

ASKHAM BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL

held on Thursday 15th October 2020 at 7pm using remote access.

PRESENT:

Councillor	Andrew Steele (Chair)		
Councillors	Kathryn Smith	Kirsty Smahon	Simon Peers
	Mark Walker		

In attendance: Ward Cllr. Anne Hook, three residents and the locum Clerk.

- 1 APOLOGIES:** There were no apologies.
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:** None
- 3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The following issues were raised;

- There was a comment regarding public rights of way in particular the path between Askham Bryan and Askham Richard via Holme Farm (agenda item 8.3). There was also a query about a diversion due to a creative footpath order that the college has in place which comes to an end on 19th November. The matter had been passed to Secretary of State and is no longer a matter for the public rights of way officer (PROW) officer at City of York (CYC) Council. The Clerk would write to find out more.
- Illegally parked cars on Mill Lane and confirmation that the owners of such cars would be subject to enforcement action, photographs have been taken and college made aware.
- Streetlights not working within the college campus. The college had advised that it was not worth repairing the lights piecemeal and would carry out repairs when sufficient lights were not working to make it cost-effective to do so. The Clerk would write to the college in support of the resident's concerns. There were also concerns about litter around the bus stop.
- A resident had expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council (PC) having noted that there were vacancies and she introduced herself to the PC and said a bit about herself.

4. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 17th SEPTEMBER 2020.

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the PC meeting held on 17th September 2020 having been circulated, be approved and that the Chair be authorised to sign.

5. PLANNING

a. Planning Applications Received

- 20/01918/TCA - Gardeners Cottage, Northfield Lane - Various works including the felling of 8no. trees in a Conservation Area

This application was carefully considered with Cllr. Peers sharing on screen the map showing the layout of the trees and associated plans for each one. The PC had **no objection**.

An application for the erection of detached single storey teaching block in Askham Bryan College had been received too late to be a formal agenda item. The Clerk would reply using his delegated authority and Councillors were encouraged to advise the Clerk accordingly.

b. Planning Decision Notices Received

- 20/00517/FUL - Proposed Sports Pitch Development to the South East Of 235 Tadcaster Road - Variation of condition 2 of permitted application 18/00251/FUL to change the drainage, FFL and ground levels to the pavilion - Approved.
- 20/01535/TCA - 4 The Court, Main Street - Crown reduce Horse chestnut 10-15%; crown lift 2.5m on neighbour's driveway - tree works in a Conservation Area - Approved.

- 20/01224/FUL - Nurseries Caravan Park, Askham Lane - Variation of condition 3 of permitted application 12/03734/FUL to allow caravan and camping site to be operated all year round - Approved.
- 20/01625/TCA - Cherry Tree House 68 Main Street - Fell 2no. Cherry trees in a Conservation Area - Approved.

The above decisions were noted.

6 TO RECEIVE THE NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE CRIME REPORT

No report had been received. Ward. Cllr. Hook advised that the other parishes in her ward had also not been receiving crime reports. She had shared statistical information ahead of the meeting showing data relating to 999 and 101 telephone calls.

7 REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR HOOK

Ward Cllr. Hook commented on the new announcement that from midnight on Friday (starting Saturday), tier two Covid-19 restrictions would apply to York. She expressed frustration that government track and trace data was being received too late to be fully effective.

She also commented on the application by the PC for funding for the Vehicle Activated Sign. The fund had been heavily oversubscribed and she had made comments in support of Askham Bryan's application but any announcements would not be made for a while.

Ward Cllr. Hook also advised the PC that the National Forest had bought some land near Rufforth and will plant trees and establish cafés and cycle paths.

She was asked to pursue a request for more 30mph repeater signs from the T-junction.

8 OTHER MATTERS

- 8.1 Road Safety Fund Application.** See 7 above. There will not be a response before November.
- 8.2 Remembrance Day.** It was **resolved** to donate £20 under Section 137 of the 1972 Local Government Act for the purchase of a wreath for the Remembrance Day event, all in favour.
- 8.3 Registration of paths as definite public rights of way.** Askham Richard PC have also been considering registration of paths between the two villages as definitive paths and are taking the lead on this. Cllr. Peers had spoken to the PROW officer twice seeking an update. Cllr. Peers had a list of names of Askham Bryan residents willing to sign statements to say that they had been using the path as a right of way should their names be needed to add to those of Askham Richard. Cllr. Peers would forward relevant information to the Clerk who would pursue this further. Deadlines for response times are published by the Open Spaces Society.
- 8.4 Vacancies.** It was noted that due to non-attendance for six months, there are now two vacancies on the Parish Council and that ten or more electors have until 20th October to request that these be filled by election following which the PC can consider advertising these vacancies in order to fill them by co-option. Assuming no election is requested, then the vacancies will be advertised.
- 8.5 Village pond.** A resident had emailed the people who are interested in ponds in the north of England and obtained a contact. As a result, Cllr. Peers has a volunteer (the estate manager of York University) and he would be meeting him on 28th October. Cllrs. Smahon & Steele had contacted a professional company for advice, they had quoted £900 to carry out a survey. Cllr. Smahon had tried to contact Yorkshire Wildlife Trust but had not had a

reply. Cllr. Peers had a contact for the Wildlife Trust (but not in Yorkshire) whom he could ask. It was agreed that the “Deep Water” sign be moved by Cllrs. Peers, Steele and Walker. It was agreed that volunteers could assist where this aligned with professional advice. There would be an agenda item for a future meeting to consider this further.

8.6 Website It was noted that the website was becoming out of date and used technologies such as Flash Player which would not be supported after December. Cllr. Peers had struggled to manage content and could not edit from his MAC device and couldn't get the site when browsing using Safari. The existing site was not clearly displayed on a mobile device and some photographs were displayed sideways. The Clerk would get quotes for a replacement website for consideration at the November meeting to include a member's only section for Councillors. It was noted that new website accessibility regulations came into effect on 23rd September which required the PC to adopt an Accessibility Statement. The Clerk had circulated a suggested Accessibility Statement ahead of the meeting. It was **resolved** that this be adopted, all in favour.

8.7 Privacy policy. The Clerk had circulated suggested privacy policies ahead of the meeting. It was **resolved** that these be adopted, all in favour.

9 FINANCE

9.1 Bank Reconciliation.

The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) reported that the bank balance as of 7th October 2020 was £9,534.69 including £1,959.37 earmarked funds from the quiz night.

9.2 Report of invoices to be paid in October/November

- Clerk's Salary 01/09/20 to 30/09/20 plus deductions payable to HMRC.
- Playground Inspection - Playsafety Limited (paid 30/11/19 out of the Charity account - this to reimburse the charity)
- Printing costs for the speeding survey - 200 sheets - 3.9p per sheet toner and 0.8 pence per sheet paper - S. Peers

The RFO had received SMS text messages from the bank suggesting that the bank mandate request had been completed. Cllr. Smith would see if she could now access the account.

10 CORRESPONDENCE

A list of correspondence received since the last meeting (items 122-133) had been circulated and the contents noted. A report of activity on Facebook had been circulated and future meetings would include comments on Social Media as correspondence items where appropriate.

11 ACTION TRACKER

An Action Tracker had been circulated with the agenda papers listing all previously agreed actions and reports on progress. It was noted that access to the charity bank account (Co-Op) had been obtained. Cllr. Peers was having difficulty accessing the Lloyds account having been locked out. The Clerk was still pursuing the contractor who had agreed to widen the gate entrance but had not had a response and was instructed to approach alternative contractors. Cllr. Steele had written to Bookers and a response was awaited.

11 DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2020-2021

The next PC meeting would be 19 November 2020. This meeting to be held using remote access.

The dates of PC meetings for 2021 were noted as follows; 21st January, 18th February, 18th March, 15th April, 20th May, 17th June, 15th July, 19th August, 16th September, 21st October and 18th November. These meetings to be held using remote access until current restrictions are relaxed.

The meeting closed at 8:15pm.

Signed

Chairman
19 November 2020