

SCRIVEN PARISH COUNCIL



NEWSLETTER JUNE 2009

Chair

Mr. Peter Long
Tel: 01423 863313

Vice Chair

Mrs. Shona Shires
Tel: 01423 860993

Council Members

Dr Lorraine Ferris Tel: 01423 863330
Mr. Ivor Fox Tel: 01423 542819
Mrs. Sarah Patterson Tel: 01423 862459

Parish Clerk

Dr Sue Brown Tel: 01423 797593

The Annual Parish Open Meeting

This year the Parish Meeting was held on March 5th, eleven parishioners attended and Cllr. Shona Shires presided giving a brief review of her year in office, outlining various issues tackled on behalf of Scriven village.

Several items were discussed in the open forum. The main issues were traffic problems in the village; the postponed development at Park Corner Farm and the lack of progress in Jacob Smith Park. Scriven Parish Council (SPC) will continue to be actively involved in these matters, liaising as appropriate with both Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) and North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC).

The Annual Parish Council Meeting

The Parish Council AGM was held on May 7th. The purpose of this meeting is to review the year, consider financial statements and elect a Chair for the forthcoming year. Cllr. Peter Long was elected to the Chair for the year 2009/10 and Cllr. Shona Shires to the Vice Chair. Cllr. Long thanked Cllr. Shires for her commitment to her role

as Chair and for presiding over council business in a calm and efficient manner.

The Clerk presented the figures and balance sheet for the financial year 2008/09 which were unanimously approved and the Chairman signed the Annual Return for the Audit Commission. There is a statutory requirement for all local councils to provide members of the public with the opportunity to inspect their accounts. A notice to this effect will be displayed on the Notice board as soon as they have been approved by the Internal Auditor.

Traffic Problems

Over the last 18 months 'Traffic in Scriven' has been a repeated item on the Agenda of Parish Council meetings.

Four locations have been identified to be of concern:

- ▶▶ Speeding through Scriven from Market Flat Lane.
- ▶▶ Failing to stop at the bottom of the Private Road at the South East corner of the Green, when other vehicles with a right of way are approaching.
- ▶▶ Improper use / not giving way at the mini roundabout.
- ▶▶ Speeding along Scriven Road, particularly past the entrance to Jacob Smith Park.

To date, concerns have been raised by only a small number of people, so in order to identify the extent of the problem, SPC are setting up a register of 'Near Misses' to provide evidence showing whether additional traffic safety measures are required or not. If you observe a case of dangerous driving or a near miss traffic accident within Scriven, please report it to the Clerk or any of the Parish Councillors, detailing where it occurred and what happened.

Whether you have witnessed an incident or not, SPC would like to hear your views on this subject, so please do contact us.

Road Maintenance Around the Green

The two private roads around the Green are both currently in a poor state of repair. The tarmac road leading up the hill towards Scriven Hall, developed a deep pot hole during the icy spell earlier in the year. The gravel road on the other side of the Green requires maintenance. Records in the Parish Council's possession are unclear as to the ownership and responsibility for repair of these roads, so legal clarification is now being sought from the Yorkshire Local Councils Association.

Information Board

At the Annual Open Meeting, the provision of an information board on the Green was discussed. This board would give a brief history of Scriven. All ideas and inputs to this project from those with knowledge of the village history would be most welcome. This board would be funded by commuted sums.

Commuted Sums – What are they?

Commuted sums are monies paid by property developers of new residential dwellings in the district, to fund projects in the area affected by the development. Each commuted sum has a time limit by which they must be spent, otherwise they are returned to the developer. Only certain types of expenditure are allowed for commuted sums. The information board project has been progressed, as it is an eligible use of a commuted sum that might otherwise be returned to a developer later this year. There are other commuted sums available for future use. SPC welcome all ideas on constructive use of such sums which must be used for improvement to open spaces in the parish but not maintenance.

Conservation Area Review

The Scriven Conservation Area Appraisal is available for review on the HBC website <http://www.harrogate.gov.uk/immediacy-5552> SPC are holding a public meeting to review the appraisal on 11th June at 7pm; all are welcome. HBC have agreed to accept comments from this meeting as part of the review process.

Jacob Smith Park

The first meeting of the 'Friends of Jacob Smith Park' discussed the priorities for the Park, the new entrance locations and the problem of spreading Himalayan Balsam weed. If you would like to join the 'Friends' or would like further information, please contact the Parks Department at HBC on 01423 551037.



THURSDAY 11th JUNE

Open public meeting to discuss the Conservation Area Appraisal.

Park Grove

Methodist Church Hall. 7pm.

All are welcome to have their say.

SUNDAY 2nd AUGUST

Don't forget the summer village social gathering on the Green is scheduled, weather permitting, for Sunday August 2nd at 12 noon. We hope that as many villagers as possible will attend.

THURSDAY 30th JULY

Parish Council meeting at Park Grove Methodist Church Hall. 8pm.

Clerk's Corner

Having now been in the post for 18 months I continue to enjoy my role as clerk. My main duties are the administrative aspects of the council meetings which include recording the minutes, following up the various resolutions agreed and keeping an accurate record of the financial transactions of the council.

There is no income generation available for the Parish Council. A 10% increase in the precept has been agreed by HBC equating to a median charge of £26.30 per household.

I can be contacted about any matter of local concern and am usually available from 9am until 12.30pm at home or by email at drsuebrown@hotmail.com
