

## Giggleswick Parish Council

### Minutes of Meeting 5, held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023

The Parish Council allocated a reasonable period of time at the start of the meeting to allow registered electors the opportunity to ask questions and / or make statements that relate to the work of the Council.

#### Public Participation

There were no members of the public in attendance.

#### 5.1 Apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting.

- a The Council had **received** advice from the YLCA that the giving of apologies for absence is a courtesy only and that the Council should approve the reason(s) for absence. The Council **agreed** to adopt this procedure as best practice  
**Present:** Cllrs Martin Saunders (Chair), Isobel Perrings (Vice-Chair), Colin Coleman, Janet Ewin-Newhouse, Rosie Scott, and Sarah Williamson.  
**In attendance:** NYC Councillor David Staveley and Parish Council Clerk Marijke Hill.  
**Apologies for absence** given in advance of the meeting by Cllr Paul Bradley.
- b Members of the Council have been notified of the reason for absence of Cllr Bradley and **approved** the reason given.

#### 5.2 Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interests

- a. Cllr Williamson **recorded** an Other Interest in connection with item 5.8g.: future use of the Parish Room.  
Cllr Scott **recorded** a Pecuniary Interest in connection with item 5.9c.: approval of payment to A. Fry for the supply of the notice board.
- b. No requests were received for dispensation in connection with items on this agenda.

#### 5.3 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

The Council **resolved** that the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 4 2023-2024, held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023 should be **approved** and signed by the Chair, Cllr Saunders, as a true and accurate record.

#### 5.4 Matters from previous meetings not otherwise included on the agenda

The Council **noted** no matters from previous meetings reported.

#### 5.5 Reports from County and District Councillor and North Yorkshire Police

- a. North Yorkshire Council Cllr David Staveley presented a written report and in summary reported that the 4<sup>th</sup> phase of the Household Support Fund is being rolled out to just under 22,500 people across the county who are struggling amid the cost of living crisis and are eligible to claim supermarket vouchers to help pay for food and other essentials over the winter months.  
The draft North Yorkshire Housing Strategy, providing a framework for housing policies and projects to be undertaken by the Council over the next five years, is being developed. It includes proposals to tackle homelessness, meet the needs of the ageing population, increase the supply of affordable and available housing and improve the energy efficiency of housing, which would reduce fuel poverty. It aims to deliver at least 12,685 new homes – of which 4,000 properties will be affordable – over the next 5 years.  
In June 2023 ministers launched an inquiry into the use of Reinforced Autoclave Aerated Concrete (RAAC) in public buildings. 88 North Yorkshire LA Maintained Schools had initial surveys completed and on all sites surveyed to date no RAAC has been found. This is the same issue that

threatened the future of Airedale Hospital, a situation that has now been scheduled for resolution with an extensive redevelopment having secured a place on the Government's new Hospital Programme.

Following mounting pressure on water utility companies both nationally and locally and numerous calls for response from both individual Councillors and the Leadership of NYC, a representative from Yorkshire Water made the first of a series of visits to the six Area Constituency Committees across North Yorkshire. NYC now looks forward to holding them to their commitment to resolve the issues raised by our communities and make good on the long term investment commitments they outlined to improve their service and the quality of our watercourses across the county.

- b. The Council had **received** the written police report, which contained 10 incidents during the period between 8 July and 9 September 2023, all minor in nature.

## 5.6 Planning

### a. Applications

- 1 NYC: ZA23/25299/LBC Deconstruct and re-build both chimney stacks using existing stone and mortar techniques, to repair deficits and attempt to rectify damp ingress, 2 Pendle View. The Council **agreed** it had no comments to make.

### b. Decisions

- 1 NYC: ZA23/25063/FUL Proposed garden room in rear garden for part time Chiropody/ Podiatry Practice, Linden House, Station Road. **Granted**
- 2 NYC: ZA23/25144/CPE Application for a certificate of lawful development for removal of B1 restriction to existing dwelling house, Tarn Barn, Mill Hill Lane. **Granted**
- 3 NYC: ZA23/24973/FUL Change of use of a detached garage into a dog grooming facility, 6 Bankwell Road. **Granted**
- 4 NYC: ZA23/25089/HH External alterations including forming Juliette balcony and patio doors, Sandholme Barn, Bankwell Road. **Granted**
- 5 YDNPA: C/31/654B Householder planning permission for proposed dormers, conversion and partial rebuild of an existing outbuilding to form annexe to house hydrotherapy pool and carer's accommodation, extension and level increase of an existing raised terrace, internal and external alterations and installation of solar panels at Aldby House, Stackhouse Lane. **Approved conditionally**
- 6 NYC: ZA23/24982/LBC Internal alterations, Rallinbrow, Bankwell Road. **Granted**
- 7 NYC: ZA23/25133/FUL Proposed new agricultural building, Littlebank Bungalow, New Hall, Rathmell. **Granted**
- 8 NYC: 2022/23834/FUL Change of use of Parish Rooms to form one dwelling, Parish Rooms, Bankwell Road. The Council **ratified** notifying the NYC Planning Authority that the proposals effectively remove this fully available and independent meeting room, which presents the Council with a considerable challenge of finding somewhere to hold its public, monthly meetings. The loss of the facility is seen by the Council as a step backwards for the community as a whole. **Refused**

### c. Other planning matters

- 1 The Council **noted** the policy consultation document from NALC on local plans until 22 September 2023.

## 5.7 Reports and updates regarding parish maintenance matters

### a. Harrison Playing Fields:

#### Emptying of waste bins

The Council **agreed** the latest proposal from NYC that the three bins in the children's play area are to be replaced by a large wheeled bin near the entrance gate into the children's play area, at a cost for

the Parish Council. The existing bin located in the Harrison Playing Fields near the bus shelter is to be relocated to the wider paved area next to the bus shelter at Bankwell Road at no cost for the Parish Council. Both bins are to be serviced by NYC, who will also carry out all of the work involved.

#### WI Jubilee tree

The Council **reiterated** its position that the WI could adopt the plum tree at the top end of the children's playground and install a plaque in front of the tree to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. The Council gratefully accepted the WI's generous donation of £100.

#### quotation for the repair of boundary wall with Raines Road

The Council has **received** one response to provide a quotation and was **informed** that the repair requires an additional 1 tonne of stone. The Council **agreed** to have the wall repaired as a dry stone wall and **accepted** the quotation from Walker Loughlin Projects for £268 + VAT for labour and £189.64 + VAT for materials. The Council **decided** to send the invoice to the Airedale NHS Foundation Trust, in order they refund the Parish Council in due course.

#### Quotation for the repair of the boundary wall on Bankwell Road

The Council has **received** one response to provide a quotation and **accepted** the quotation from Walker Loughlin Projects for £100 + VAT.

#### Grass cutting and weed strimming

The Council was **informed** that the first grass cut in August has been baled by the contractor, who has subsequently, not charged the Council for the mowing.

The Council had **received** a number of representations from concerned residents that the nettles around the blue slide are overgrowing. The Council **agreed** that the weeds around all items of play equipment need to be strimmed and **noted** that the nettles around the blue slide have been removed.

#### Other issues

\* The Council was **informed** that the Coronation Bench will be delivered soon.

\* The Council **agreed** to ask the grass cutting contractor to strim all the verges of the Harrison Playing fields.

NYC Cllr David Staveley entered the meeting.

#### b. street lighting

- 1 The Council was **informed** that the column and light at Beggar's Wife Bridge, LP49, has been removed, rendering the entire area in darkness and **ratified** contacting the NYC Street Light Officer to find out who has removed the light and provide clarification. The Council is awaiting a reply.
- 2 The Council was **informed** that both street lights on either side of the entrance to the swimming pool car park, LP24 and LP25 are faulty and **agreed** to ask Harrison & Cross to carry out a conversion to LED on LP24 and investigate why the LED light on LP25 is not working.
- 3 The Council had **contacted** Harrison & Cross to carry out a street light energy reduction survey and **noted** their report. The Council **agreed** to contact Harrison & Cross to proceed with converting the street lighting to LEDs based on the survey, apart from the four street lights, outlined on the survey, which may have safety issues or are unable to be accessed with a platform lift.

#### c. verges cutting

The Council **agreed** to ask the grass cutting contractor to strim the verges in the village as of the previous year, such as the triangle at the top of Belle Hill; the areas opposite Pendle View and the swimming pool; the verges on Bankwell Road and on Raines Road from Beggar's Wife Bridge to the footpath across to Bankwell Road; the verge on the right hand side on Stackhouse Lane; the Riverside Path from Kendalmans to Sandholme Close between the fence and the path; and the area in front of the bench facing Arla to Sandholme Close.

d. Tems Beck matters

1 The Chair, Cllr Saunders, **reported** that a small volunteer working party has cleared the stretch on Tems Beck for which it is the riparian owner and had moved some stones, fallen from the walls, back to the bank. Members of the Ribble Rivers Trust were in the same stretch, carrying out a survey and commenting on the high level of young trout. The Chair, Cllr Saunders, proposed to develop a strategy to engage with the Ribble Rivers Trust, the Environment Agency, and riparian owners, with a view to a full stretch sensitive clearing of Tems Beck. The Council **agreed** that Cllr Saunders should make further enquiries with the RRT and the EA and report back at a future meeting.

2 complaint received from riparian owner

The Council **resolved** that item 5.7d2 is considered in private session, excluding the press and public under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, as discussion in public would be prejudicial to the public interest.

The Council had **received** a written complaint as well as additional verbal complaints. The Council **agreed** that the nature of part of the complaint is such that the complainants should be advised to submit the complaint as received by the Parish Council to the NYC Monitoring Officer as they are the relevant Principal Authority to consider an investigation. The Council also **agreed** to consider adopting a complaints policy at the next Parish Council meeting.

3 ask Giggleswick School to reduce the disposition of sand and fertiliser on their fields

The Council has **received** correspondence from a resident on Tems Street, clearing out a stretch of Tems Beck as riparian owner, asking the Council to contact Giggleswick School to reduce the disposition of sand and fertiliser on their fields and to fulfil their obligation as a riparian owner. The Council **agreed** that it is not appropriate to consider this proposition and that the resident should address this issue directly to Giggleswick School.

e. Ribble bank erosion near Memorial Bridge

The Council had **received** a representation that the erosion on the Ribble bank near the Memorial Bridge is getting worse as much of the overhang collapsed over the winter and there is fresh soil open to the elements. The Council had reported the erosion to NYC Paths when it first occurred and had noted their view that the path is too far from the erosion to be of concern. The Council **agreed** to report the issue again to NYC Paths.

f. issues relating to NYC Highways

1 replacement of signage on Tems Street

The Council had **received** a representation that the sign on the post on Tems Street, warning drivers not to try and exit Tems Street over the slate bridge onto Church Street has been removed. The Council **noted** correspondence received that the issue of vehicles driving over the footbridge opposite the cottages numbers 6 to 11 Tems Street is not resolved yet. The Council **agreed** that County Cllr David Staveley should address both matters with NYC Highways.

g. installation of notice board

The Council **agreed** to ask Walker Loughlin Projects to install the new notice board next to the public notice board at the junction Church Street with Tems Street.

h. telephone kiosk

Cllr Williamson **reported** that the new pinboard has been installed but that the telephone kiosk is in need of some redecorating and the Council **agreed** that the worst affected areas should be touched up for the time being.

## 5.8 Reports and updates on parish matters other than maintenance

### a. speeding issues

1 The Council had **contacted** NYC Highways and NY Police asking for traffic/speeding data for the B6480 between the A65 and Harts Head Hotel and **noted** the response from the Police that they have no information to suggest there is any issues or concerns for that stretch of road, hence no enforcement action will be taken. The Council also **noted** the response from NYC Highways showing the overall mean speed from the permanent traffic counter on Buck Haw Brow in July as 41.7mph as well as data over the last 10 years that the permanent counter has been in place showing consistency. The Council **agreed** to focus on the 20 mph zone within the village and make enquiries about the position of the '20's Plenty' banners to remind drivers that Bankwell Road, Church street and Raines Road all have a 20mph speed limit.

2 The Council **noted** correspondence received from the NYC Executive Member for Highways and Transport, Cllr Keane Duncan about a more strategic approach to consider speed limits in all areas. NYC plan to review all locations over the coming years, based on a speed management strategy to be prepared and approved.

b. Right of Way behind the cottages on Church Street between the Black Horse Inn and Belle Hill  
Cllr Scott **reported** that the right of way behind the cottages on Church Street is blocked and the Council **agreed** to report this to NYC Public Right of Way department for them to investigate.

### c. Railway Station office closures

The Council **ratified** its response to the consultation on reduced staffing levels at Settle train station, expressing extreme concerns that the proposed reduction in staffing will have a significant impact on residents, such as acute disability challenges, remoteness, an older age demographic, and a high level of tourist footfall. The Council **noted** the response that NYC had sent as a statutory consultee.

NYC Cllr David Staveley left the meeting.

### d. YLCA whole council training

The Council was **informed** that the YLCA will organise a three-hours 'Whole Council Training' session at a venue of our choice and dates have been provided The Council **agreed** to make enquiries whether the 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024 evening session is still available.

### e. winter floral displays

The Chair, Cllr Saunders, **reported** that the residents who live opposite the market cross have offered to buy the winter plants for the cross. The Council gratefully accepted this offer and agreed that Cllr Saunders will buy the plants from Horticap, who will invoice the Council, after which the residents can make a donation.

### f. Christmas 2023, including request for donation to Settle Town Council to their Lights Switch-On

The Council **agreed** to ask for a quotation for this year's Christmas tree from Lay of the Land without the costs for disposing of the tree.

The Council **agreed** to not contribute to the Settle Town Council Christmas Lights Switch-On event.

### g. future use of the Parish Room

The Council was **informed** that the Chair, Cllr Saunders, had been approached by a member of the Parochial Church Council, asking if the Council would consider purchasing the Parish Room. Cllr Saunders **reported** about preliminary conversations with the resident who raised funds for a community hall in the past and also with Freda's Nursery, who are looking for an alternative premise, all with a view to ensuring that a community space is not lost to the community. The



Council **agreed** that Cllr Saunders should continue these conversations and report back to the Council in due course.

h. plastic free community status

The Council was **informed** that the Plastic Free Steering Group would like to sign up the Council as a 'Community Ally' in their bid to have Settle and Giggleswick accredited with Plastic Free Community status and **agreed** to sign the pledge form.

i. gritting route amendment

The Council **ratified** the response to NYC Highways, supporting their proposal to amend the gritting route by removing Brackenber Lane and do the loop from Raines Road, Church Street, and Bankwell Road. The Council **agreed** to notify both schools in order they could let staff and parents know to use the Raines Road turning into the village in winter weather instead of using Brackenber Lane.

## 5.9 Financial Matters

a. The Council **approved** the Financial Statements, including the bank reconciliation to 31 August 2023 and **noted** the total balance of all accounts as £14,188.69.

b. The Council **ratified** payment of the following accounts in August:-  
 - G.A. Hewitt & Son of £252.00 for grass cutting of the HPF in July 2023;  
 - clerk of £568.40 as salary for August 2023;  
 To **note** payment of £5.40 to HSBC for monthly banking services charges.  
 To **note** receipt of erroneous payment from NYC of £1,602.24.

c. The Council **approved** payment of the following accounts for September:-  
 - G.A. Hewitt & Son of £252.00 for grass cutting of the HPF in August 2023;  
 - A. Fry of £350.00 for the supply of the Council notice board;  
 - Harrison & Cross Ltd of £108.00 for carrying out street lighting survey;  
 - PKF Littlejohn LLP of £252.00 for the AGAR External Auditor Report 2022-2023;  
 - clerk of £568.40 as salary for September 2023;  
 The Council **noted** payment of £5.00 to HSBC for monthly banking services charges.  
 The Council **agreed** to transfer an amount of £1,500 from the SBS account to the HSBC account to cover these payments.

d. The Council **noted** the AGAR 2022-2023 Section 3 External Auditor Report and Certificate and Notice of Conclusion of Audit.

e. The Council **noted** the increase of Unmetered Supply tariff by Npower as of 1 September 2023.

## 5.10 Reports on or notice of meetings of other bodies

\* The Council has **received** the NYC finalised and published Parish Charter, which sets out the relationship between North Yorkshire Council and all Town and Parish Councils. The Council **noted** that the NYC Charter 'Review Group' will be monitoring and developing the Charter as and when required.

\* YDNPA: Parish Forums Representations Notes and Briefings Spring 2023; Yorkshire Dales Cheese Festival 3 to 6 October

\* YLCA: White Rose Bulletins 14/7, 31/7, 11/8, 25/8; 8/9; Law and Governance Bulletins July and August; Annual Review 2022-2023; Training Programme August, September; NALC Executive's Bulletins; Craven Branch meeting 5 October; training programme October to December.

**5.11 Any Matters not included on this Agenda which the Chairman considers must nevertheless be addressed as a matter of urgency**

The Council **noted** that there were no matter to be addressed as a matter of urgency reported.

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

- a. The Council **noted** the NYC Confirmed Order Notification for Highways Act 1980 Public Path Diversion at Close House Farm, Giggleswick.
- b. The Council **noted** the notification of the annual RoSPA inspection of the children's play area at the Harrison Playing Fields in September.
- c. The Council **noted** the apology letter from a resident regarding the recent damage of the boundary wall on Bankwell Road.
- d. The Council **noted** the refreshment of white lines by NYC Highways at the foot of Belle Hill.
- e. The Council **agreed** to consider the provision of gritting of footpaths in the village at the next Parish Council meeting.

**5.13 Date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting**

The Council **confirmed** the date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting as 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023 in the Parish Rooms at 7.30 pm.

There being no further business to discuss the Chair closed the meeting at 22.12.

**M. Hill**

**Clerk to the Council**