

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN SAXTON VILLAGE HALL
TUESDAY 12 APRIL 2016**

490

Present

Mr. G. Fairclough Mr. B. Wilson
Mr. C. Cook Ms J. Marshall

1 member of the public

Apologies for Absence

Received from Cllr. Mr. Westmoreland

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

These were signed as a true record.

To Discuss Ramifications of new Village Hall Constitution

The Chair of the Village Hall Management Committee was in attendance to explain their application to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. (CIO) As things stand at present the Committee is an Unincorporated Trust, the members of which have personal liability for any debts. Advice has been taken from Rural Action Yorkshire and with the approval of the Charity Commission the Constitution is being amended. The Parish Council is currently the holding trustee of the deeds to the Hall, but under the new Constitution the Village Hall Management Committee will become the new trustee. Concern was expressed over how secure the Hall would be, and the VHMC Chair confirmed that safeguards were in place to prevent the Hall or the land on which it stands being sold or used as equity in that either action could only take place with the approval of the Charity Commission or a court order, also there was a stipulation that any money realised must be used for a like purpose. Asked how the Committee was chosen, the VHMC Chair advised that it was by public election, open to all. Concern was expressed by the Parish Council that the system could be at risk of hijack, and it was suggested that there should be user members. The status of the village green was discussed, given that the full title of the existing Committee is the Village Hall and Green Management Committee, and it was confirmed that the village green land remains in the ownership of Selby District Council, and though the VHMC does not have any jurisdiction, the name would remain as extant, inasmuch as the VHMC will continue to promote both its preservation and its use. The Clerk would check with our insurers the following day over the goalposts on the green, and Cllr. Ms Marshall asked the VHMC Chair for a written copy of what has been agreed.

Matters Arising

To register Cllr. Ms Marshall's interest in, and confirm her dispensation with regard to, drainage in the village, also to acknowledge interest of other councillors, where applicable – it was noted that only Ms Marshall and Cllr. Mr. Westmoreland were personally affected by the flooding.

To receive the Clerk's report over action taken with regard to the drainage in Hungate Close – Yorkshire Water had volunteered to write to every resident cautioning that the cause of the regular drain blockage was grease/oil introduced into the system. They would not undertake an invert survey on grounds of cost. The Clerk was instructed to request their commitment to a regular three-monthly clean.

To consider and decide upon future drainage work in the village – Cllr. Ms Marshall reported on the undergrounding of the electrics to the village green area and down Cotchers Lane; the drain on the corner had been exposed, discovered to be in a bad condition and been mended. The sides of the banks along Cotchers Lane, damaged largely by vehicles ignoring the Road Closed sign, had been repaired, and the landowner had requested the redundant timber poles be left for his use. The Chairman reported he had been approached by the owner of Village Farm House, Jeremy Scriven, whose premises flood due to the blocked culvert in Main Street, and discussion ensued over how to help without at the same time moving the problem to other residents. The Chair would seek quotations both for this and for the necessary work to the bridges and report to the next meeting. Cllr. Ms Marshall volunteered to write to both Selby District Council and North Yorkshire County Council pointing out the amount of work we have already done, and asking for financial assistance to go further. It was pointed out and agreed that both councils are in breach of their statutory duties. Finally, it was reluctantly agreed to postpone the provision of a bund for Saxton Court for the present.