

**HUGGATE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES of the**  
**ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING**  
**held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013 at 7.30 pm**  
**in St. Mary's Church, Huggate.**

**Present:** Linda Davies (chair); Councillors Noel Wright, Alan Barnett, Jane Leaver; 10 members of the public

**Apologies** were received from Councillor Barbara Hale and Linda Gurnell (Clerk)

Linda Davies presented the Parish Council Annual Report and Accounts.  
There was discussion of a number of matters.

**Emergency Plan.** It was suggested that arrangements be made to assist with the collection of prescriptions from Wetwang and Pocklington.

**Parking.** It was agreed that there is a problem with parking by walkers, outside Church Farm, outside the Wolds Inn, on the Green and at the top junction outside Willow Lodge. It is not clear what can be done about this in the absence of suitable parking elsewhere. It was suggested that the Parish Council print some notices to be placed on windscreens, explaining that farm machinery and large vehicles use the roads and such parking blocks their passage.

**Speed** of traffic remains an issue. Traffic along the top road does not keep to the 30 mph limit. Some traffic down the village drives at hazardous speeds, particularly being a danger to children playing around the Crescent.

**Footpaths** are hazardously slippery when leaves fall and are not cleared. It was suggested that the Amenity Group should be asked to take action on clearing paths, but it is not clear that this is part of their remit, and it was pointed out that there is little support forthcoming for the work that it does do.

The **Inclosure Fund** reported that the fund currently stands at £6362.32, the money to be used for the benefit of the village.

Moira Poole presented a report on behalf of the **Huggate Amenity Project Group**. The Group consists of Leo Hazlerigg, Sally East, Selina Hopwood and Steve Poole, none of whom were able to attend.

Quotes for play and recreational equipment on the Play Area and / or Pit Site had been sought, which ranged from £8K to £72K. This is not currently being progressed.

There have been working parties to carry out clearance of the Pit Site and Lower Green but very little help had been offered. Paths have been mown on the Green, and paths are developing from use of the Pit Site. It was noted that the Pit Site is not officially open to the public as the insurance status is in need of clarification.

The feeling of the meeting was that both areas should be kept natural areas for "organic play"; however maintenance is needed and neither area should be completely wild.

**St. Mary's Church.** Ruth Braithwaite (Churchwarden) thanked residents for their support which helped to make possible the work in progress on the fabric of the church. Grants had been received from the Diocese of York, the Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust and the Weston Foundation. The current work would make the building watertight, and address the structural problems of the porch. The quote for returning the organ to playable condition is £40K.

The question of how to make the space in the church more usable needs to be addressed, and opinions and ideas are welcome. Kitchen facilities, a meeting room and a toilet would be improvements.

**Neighbourhood Planning.** Linda Davies outlined the current situation following the passing of the Localism Act in 2011. Communities have the opportunity to produce local plans with policies for their areas. As currently formulated, this is a time consuming and costly process, beyond the resources of a single village, but the example of Upper Eden shows that it can be done in collaboration, and there has been a suggestion that liaison with other villages in the area could be useful.

The current ERYC Plan includes a development boundary for Huggate and marks the Eastlands and St Mary's farm yards as areas that have been considered and rejected for development.

The feeling of the meeting was that the unsightly derelict condition of these areas makes them exactly the places where some use is needed. Concern was expressed about continuing deterioration.

**Councillors.** After recent resignations, there are currently vacancies for four Councillors. The work of the Council would be helped if there were more to express views and consider how the needs of the village can be met. Expressions of interest are very much encouraged!

There being no other matters raised for discussion, the meeting closed at 8.40.  
Linda Davies thanked those present for their interest.