan to be put in place. PC agreed that RL should obtain further quotes as necessary and proceed with the plan. Any spare bulbs to be given to the church.
- Local residents advised that there is a continuing problem on Limebar Lane with new drainage in place at the building site behind the Manor House. The concern is that

as a pipe now replaces an open water course, there will be issues of over-capacity and subsequent waterlogging/flooding. Clerk to raise with appropriate authorities - Area 6, Claro Water Board, HBC Planning.

Date of the next meeting: 6th April 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, 6th April 2017 at 7.30 pm

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

Apologies: Mr R Shepherd (RS)

Members of the public present: 8

Declarations of Interest: None

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

County Issues: None

District Issues: ND reported that the Borough Council office move is going well and they have exchanged on Crescent Gardens. A deposit of £600k (10%) has been paid. Scottsdale House sale is progressing.

Regarding the possibility of a sugar beet factory on the A168, Arkendale PC will be emailing ND a list of their concerns for him to raise and McG PC is welcome to add to that. In response to a query ND advised that he believed a formal application for the sugar beet factory is approximately two or three months away.

ND also advised that the PC should email him regarding any outstanding pot-hole related issues as he is in liaison with County Cllr Don MacKenzie.

PSCO Philip Wright

The new PSCO attended briefly to make an introduction and ask if there are any current issues. In response a parent governor advised that there were ongoing problems with parking outside school and a parent had been hit by a reversing vehicle recently. Bollard control (instituted by staff) works well but is onerous. PSCO Wright was asked if he would be able to drop by the school during a morning drop off time to add his support.

Matters Arising:

1. Playing Fields/Woodland Project

- TJ advised that the outdoor classroom project has started. The area has been cleared and looks good. There is no seating yet.

2. Village Shop

- Agreed to roll over the lease (currently expires Jan 2018 after five years) without further legalities. A rent review would take place after seven years (with a view to increasing). LB/WB to put this in writing and obtain written agreement from HT.

3. Village Hall

- Waiting for an electrician to fix the lighting issue.

4. Planning

16/01277/OUTMAJ at Land Comprising Field at 441438 462610

The application for 22 houses opposite "The Orchards" had been refused with four reasons given. A member of the public drew attention to one of the points made against the development by a resident which was that if the development had gone ahead with its own village green it would have been divisive and split the village. The PC also expressed thanks to another resident who had raised valuable objections related to the ecology of the area. It was suggested that if further requests for development are made it would be appropriate to propose that the natural pond in this area be preserved.

6.71.196.FUL 17/00777/FUL

Erection of single storey extension with glazed link, Christ Church
The PC had no objection.

6.71.187.B.FULMAJ 17/00919/FULMAJ

Erection of 3 warehouse buildings (use class B8) including formation of new vehicular access and associated hardstanding. Green-tech, Rabbit Hill Park
PC objected with the view that the development of a retail/business park is at odds with HBC's own Landscape Character Assessment of this area. Additionally there are safety concerns over the proposed new entry.

6.71.195.FUL 17/00394/FUL

Revised scheme to include 2 storey front extension
The PC had no objection.

6.71.91.Q.TPO 17/00823/TPO

Crown reduction (by 1m) and crown cleaning of 1 copper beech tree at Beech House, Grafton Lane

PC had responded no objection between meetings. However, a decision notice had subsequently been received indicating HBC's refusal of the application.

Adoption of BT Phone Box, Reas Lane, Marton

BT had sent a contract which was signed at the meeting along with a cheque for purchase to the sum of £1.

Decision notification 6.71.20.H.FUL 17/00442/FUL Alterations to fenestration at Scuttlepond Cottage

Permission had been granted by HBC.

5. Limebar Lane, Marton cum Grafton flooding issues

Clerk will be chasing up Paul Tweed, NYCC Flood Risk Management for an on-site meeting.

6. Defibrillator registration/warranty

Clerk to check online registration for the Warranty. LB to include suggested ancillaries in the box.

7. Progress on new projects

TJ advised that the sound baffle will probably be too expensive although he is

waiting to hear further from NYCC Area 6 and Highways England.

PG advised that the repairs to the memorial hall roof fall outside the scope of the Allerton Fund.

A resident raised the issue of a proposed footpath behind the Punch Bowl to allow mothers with pushchairs to access the playground from Marton. He has spoken with the landowner who gave verbal agreement. Action: to check with RS if there is enough existing money to progress this or consider a new application. The PC was advised that the idea of another path between the school and the playing fields could not be progressed due to the objection of the landowner concerned.

8. Bulb Planting

RL advised that 2,000 snowdrops had been planted by volunteers and mapped. These were generously donated by Mr J Richardson and the PC very much appreciated his contribution. 1,000 crocus corms are to be purchased for planting in the village with some being passed to the church. 300 free daffodil bulbs to be ordered by the Clerk from HBC in its Parish bulb scheme (collect in October)

RL suggested that the PC consider the purchase of a substantial number of daffodil bulbs to be planted in the wide verges on the approaches to the village. The PC agreed to consider subject to more scoping of the project and the estimated cost.

9. Accounts Summary

Out: £5,500.00 (Groundworks)
 £10.00 (bank transfer fee)
 £38.38 (T3TC Ltd - web hosting)
 £100.00 (Clerk's salary - Feb)
 £182.40 (G Marston grass cutting)
 £100.00 (Clerk's salary - March)
 Total **£5930.78**

In: £1,200.00 (shop rent Q4)

Cheques signed at the meeting: £197.00 (YLCA Membership),
£75.00 (HMRC PAYE), £781.92 (Zurich Municipal Insurance); £1.00 (BT phone box adoption).

The balance of the Community Account is £6,868.17.

Correspondence:

- Neighbourhood Watch Association, 15th March Meeting
Not particularly well attended. Thanks to Ron Sneddon for organising.
- YLCA re Parish Precepts - request to demonstrate restraint from parent body NALC. Referendum principles have not been extended to parish councils but the government has issued a challenge to demonstrate restraint when increasing precepts that are not a direct result of taking on additional responsibilities.
- Civic Day, 17th June 2017 - no further action.

- North Yorkshire Police Property Fund Cash available for community projects Clerk will forward this to school.
- Allerton Park Landscape & Cultural Heritage Fund
Decisions on applications received for the large grant awards (£10k - £50k) will be suspended until the Jan 2018 panel meeting as funds are running low. There are still funds available in small grants (up to £1k) and medium grants £1k - £10k) allocations.

Any other Business:

- The PC agreed to set up an annual inspection (with a PC member in attendance) of the road up to the playing fields.
- Resident RN to continue to organise the ad-hoc mowing as necessary and send the bills to the Clerk.

The meeting was then opened to the public:

- A member of the public suggested that a project be started, involving various community groups, to up-date the pavilion at the sports field. The PC agreed and asked that a working party be set up to scope the project and report back with proposals.
- A resident advised that a dog waste bin is to be installed at the playground. PC to obtain a new litter bin also for the playground.
- In response to a comment about the overgrown hedge impinging on the footpath at Hill Top, LB to discuss with homeowner.
- A resident advised that the school bus (run by Stephensons) is using Grafton Lane, perhaps unnecessarily. LB/WB to follow up.
- A resident suggested that a mass planting of trees could take place on Back Lane to mitigate the visual intrusion of the incinerator.
- A resident advised that there is a caravan parked in a field off Priestcar Lane. LB advised that Enforcement are aware of this and consider that as it is unoccupied there is currently no need for action.
- A resident asked about the NYCC proposals for waiting restrictions outside the school. The parent governor attending advised that this is in the hands of NYCC Area 6 who have expertise in these matters and the school trusts that the correct decisions have been made.

Date of the next meeting: 10th May at 7.00pm - Annual Meeting following by the Ordinary Meeting of the PC.

The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

Signed Dated

The Annual Meeting of Marton cum Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Thursday 11 May 2017 at 7.00 pm

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

Apologies: Mr R Shepherd (RS)

Members of the public present: 12

AL proposed, PG seconded and all approved LB as Chair of the 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

It's a year since the election last May, when we saw two new Councillors join the PC, and our former Councillor Nick Duxbury take up his role as District Councillor at Harrogate. Our Clerk, Heather Stuart, moved to Bedale and left us in September, and we were very lucky to find Wendy Bartlett who took up her role as Clerk to the Parish Council in October and very quickly became indispensable.

During the past year, a lot has happened. It's hard to remember now the poor state of the children's playground, but thanks to the efforts of a working party consisting of four mums and the excellent support of Groundworks the new playground, including zip wire, opened in July in time for the school holidays. Residents were invited to a picnic to mark the opening and the new facilities have been well-used by local families.

As far as planning is concerned, the number of applications sent to us for consideration has been noticeably low over the last few years. However it has started to pick up, and in the last six months we are beginning to see more proposals for extensions and other alterations to existing properties. Last May we were made aware of the pressure on Harrogate Borough Council to increase the housing quota and that this could impact on villages such as ours in the District. In that month we formally considered the outline proposal for 22 houses to be built on the field opposite The Orchards. The PC believed such development to be too intensive, out of character with the village and unsuitable to be constructed immediately adjacent to a Conservation Area. This issue dragged on for almost a year until April 2017 when the Planning Committee turned it down, mainly for the reasons stated above.

We are aware that proposals are being considered for large scale development at Flaxby, and possibly in the Green Hammerton/Cattal area. However, we must accept that there may well be some development around the village. Various pieces of land have been put forward, but our understanding is that HBC would prefer to preserve the character of Conservation Areas where possible and we hope that this will preclude any large-scale development in this vicinity.

Another issue that has caused concern throughout the year has been that of parking at the school. Sadly this seems to be a problem in many areas nowadays as most children are driven to school and there is seldom provision for parking. Reas Lane is narrow, most vehicles are large, and there has been real concern for children's safety. NYCC have been active in liaising with the school, the PC and local residents in trying to produce a plan that would work and cause the least inconvenience. It's been a balancing act, as clearly parking restrictions do cause problems to residents living near the school, and it's often only a few

careless parents who are causing the issue. However, after almost a year the new (primrose!) yellow lines and signage are to be installed and we wait to see if this alleviates the situation.

The Woodlands Group have made giant strides over the year, with Rob Shepherd being particularly successful in raising funds for several projects. Bird boxes are in good supply, the footpaths and steps are being repaired, construction of the outdoor classroom is underway, and new footpaths are being planned through the woodland.

We have finally resurfaced the track up to the playing fields, and this greatly improves access to the tennis courts and to the playground and sports field. We've also replaced the bench on the hill between the villages, but retained the Silver Jubilee plaque on it.

The defibrillator was installed last year and we were lucky to have a qualified resident in the village, Phil Pease, who kindly led a useful, and enjoyable, morning's training in its usage last September.

For several years the PC has fought to stop ribbon development along the A168. There have been quite a few applications over the years for major development that we have campaigned against, and in all cases we were successful. However, this came to an end with the ultimate approval of the incinerator, which clearly is well on its way to becoming active. Holly Bank Farm, which was retitled Rabbit Hill, has proved disappointing in that the initial application was approved for trade sales and the operation has subsequently mushroomed. It now leases office space to other firms who have moved in there, and attracts the public into an ever expanding retail operation. There is currently an application for further hangers, and it is very much regretted that the ribbon development seems to be happening despite our best efforts.

Thanks are due once again to all who give up so much of their time for the community. We really appreciate the support from the Village Hall Committee and as a village we are lucky to have the Tennis Club, the Cricket Club, all the other local groups as well as the grass cutting volunteers and the dog bin emptiers and litter pickers. We have a wonderful village shop (thanks to Helen Tesseyman) and congratulate her on winning the North England Countryside Alliance Award. Volunteers have planted 2000 snowdrop bulbs, which were very kindly donated by a local resident, and we've also had a Saturday morning litter pick with groups of residents helping along the local lanes.

Finally I'd like to thank my fellow Councillors for all the time and effort that they've put in over the past year. People don't always appreciate what goes on in the background, and we are lucky to have the energy and willing input that our voluntary Councillors provide. Thank you to Wendy for your excellent service - you've got to grips with the business of the council very quickly and I'm very grateful for your reliable and efficient support. And last but not least, thank you to our regular audience - it'd be very dull without you.

Election of Officers

Chair: Lynda Bullus - AL proposed and seconded by PG
Vice Chair: Tim Joynson - LB proposed and seconded by AL
Charities: Lynda Bullus - AL proposed seconded by TJ
Police Liaison: Antony Long - PG proposed seconded by LB
Village Hall Committee: Tim Joynson and Paul Gill - AL proposed seconded by LB
Internal Auditor: Frank Beckett
All nominations were unanimously approved.

Review of Policies

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

Risk Assessment
Register of Assets
Financial Regulations
Public Contracts Regulations
Standing Orders

Helmes Charity

LB and ND reported to the meeting as Trustees of the Charity.

LB advised that two payments had been made in the 2016/17 financial year:

£217 on 16th July

£350 on 27th September

Both payments had been made to the school to support children with trips/visits.

ND advised that rent into the account will increase by £10 from £270 to £280 which the PC approved. An Annual Return had not been required as the income of the charity is not more than £25k.

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 2018.

Signed Dated.....

A meeting of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Wednesday, 10th May 2017 at 7.20 pm

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

Apologies: Mr R Shepherd (RS)

Members of the public present: 12

Declarations of Interest: None

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

County Issues:

RW advised that not much business had been transacted of late as a result of the elections and the rule of Purdah.

RW said he had received a telephone complaint about asbestos having been dumped in a field alongside Braimber Lane. He will ask HBC to remove it.

Completion of the incinerator plant is going at pace and there will be test burns in July. Points have been made about the absence of screening of the plant. RW will suggest that once Lord Mowbray's wall has been rebuilt, trees should be replanted but at a sufficient distance back from the wall.

In response to a question from a member of the public, RW advised that he is on the planning committee and no application for a sugar beet factory has yet been received.

A second member of the public commented on the quick response time to a query he had recently raised with Area 6.

RW advised that many queries were being received from the general public regarding the new Green Waste charge which is in the process of being implemented.

RW ended by complimenting LB on the Chair's report at the Annual Meeting.

District Issues:

ND reported that the Borough Council office move is going well.

He has spoken with Richard Cooper and Rebecca Burnett at HBC to put across the local opinion against any proposal for a sugar beet factory.

ND asked that members of the public email him with any concerns regarding potholes. As long as they are 5cm deep or above they should be look at and repaired.

A member of the public advised that scaffolding had been erected on a council owned property in the village and had been in place for 4 weeks without any work taking place. As the cost of scaffolding is expensive it was agreed that ND should look into this with HBC Housing Dept.

LB confirmed for ND's benefit that the PC had written to HT at the shop to ask for her agreement to the lease rolling over in Jan 2018 with a review and rent increase scheduled for Jan 2020.

Matters Arising:

1. Playing Fields Pavilion Project

Rory Cunningham (RC) advised that 41 responses to the questionnaire had been received and evidenced public support for the project. He sought the PC's agreement to proceed and this was approved. The next step is to formalize a committee which seek out funding opportunities, using the PC as the control for monies received. RC advised that the project will need planning consent. A member of the public RN asked if the PC would support the rental of a portaloos on the site for the duration of the summer months (approx. cost £23pw plus VAT, serviced). This was approved. RN to implement.

Outdoor Classroom - RS was not at the meeting but other Cllrs reported that the project is almost complete.

AL asked RN if it was possible to do anything about rabbit damage at the playground and it was acknowledged that this is very difficult.

2. Village Shop

The Clerk had written to HT to ask if she would be in agreement with the PC proposal to roll over the lease (currently expires Jan 2018 after five years) without further legalities and to a rent review in Jan 2020 (with a view to an increase at that time). LB also advised that having checked the existing lease it was discovered that the shop's contribution to insurance should be £150 p.a. and that the Clerk had issued a revised invoice. Councillors confirmed this was appropriate.

3. Village Hall

On behalf of the committee MP reported that they are still waiting for the electrician to fix the lighting issue. They also outlined plans to lightly sand and reseal the floor this year.

4. Planning

6.71.157.D.FUL 17.00971.FUL Low Garth, Marton cum Grafton

LB confirmed that this application, which had been considered by the PC between meetings due to time constraints, had now been approved by HBC. The PC had raised no objections.

6.71.196.FUL 17.00777.FUL Christ Church

LB confirmed that this application, discussed at the last meeting (PC raised no objections) had also now been approved.

5. Bulb Planting Project

RL advised that a large number of bulbs would be planted across 17 sites in total, both naturalized and wild. The total cost (with generous discount from the supplier) would be £1100. He has received informal approval of the project from Area 6. A coffee morning has already been held to raise funds and RL will be approaching the Open Gardens Committee and also seeking external funding. The PC confirmed its support for the project. Bulbs will be ordered in August and then a phased planting plan will be confirmed.

6. Accounts:

The Clerk confirmed that the current balance of the community account is £7711.25.

Out: £75.00 (HMRC)
£781.92 (Zurich Insurance)
£197.00 (YLCA Membership)
£158.00 (Clerk's salary - Feb)
Total £1211.92

In: £380.00 (Woodland Group ref. JC Trees invoice below)
£1675.00 (HBC - 1st precept payment)
Total £2055.00

Cheques signed at the meeting:
£100.00 (Clerk's salary April)
£23.98 (Clerk's expenses)
£100.00 (Clerk's salary May)
£456.00 (JC Trees ref. Woodland Group)

Correspondence:

- HBC Economic Growth Strategy
LB confirmed that HBC have carried out consultation on the above. Information circulated to residents.
- HBC Street Naming and Numbering
LB read out information received regarding the relevant protocols.
- School Bus Route
Stephensons had responded to the earlier request from the PC to avoid Grafton Lane to say it was their preferred route. Clerk to write back to re-iterate the good reasons for using Thorney Hill Lane instead.

Any other Business: none

The meeting was then opened to the public:

- A resident referred to issues of speeding in the village and to new equipment now in use by North Yorkshire Police. Problems are occurring in the morning around 9am and in the afternoon 3pm - 4pm. Vans and cars involved. LB suggested that the clerk could approach Community Speedwatch to ask if Marton cum Grafton could participate in the programme.
- Incidents of egg throwing involving parked vehicles had been reported on the village email list and to the police.
- A resident advised that a potentially aggressive dog had been seen in the playing fields and a second resident reported that there had been incidents of cars racing up to the fields area on the new track. It was agreed that as this is an open area it is difficult to restrict access.

Date of the next meeting: Wednesday 7th June at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

Signed Dated

A meeting of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on Wednesday, 7th June 2017 at 7.30 pm

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

Apologies: Mr R Shepherd (RS)

Members of the public present: 19

Declarations of Interest: None

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

County Issues:

None

District Issues:

None

Matters Arising:

1. Playing Fields

A member of the public advised that the bin near the playground is getting full quickly due to the high volume of plastic bottles. It was agreed that the Clerk should source a dog waste bin for installation.

Outdoor Classroom Project

LB referred to a report recently provided by RS in his absence. The outdoor classroom has already been used by the school on a number of occasions & reports have been very favourable. After half term it is expected that visits will increase. Plans are afoot to introduce teachers from nearby schools to the site to encourage use from a wider community. The leader of the Boroughbridge Scouts has also inspected the site & expects to use the facility & the concept of using the site for outdoor drama productions is currently being explored. An additional informal seating area of a circular design is in the process of being constructed to the rear of the structure (paid for by grant monies from Harrogate Borough Council), this will enhance the overall appeal of the site for both the school & other groups. TCV have agreed to the construction of a portable 'A' frame blackboard however the school wish to trial the site for another month or two before deciding on whether it is required or not.

Memorial Tree Request

Cllrs discussed the recent request for a memorial tree in Marton. Whilst sympathetic, the PC decided this could set a precedent making it hard to refuse other such requests and leading to a proliferation of tree planting. It was considered preferable either to have a single tree with various plaques in the graveyard on Legram Lane (although the area would need clearing first), or benches in the graveyard or around the sports pavilion. Cllrs will discuss options with interested parties.

Pavilion Project

Rory Cunningham (RC) advised that there had been offers of funding from villagers. Further help is needed in putting project bids together from funding bodies. LB suggested getting support from Groundworks and RC confirmed he was waiting for contact from them. It was agreed that the Clerk should send out a village email asking for volunteers to get in touch with RC. It was noted that the existing pavilion has things which can be salvaged and does already have a water and electricity supply.

2. Village Shop

LB reported that HT has offered to pay both the original invoice for shop insurance contribution of £50 as well as the new corrected invoice for £150.

3. Village Hall

LB advised that the PC had been approached by the Chair of Lower Dunsforth Parish Council asking if they could include Marton cum Grafton Memorial Hall as a place of refuge in their Emergency Plan. This was agreed.

4. Planning

a) 6.500.SCOPE 17/02165/SCOPE

Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping opinion for construction of a new sugar beet processing plant with associated ancillary buildings, storage containers, car parking and landscaping.

Land adjacent to Thornbar Farm, Marton cum Grafton

LB advised the meeting that the PC would be objecting, and informed by the discussion at the meeting, the following points would be cited: damage to landscape character; unnecessary scale causing detrimental effects locally (and against the sustainability of the sugar beet industry nationally); volume of HGV traffic (and the need to model the loadings after AWRP is operational); light, noise and particulate pollution; odour; creation of a large area of hardstanding (and resultant detrimental effects on surface run-off and adjacent wetland sites); insufficient employment gains; lack of clarity as to whether other more suitable sites have been fully considered. The PC would also ask that as landowner NYCC would be prevented from commenting due to conflict of interest.

LB suggested that a working party be established to continue objections and that interested residents should contact LB (pcchair@marton-cum-grafton.org). District Cllr ND advised that he had raised concerns with Cabinet and will take back objections which the Clerk should copy to him. The overall target date on the scoping application is 19th June.

b) 6.71.19.G.FUL 17/01757/FUL

Erection of detached dwelling with detached garage

Land comprising OS Field 1040 Stockfield Lane, Marton cum Grafton

LB advised that the PC had now objected to this proposal prior to the meeting on the following grounds:

the building would be outside the development line and harmful to the principles of Conservation Area; there would be issues around safety and access; the scale of the proposed building is out of keeping and there is no justification for it in the Local

Development Plan.

c) 6.71.42.B.FUL 17/01293/FUL

Change of use from agricultural land to storage/distribution
Thornbar Farm, Claro House to Holly Bank Farm

It was noted that HBC had not originally sent out paperwork to the PC for this application. In light of proximity to other developments where the PC opinion had been sought it was agreed to be appropriate to comment and reply as agreed in objection.

d) 6.71.194.A.COJ 17/01452/COJ

Change of use of agricultural building to holiday let with formation of parking and landscaping
Land comprising field at 441364 462959 Limebar Bank Road, Marton cum Grafton

The PC had replied to this application prior to the meeting and objected on the following grounds: the land is more suited to agricultural use; any development would be outside the development line and at odds with the principles of the Conservation Area; there are not sufficient walkers needing accommodation to justify the application.

LB noted the following recent HBC approvals:

6.71.195.FUL 17/00394/FUL

Revised scheme to include 2 storey front extension, Wheatlands

6.71.26.FUL 17/00602/FUL

Erection of link extension between two existing holiday cottages to form one dwelling, Primrose Cottage

6.71.175.C.FUL 17/00590/FUL

Change of use from agricultural land to domestic curtilage and erection of timber garage and workshop, Grafton Lodge Farm

5. Speed Complaint

NYCC are in the process of obtaining more up to date data and will be measuring the volume and speeds of traffic. Once analysed data is sent to a local panel who then make an informed decision (also taking into account any reported incidents) on what action, if any, they feel appropriate.

6. Flooding on Church Lane

The Clerk had been in contact with Area 6 with the most recent photo after heavy rain and is awaiting a reply.

7. Phone Box, Reas Lane

The phone box has now been decommissioned by BT and a notice to that effect will be displayed. Clerk to liaise with school once equipment has been removed and look into obtaining special hinge covers to prevent trapped fingers. Volunteers will

do any necessary painting.

Accounts:

LB presented the accounts for 2016/17 prepared by Frank Beckett. The year had seen planned additional spending with the PC contribution to the new playground, the creation of the new track, the installation of the defibrillator, the grant for the Cemetery car park and the cost and installation of the replacement Jubilee Bench. The overall figures on the Income & Expenditure account were as follows:

Income £4,886; Expenditure £14,260; Surplus Carried Forward £7,800.

Additionally the ring-fenced shop account (village development fund) totalled £23,590.

LB confirmed that a meeting would be held in due course to decide on the best way forward for managing these accumulating funds.

a) The Clerk read through the Governance Statements on the External Audit document which were agreed and signed by the Chair and Clerk.

b) The Accounting Statements on the External Audit document were approved and signed also by Chair and Clerk.

Clerk to return the External Audit document to the Auditors PFK Littlejohn by 12th June.

Cheques signed at the meeting:
£54.00 - WT Webster & Sons

Correspondence:

all discussed and noted

- Civic Day, 17th June
- Harrogate Borough Council Small Grants Scheme
- North Yorkshire Police Property Marking Service
- Armed Forces Day, 24th June
- Merchant Navy Day, 3rd September

Any other Business: none

The meeting was then opened to the public:

- ND confirmed that he had received rental income of £310 to the Helmes Charity account.
- A resident suggested that the use of a microphone in meetings might be helpful.
- A resident asked for a repair to the footpath outside Low Garth. Clerk to follow up with Area 6.

- Late night driving up to the playing field was noted. PG advised that police will drive up there now and again to check.

Date of the next meeting: Thursday 6th July at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

Signed Dated