

Ugthorpe and Hutton Mulgrave Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting Held on Wednesday 2nd May 2018 at 7.00 pm St Annes Hall Ugthorpe.

Present: Cllr S. Brown, S. Stroyd, J. Nocks
Joanne Jacques-Hale, Clerk

1. Welcome:

The chairman welcomed all present and there were apologies from Cllr R. Clay, M. Chapman & K. Thwaites.

2. Chairman's report:

This year has seen several changes within the parish council members firstly Cllr Joe Jefferson and Cllr Colin Hodgson both resigned after many years of dedicated service. Cllr M. Chapman and Cllr K. Thwaites were both newly appointed.

The Parish Clerk Lucy Fletcher resigned after 4 years of committed service. A new parish clerk was appointed Joanne Jacques-Hale. Sadly Cllr John White passed away and will be sadly missed.

There is still an on going parking issue; advice is being sought from local rural police about the inconsiderate parking policy.

The parish council organised and carried out a successful keep Britain tidy litter campaign, four members of the public took part collect 10 bags of rubbish, and some broken car parts.

3. Financial Statement:

A New laptop, printer and hard drive were purchased using the transparency funding.

A new application was made to the transparency fund and granted for the design of a website for the parish council.

Annual return and associated documents have been viewed it was agreed they were ready to be internally audited. Then they will be agreed and signed by the chairman and clerk. After which certificate of exemption and annual governance and accountability return will be forwarded to sba team on behalf of PKF Little John. Following which these documents will be made public on parish notice boards and website.

4. Report of the borough councillor:

Since last year, my portfolio on Cabinet has changed to Legal and Governance. This covers Regulation, Information Security (GDPR), Procurement, Legal, Audit and Fraud and Land Charges.

Signed:Chairman

Date:.....

You may not get the answers you want and you may not like the answers you get but I will never lie to you.

The annual budget was approved at Full Council in March. It included a 2.99% increase in Council Tax. This equates to a net receipt to SBC of £227.93 for a band D property.

Continued pressures and reductions of cash from Central Government mean that we have to find further savings or efficiencies of £2.122m this year.

In order to ameliorate the impact of successive and future cuts, SBC have appointed a Commercial Director who has the remit to invest up to £30m over the next three years in order to achieve a target of 5% return on investment.

This will soften the blow of continued austerity and possibly, in the longer term, enable the authority to reintroduce those non statutory services which have been depleted in recent years.

The Boundary Commission has released its final recommendation. It is to reduce the number of wards from 25 to 20 and the number of Councillors from 50 to 46. As far as Mulgrave is concerned, it will merge with Danby to become Danby-cum-Mulgrave Ward. There will be two seats in the ward. At present the two wards are represented by three Councillors; Clive Pearson in Danby while Mulgrave has me (John Nock) and Marion Watson. Marion Watson lives in the ward and will therefore contest the new ward in 2019 along with Clive Pearson. As I do not live in it by a couple of hundred yards I will stand elsewhere.

The Council recently agreed to enact a policy banning the use of light lanterns and helium balloons on all Council owned land. This recognised the significant damage and often devastation that can be caused by them, particularly in rural areas.

We now have the equivalent of two and a half dog wardens in the Borough. The fixed penalty for dog related offences varies between £50 and £100, depending on the offence and there is no discount for early payment. These sums are the maximum allowed under statute. The Parish Council is urged to contact me in the event of identifiable persistent offenders. They may also do that where inconsiderate parking becomes a problem.

Signed:Chairman

Date:.....

GDPR will enter English Law on May 25. Parish Clerks have a choice in the matter of appointment of a DPO (Data Protection Officer). They may either assume the role themselves or appoint another body to undertake the role on their behalf. SBC would prefer them to do the former but recognises that some clerks would prefer the latter and in that case it would appear that YLCA would be the favoured body to appoint. In either case support and help will be available from officers at the Town Hall.
Cllr John Nock, Mulgrave Ward, Portfolio Holder for Legal and Governance.

Public question time:
None present

There been no further business the meeting closed at 7:30 pm. The general meeting was re -arranged for 22 May 2018 due to the quorum not been met.

Signed:Chairman

Date:.....