**Clerk’s report following December update**

**Follow up to matters arising:**

**Meetings**

Following offensive comments from a resident the advice of Richmondshire District Council was sought, as below:

Under the current lockdown regulations, face-to-face meetings are permitted if there is no alternative, as they would count as “work that cannot reasonably be done from home”.

However, it is very strongly recommended that you carry out these meetings virtually, as the best way to avoid any risk.  The meeting would be quorate with four members, so that would be the safest way to run the meeting.  I have prepared a guide which should hopefully help those who are reluctant to take part in a virtual meeting.

Currently our offices are closed and all staff are working from home, so we could not provide facilities for you.

***Copy of Zoom guide notes attached***

It is therefore proposed to hold a virtual meeting on the 15th February. If this is not quorate a face-to-face meeting will be held on the 22nd February. This way forward has been approved by RDC.

**Flood Attenuation Work**

An initial meeting with NYCC Flood management team and WSP was held to discuss the options for Flood Alleviation in the village.

***Copy of meeting notes attached***

**Gritting**

The following response has been received from highways:

The County Council places great importance on delivering its winter gritting service, which is why we routinely treat one of the highest proportions of the network in the Country.   North Yorkshire County Council routinely treats more roads than any other County Council (more than 50% of its road network) and operates to standards well above national guidelines.  However, even with this level of commitment I am sorry to say that we cannot treat everything as a high priority and hence there will be minor roads which will not routinely receive attention.  Details of our winter maintenance service can be found on our website and for your ease of reference I have copied the link below:

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/road-gritting-salt-heaps-and-bins>

Even with this level of commitment there will inevitably be some roads which we are unable to routinely treat in ice/frost conditions.  Moor Lane is a priority 3 gritting route and as stated in our policy will only be treated once all priority one and two routes are clear and then only when resources allow.   To date our contractors have been working around the clock to keep the priority routes clear, as per our winter maintenance policy.  Unfortunately the weather conditions since the weekend have meant that all available resource is committed and contractors have not had capacity to look at routes not deemed to be a priority and the forecast for the next few days continues to be more challenging.  Therefore at this point I am afraid  we are unable to consider gritting any priority three gritting routes.

Each year the Corporate Director for Business and Environmental Services, in conjunction with the BES Executive Members, reviews any requests for gritting route changes.  If you would like this road to be considered for a gritting route upgrade then please confirm this and I will ensure this is added to the list for consideration later this year.  Please note that requests for upgrades are rarely granted as they inevitably lead to a reduction in service elsewhere in the area.  Regrettably we are unable to consider any requests for upgrades in mid-season for operational reasons.

Whilst I note your comments that the Parish Council may be willing to pay for gritting to be extended within the village of Bellerby I am afraid the restriction is the availability of resource, gritters, drivers etc.  If we were to add additional roads to the network already gritted this would require substantial investment to purchase additional gritters, which would then sit idle several months of the year, which I am sure you will agree is not a good use of public funds.

However the Parish Council could engage a private contractor to carry out additional gritting and if this is of interest to you please let me know and I will share details of our approved winter contractors in your area, as they will carry all the necessary public liability insurance needed to work in the public highway.

Following receipt of the list of approved contractors additional questions have been submitted to highways.

They have also sign posted the following webpage: https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/community-gritting-partnerships.

Quotes were requested from private contractors and a quote of £150 per visit has been received.

Empty grit bins were reported and have now been refilled.

Permission was given to re site the grit bin on Mill Lane to the midpoint of the slope up to the A6108.

***Item will be added to the agenda once the additional questions have been answered.***

**Received from RDC/NYCC**

**Road Closure**

PLANNED ROAD CLOSURE NOTIFICATION - 28595 - South Moor Lane, Leyburn

The Closure will be in place for a period of 2 days between 1st March 2021 and 2nd March 2021 to allow Northern Powergrid to install a new electricity connection.

The Road Closure and any associated Diversion Routes can be viewed using this URL link <https://one.network/?tm=120720738>

**Area 1 – Highways and Transportation – Layby Works**

***Details attached***

**Received from YLCA/NALC**

**Richmondshire Branch Meeting**

The clerk attended the branch meeting which the new RDC Climate Change Officer attended.

***Copy of presentation attached***

**Conference**

YLCA are holding a two-day conference on April 20th & 21st.

***Draft programme & booking form attached***

**Councillor Login Details**

***Copy attached***

**White Rose Update**

***Copy attached***

**Training Bulletin**

***Copy attached***

**Policing**

**Dales Police Report**

***Copy attached***

**Information Commissioner’s Office**

The ICO certificate for 2021 has been received.

***Copy attached***

**Citizens Advice**

**Newsletter**

***Copy attached***