

Giggleswick Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting 10, held on 14th March 2023

15 Minutes for public participation session

Three members of the public attended the public participation session.

Mrs Wallace enquired if the Parish Council would consider asking NYCC Highways to install bollards at the footpath to the side of St Alkelda Church. This item was further discussed at 10.7c.2.

Mr Hill participated at item 10.8d: new external lighting at Arla Dairy.

Rosie Sanderson was invited to the meeting to talk about an initiative to reduce single use plastic in the wider communities of Giggleswick and Settle and asked the Council to support this idea by passing a resolution. The Council **agreed** to support this initiative in principle but to discuss this matter further at the next Parish Council meeting.

10.1 Present: Councillors Isobel Perrings (Chairman), Sarah Williamson, Colin Coleman, Janet Ewin-Newhouse, Martin Saunders, and Rosie Scott.

In attendance: County Cllr David Staveley, District Cllr Robert Ogden, and Parish Council Clerk Marijke Hill.

Apologies for non-attendance: none received.

10.2 Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interests

- a. Councillors did not record any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) or Other Interests in relation to items on this agenda.
- b. No requests were made for dispensation in connection with items on this agenda.
- c. The Council **noted** it had not received a response from the Monitoring Officer in relation to a potential conflict of interest.

10.3 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

The Council **resolved** that the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 9, held on 14th February 2023 should be **approved** and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Perrings, as a true and accurate record.

10.4 Matters from previous meetings not otherwise included on the agenda

The Council **noted** there were no matters from previous meetings not otherwise included on the Agenda recorded.

10.5 Reports from County and District Councillor and North Yorkshire Police

- a. County Councillor Staveley **reported** in summary that this report is the last one in his role as County Councillor as the new North Yorkshire Council will begin its role as the local Government body for North Yorkshire on 1st April. While the change in terms of democratic structure will be quite substantial, in reality many of the existing officers will remain in the organisation.

Council tax is now the most important source of funding for council services in North Yorkshire.

The new council's budget will see a rise in council tax of 2.99 per cent, and adding another year of the Adult Social Care levy of 2 per cent, equating to a total increase of £83.64 for an average Band D property. The increase is necessary to ensure the NY Council has sufficient funds to deliver essential services, especially to people who are very vulnerable, like the elderly, and children who need safeguarding and have special needs. Over 50% of the NY Council's total spend goes on these two areas now.

The County Council has put together a co-ordinated response to the cost of living crisis to highlight the support that is available, such as food banks or food share schemes, community venues offering warm spaces or support groups.

Citizens Advice is also contracted by the Council to deliver the Warm and Well project to help to ensure homes are properly heated to prevent poor health.

Councillors have also used their locality grants, which allow each member a budget of £10,000 per year to respond to local needs, to support community organisations that are helping households affected by the cost of living.

Finally, a new policy will be adopted by North Yorkshire Council which means households in the greatest financial need will be given up to 100 per cent reductions on council tax bills. For details of support available in North Yorkshire, visit www.northyorks.gov.uk/cost-living-support

- b. District Councillor Robert Ogden **reported** that this is the last meeting to attend as District Councillor and he thanked Councillors for their support. The Chairman, Cllr Isobel Perrings, thanked Cllr Robert Ogden for the issues he has raised with CDC on behalf of the Parish Council and wished him the very best in the future.
- c. The Council had **received** the written police report, which contained 11 incidents during the period between 12 February and 9 March 2023, notably an incident at Giggleswick Quarry where a dog had fallen into the quarry. This item was discussed at 10.7h.

10.6 Planning

a. Applications

- 1 YDNPA: C/31/629C – householder planning permission for installation of 2 new velux windows on left hand elevation; and 2 replacement velux windows on right hand elevation (retrospective), Mainsfield, Stackhouse Lane. The Council **agreed** it had no comments to make.
- 2 CDC: 2023/24824/TCA – fell T1 Ash, fell T2 Weeping Ash, Belle Orchard, Bankwell Road. The Council **agreed** it had no comments to make.
- 3 CDC: 2023/24825/TCA – fell T1 Sycamore, Rallinbrow, Bankwell Road. The Council **agreed** it had no comments to make.
- 4 CDC: 2023/24826/TCA – fell T1 Cypress, Bankwell, Bankwell Road. The Council **agreed** it had no comments to make.

b. Decisions

- 1 CDC: 2022/24600/OUT – Outline planning application for an agricultural worker's dwelling, Littlebank Bungalow, New Hall, Rathmell. **Granted.**

c. Other planning matters

- 1 planning application for Little Lords Field – update from working group regarding the S106 biodiversity enhancement areas for planting as well as key areas of habitat/biodiversity enhancements through recovery schemes.
Cllr Martin Saunders **reported** that five key areas of habitat / biodiversity enhancements through recovery schemes have been suggested, such as Elm tree recovery, tree Sparrow recovery, Hedgehog recovery, and Tems Beck recovery, which would downscale the wilding on the Harrison Playing Fields as suggested by the developers' agents. The Council **noted** that Craven District Council, as the Planning Authority would support hedgerows of willow, blackthorn and hawthorn, which would increase the biodiversity replacement score. The Council **agreed** that the working group should arrange a further site meeting with the Principal Planner of the developers' agents, as well as their ecologist, to discuss the key areas as proposed in more detail.
- 2 The Council **noted** that CDC has formally adopted the following Conservation Area Appraisals on 28th February 2023: Burton-in-Lonsdale, Carleton, Cononley, Cowling, Eastby, Embsay, Farnhill, Gargrave, Glusburn (proposed), High Bentham (proposed), Ingleton, Kildwick, Kildwick Grange, Lothersdale, Low Bentham (proposed), Low Bradley, Settle-Carlisle Railway, Sutton-in-Craven, Thornton-in-Craven.

- 3 The Council **noted** that the CDC's subscription service has now ended and a new system for public engagement in spatial planning will be introduced by North Yorkshire Council after 1st April 2023.

10.7 Reports and updates regarding parish maintenance matters

a. Harrison Playing Fields:

- Regarding the installation of non-slip steps and handrail on the 'zip wire', Cllr Williamson **reported** that this project is in progress. District Cllr Ogden confirmed that a Ward Member Grant of £509.10 has been approved by Craven District Council.
- The Chairman, Cllr Isobel Perrings, **reported** on the issue of emptying the waste bins, in particular the emptying of the large bin near the bus stop at Bankwell Road, which contains a large amount of dog waste bags and whose bin liner has to be manually emptied into a wheelie bin to be positioned on the pavement at Bankwell Road for the operative to empty. The Council **agreed** that the handling of dog waste bags by any Member of the Parish Council is inappropriate and beyond duty. The Chairman, Cllr Perrings, **proposed** to purchase a housing unit for a wheelie bin in order the manually emptying and handling into the wheelie bin is eliminated, but the cost would be just under £700, with the potential of the cost of an additional wheelie bin at just under £125. The Council **agreed** to ask County Cllr David Staveley to address this issue with the new North Yorkshire Council and make enquiries if the NYC operative would empty the large waste bin near the bus stop.
- The Council had **contacted** the rugby club about a few incidents when members of the public were allegedly intimidated to not be in the fenced off area with their dogs. The Council had **reiterated** that the public footpath runs straight through the fenced off rugby pitch, which gives all people the right to walk there, with or without dogs. The Council had also **asked** the rugby club if they would consider putting up some meshing at the two gates to stop dogs from crawling under them and into the fenced off area and it is awaiting a reply.
- The Council **noted** that the site meeting to assess the Council's benches and picnic table was postponed and **agreed** to now hold this on 4th April at 9.00 am.

b. street lighting

- 1 The Council was **informed** that neither LP37 at Otter Rise and LP32 at the staff entrance to Settle College have been repaired and **agreed** that County Councillor David Staveley should address this matter with the NYCC Energy and Asset Manager on behalf of the Parish Council. LP37 was reported faulty in November 2021 and LP32 is still awaiting a connection by ENW, an ongoing situation for more than three years.
The Council **decided** to ask the NYCC Energy and Asset Manager for a copy of the contract in which it was agreed that NYCC should undertake the street lighting maintenance on behalf of the Parish Council more than a decade ago.
- 2 The Council **decided** to make enquiries with the NYCC Street Light Officer regarding the possible decommissioning of certain Parish Council street lights in order to reduce energy costs.
- 3 The Council was **informed** that LP7 on Main Street opposite The Mains has been reported as faulty and it is awaiting confirmation that this street light has been repaired.

c. update from Giggleswick School on various matters

- 1 Cllr Williamson **reported** that Giggleswick School, as the riparian owner, has issued a work order to replace the kerb stone at Tems Beck just in front of the notice board, which has fallen into the water.
- 2 In regards the footpath to the side of St Alkelda Church, Cllr Williamson **reported** that Giggleswick School is aware this is rutted in some places and has a few potholes. However, the Council **reiterated** NYCC's position that residents are responsible for the upkeep of the footpath but only to

the standard of a footpath. At this moment Giggleswick School does not believe that the footpath needs repairing to a standard higher than that of footpath.

The Council **considered** asking NYCC Highways to install bollards at the entrance of the footpath as was requested by the resident at the Public Participation session. The Council was **informed** that the tenants who live in the Giggleswick School properties rarely park on the footpath but that, occasionally, parking is allowed for funerals and weddings at St Alkelda Church. The Council **decided** to not contact the County Council Highways Authorities and request that bollards be placed on this footpath at this time as these could be easily removed and enforcement is not possible. The Council **agreed** to continue to monitor the parking situation.

- 3 Cllr Williamson also **reported** that Giggleswick School has issued correspondence to all staff and parents to refrain from parking on Craven Bank Lane.

d. broken handrail on steps below Harts Head

The Council had **received** the form for the acceptance of the grant of £300 towards the provision of a replacement handrail along the side of a footpath below the Harts Head from County Cllr David Staveley's Member Localities Budget Fund, which was duly signed. The Council was **informed** that the contractor will carry out this work in the next few weeks.

e. collapsed boundary wall on Stackhouse Lane

The Council was **informed** that it had not received an update from the NYCC Property Transactions Manager, Property Service, Strategic Resources, Shaun Wilson regarding the maintenance responsible for the section of wall from the Stackhouse Lane junction up to just opposite Mansfield Close and **agreed** to discuss further at the next Parish Council meeting.

f. provision of gritting bins

The Council was **informed** that NYCC provide salt heaps and bins for use on roads and footways in severe weather and that these salt heaps and bins are placed based on road gradient, severity of bends, road usage, and whether or not the road is already gritted and that they are refilled by 1 November and a second refill may be carried out mid-season or after significant snowfall. The Council **noted** that it can acquire and maintain additional bins at its expense, at a cost of £50 for a bin and an annual £75 charge for up to two refills and **agreed** to discuss this item further at the next Parish Council meeting.

g. further issues relating to NYCC Highways

No further issues relating to NYCC Highways were reported.

h. fencing around upper perimeter of Giggleswick Quarry

The Council has **received** correspondence that a dog was tragically killed by falling into Giggleswick Quarry recently and that the Cave and Mountain Rescue at Clapham were involved. The Council was **informed** that, prior to this incident, the cattle in the field may have broken through some parts of the upper fencing. The Council **decided** to contact the YDNPA Area Ranger to investigate who is responsible for keeping up a secure fencing all along the Quarry's upper perimeter.

10.8 Reports and updates on parish matters other than maintenance

a. plans for events to mark the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III on 6th May 2023

The Chairman, Cllr Isobel Perrings, **reported** that the community group has suggested to organise a big lunch event in St Alkelda Church grounds or a lower key picnic on the Harrison Playing Fields on Sunday 7th May to mark the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III. The Council was **informed** that the Trustees of the Giggleswick Charities have allocated £500 towards the costs of such events.

- b. planting displays for this year in the village
Cllr Martin Saunders **reported** about the planting displays in the village and the Council **confirmed** it has allocated a sum of £500 in the budget this year. The Council was **informed** that some residents who live in the cottages near the Black Horse have offered to pay for plants around the Cross this year.
- c. plans for the Annual Parish Meeting on 11 April
The Council **agreed** the list of invitees to its Annual Parish Meeting on 11 April at 6.30 pm in the Parish Room.
- d. new external lighting at Arla Dairy
The Council had **received** a large number of representations about the external lighting, installed Autumn 2022 at the Arla Dairy site in Settle. The Council was **informed** that there is some scientific evidence that the bright lights, spreading all around the factory site and over the riverbed, have a negative effect on flora and fauna at night as they distort feeding, growing and reproductive patterns. The lights can be seen nearly three miles away going towards Eldroth and Lawkland. The Council **agreed** to contact Arla Dairy and ask them to urgently address this matter by adjusting or screening the lighting in such a way that it only directly illuminates the areas within the factory boundary. Also, the intensity needs reducing to the lowest level commensurate with site safety to the benefit of the local environment and all its inhabitants.

10.9 Financial Matters

- a. The Council **approved** the Financial Statements, including the bank reconciliation to 28 February 2023 and **noted** the total balance of all accounts as £21,693.27.
- b. The Council **approved** payment of the following accounts in February:-
- clerk of £558.00 as salary for March 2023;
- Npower of £0.00 for seasonal illuminations 2022.
The Council **noted** payment of £6.60 to HSBC for monthly banking services charges.
- c. The Council **considered** payments under Section 137 of the Local government Act 1972 and **resolved** to approve a payment of £1,000 to Settle Area Swimming Pool CIO, £1,000 to Freda's Community Playgroup and Pre-School CIO, and £250 to the Giggleswick Parochial Church Council towards the maintenance of the Church clock.
- d. The Council was **informed** that the setting up of a new account with Skipton Building Society is in progress.
- e. The Council **reviewed** the parish clerk salary and **resolved** to consider this matter in private session, excluding the public and press under the Public Bodies (admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, as discussion in public would be prejudicial to the public interest.
The Council **agreed** to increase the clerk's salary to NJC SCP 18 at a rate of £568.40 per month with effect from 1st April 2023.

10.10 The Council **approved** the following documents:

- a. Financial Risk Assessment and Management
- b. Assets Register

10.11 Reports on or notice of meetings of other bodies

- * NYCC: Skipton and Ripon Area Constituency Committee Meeting 9 March
- * PFCC: newsletter February

* YLCA: White Rose Updates 17/2; 3/3; Civility and Respect Project March newsletter; training programme April to June; NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin 10/3

10.12 Reports / comments on other matters for information only, or for inclusion on a future agenda

- a. The Council **noted** the correspondence received from YDNPA about Woodland creation grants.

10.13 Date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting

The Council **confirmed** the date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting as 11th April 2023, immediately after the Annual Parish Meeting at 6.30 pm in the Parish Room.

There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.32.

M. Hill

Clerk to the Council