

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF POTTO PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 7.45 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Councillor Mr A Wilde (Chairman), Mrs E Griffin, Mr C Courtman-Stock, Mr G Woodhouse and District Councillor Mrs B Fortune.

Apologies for absence were received from: Mr I Macpherson and County Councillor Mr T Swales

Parish Council Meeting

The minutes of last month's meeting had been circulated and were signed by the Chairman after being agreed as a correct record.

Police Report and Neighbourhood Watch

PCSO Lindsey Kyle was present and reported that; spare wheels have been stolen from 4x4 vehicles, distraction burglaries and rogue traders continue. The 'not sure' campaign is being rolled out across the area.

Nick Hill is the new sergeant at Stokesley. Councillor Woodhouse requested feedback from the Everest No Cold Calling Zone breach, which was reported.

The RSPCA have also been cold calling around 2 weeks ago in Potto, they were not asking for money, but were asking about possible re-homing for animals, unsure if this is OK or not.

Horses have been taken in the area, discussed how people 'mark' the horses with plats in the mane/tail.

On 9th August, a male entered a house in Swainby via an unsecured door and asked for money, he left with £30, he was later caught and arrested.

There has been an influx in shed burglaries, make sure you have locks that conform to the BSEN320 standards, security mark items, bolt tool boxes etc to the ground etc. There followed a discussion on smart water marking.

Land Rover Discoveries have been stolen in the area, police are doing spot checks on any vehicles they see, please report anything suspicious to the police.

Planning Decisions of Hambleton District Council

Gypsy site on Goulton Lane – A notice has been served and takes effect on 14th October 2013.

Planning Applications

13/01785/FUL - Construction of Potovololactic Sun Tracking System.

This application is for a new type of solar panel installation, which moves and tracks the sun from morning till night. This is a new concept and is very efficient. It differs slightly from the static solar panels. It will be used to power the chicken sheds at Greenfields Farm. Unanimously accepted.

Matters Arising from last month's meeting

- a) Footpaths – Councillor Wilde and Woodhouse met with Douglas Huzzard the Highways Asset Manager from NYCC on 13th September. They looked at the Bridle path and un-surfaced portion of Cooper Lane.

Bridle Path - They would like to form a partnership with Potto Parish Council to maintain the bridleway, which is maintainable at public expense – vehicle access to horse-drawn vehicles and motorbikes, not cars, vans etc. Discussed the ford at the bottom of the bridle path; NYCC are trying to get rid of fords as they are dangerous at times of flood. As they were discussing, a horse rider came along, they discussed the issues with the ford with the rider and it took her nearly 10 minutes to cross as it is very dangerous. There is no shop in Potto and it is the main way to Swainby via foot. Discussed signage for the bridle path and discussed bollards at village end of bridle path.

Highways have a budget for grass cutting in urban areas (places with speed limits under 40mph) up to 15 times a year. Discussed the possibility of transferring budget from Hambleton District Council to Potto Parish Council for grass cutting within Potto.

Un-surfaced portion of Cooper Lane – Douglas had a look at the road, discussed surface; plainings, concrete etc concrete has 70+ year life compared to tarmac having a 5+year life, so concrete would have little or no maintenance.

It was a very positive meeting, and Douglas will let us know ASAP, Councillors praised Douglas for his help.

- b) Un-surfaced portion of Cooper Lane – Mr Tim Carvell has contractors booked for 30 September to start some work, dependant on what monies can be raised from the residents. Potto Village Hall have agreed to pay 1/3, up to a max of £3,000. Councillor Wilde has given Mr Carvell an application form for a grant of up to £5,000, finds out tomorrow if he has got the grant. District Councillor Mrs B Fortune has a book of grants available – chairman to look through.

Discussions around the quotes for the work that is to be carried out, he has had 3 people out for quotes to do the 'end section' where it meets the road. Discussed the possibility of putting the old road surface from the village hall renovations onto the bridle path.

The council committed to making the funds available (1/3 up to a max of £3,000) if everyone else puts in their part.

- c) Stell System – letters to be sent to all riparian stell owners. Meeting 2pm on 27 September at Potto Village Hall.
- d) Cooper Close Road Surface – No news at this time.

e) Notice board – Took glass back to makers to be amended, and is UV coated.

Letter from Mr & Mrs Thompson

Councillor Woodhouse declared an interest.

Discussed the meaning of Pecuniary Interest and its implications to this issue.

It was agreed that if Councillors believe that they or members of their family have any interest, they should withdraw from discussions.

It was agreed that no correspondence should have taken place between Councillor Woodhouse or his wife and Mr & Mrs Thompson should have taken place all correspondence should be sent via the Clerk.

The item to be added to next month's meeting

Finance

No financial information available, as all the finance information is with the auditor, including the cheque book. This means the Clerk's quarterly salary cannot be paid at this time – agreed to pay as soon as cheque book is back from auditors.

The internal audit was fine, now with the external auditors.

Reports from County and District Councils

District Councillor Mrs B Fortune discussed the welfare reform – it will assist people with benefits, housing service and housing benefits etc.

Village Hall

Not received the minutes of the PVH meeting.

Any Other Business

Councillor Courtman-Stock has strimmed the grass around the seat and the other side of the slack bridge footpath.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Next month's meeting date Monday 21 October 2013 at 7.15pm