

Muston Parish Council

Meeting held on 23rd November 2016

PRESENT:	Chair	Cllr G Allanson	Cllr J Walker
		Cllr G Barnett	Cllr P Colling
		Cllr K Cole	Cllr D Walker
		Cllr B Stevenson	

5 members of public

Clerk C Adnitt

16/158 The meeting was opened at 19:30 hours.

16/159 Notice of Meeting

Resolved: That Public Notice of the meeting had been given in accordance with Schedule 12 Para 10 (2) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972.

16/160 Apologies

Apologies were received from County Cllr J Blackburn and Borough Cllr M Donohue-Moncrieff.

16/161 Declarations of Interest on Agenda Items

Cllr G Barnett declared an interest in item 16/68 due to his membership of the Village Hall Committee, and Cllr G Allanson also declared an interest in item 16/68 due to his membership of Muston Scarecrow Committee, who have provided funding to the Village Hall.

16/162 Police Report

A written report was circulated. No issues were raised for Police attention.

16/163 Public Comments

No comments were made by residents.

16/164 Report from County Councillor

No report was received. Councillors raised some issues for the clerk to pass on to the County Councillor:-

Severe flooding was again experienced at Round Lodge Corner with some cars being stranded in the water. The road was also closed for a period. This is the second time within a year and flood prevention measures are required.

The first gate on Rakes Field was broken and off its hinges & in need of repair.

A Chevron sign on Badgers Bends (A165) on the “southbound” side has been twisted around on the pole and overhanging the roadway by roughly two feet and posing a hazard.

The “keep left” bollard at the junction of A165 & A1039 is missing following a recent accident.

16/165 Report from Borough Councillors

No report was received.

16/166 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th October 2016 as circulated be approved and were signed by the Chair.

16/167 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

16/168 Planning Applications

Cllr G Allanson and Cllr G Barnett withdrew from the meeting for this item. The Vice Chair K Cole took the chair for this item only.

One planning application was received. 16/01798/FL application to erect a replacement Village Hall on Carr Mill Lane, Muston. Following discussion which took into account comments received from local residents, both for and against the application, the parish councillors decided on balance to approve the application subject to the following conditions being applied:-

1. A smaller building should be considered as the proposed building was felt to be too large for the site.
2. Water runoff from the site was such that it was felt that “Holding Tanks” were required to control the flow of water into the existing drains that were already at capacity.
3. Concerns were raised about the unstable ground conditions which could lead to movement of adjacent buildings, and is a major cause of concern to local residents. Any permission should include provision to ensure that the ground is suitably stabilised.
4. It was felt that Block Paving (or other porous surface) should be provided rather than tarmac for the car parking area to allow water to drain away.
5. Trees are required to act as screening to adjacent properties, which will also assist in soaking up excessive ground water.

16/169 Village Issues

Cleaning of War Memorial – An application for funding has been submitted.

Speeding on Hunmanby Street – Disgust was expressed at NYCC’s refusal to move the 30 MPH sign further out. It was agreed to write to the local member of parliament to seek his assistance in resolving the matter. It was also suggested that an “advisory” sign could be erected in advance of the existing 30 MPH sign. The existing road markings, (3 x “slow” and one “30 MPH”) all require repainting. Arrangements were in hand with the Police to show councillors the use of a speed gun.

Village Pond – The work was expected to be started shortly. A new Duck House was being investigated.

Christmas Tree – Following enquiries the cost of a 15ft tree was expected to be in the region of £200. Following discussion it was highlighted that a local resident has a suitable tree in his garden which required removing and offered to give it to the council if suitable. It was agreed to take up this offer, however, if it proved unsuitable

a smaller tree would be obtained within a limit of £150. Cllr P Colling & Cllr K Cole agreed to arrange the erection of the tree and lights.

Telephone Box – The process has been started to adopt the telephone box. It was understood that the process could take between six and twelve months to complete. Potential usages of the phone box were to be discussed at a later meeting.

Trotts Charity – Following discussion it was agreed that the following people would receive the award for this year: Mr & Mrs Thompson, Mrs R Day and Mr C Day.

16/170 Finance

The schedule of payments for November was circulated prior to the meeting. It was Resolved that the figure totalling £873.30 would be paid.

Payments received: NYCC grant for Grass Cutting £529.98.

It was noted that All Saints Church was in the process of removing unsafe trees at considerable expense. It was agreed to make a grant application to the Southern Parish Cluster for a grant towards the cost, also a further application was to be made to SBC "Contingency Fund".

16/171 Precept for 2017/18 Financial Year

The clerk presented details of expenditure for the two previous years, anticipated expenditure to the end of the current financial year, and projected expenditure for the next four years, together with the "Model Agreement" payments by SBC and a precept calculation by tax bands to indicate the effect of any increase in the precept. A detailed discussion followed, which also took into account the effect that two government consultation papers may have on the council's finance if implemented. One being to charge parish councils for the cost of elections which could be in the region of around £4000 for this parish for an election, with an administration charge of around £400 for a casual vacancy as they arise. The second was a proposal to cap parish precept increases to 2%. If implemented both of these would have a major negative impact on the financial position of the council. The effect of these together with the general financial position of the parish council was carefully considered. Following that discussion Cllr K Cole proposed that the precept should be increased by £1000 to £6700, seconded by Cllr D Walker with four voting in favour and two against.

16/172 Reports

No reports were received.

16/173 Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

16/174 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed to hold the next meeting on 11th January starting at 1930 hours.

16/175 The meeting was closed at 2115 hours.

Signed **Date**

