

Giggleswick Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting 7, held on 14th November 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.

- 7.1a Present:** Cllrs Martin Saunders (Chair), Isobel Perrings, Paul Bradley, Colin Coleman, Rosie Scott, and Sarah Williamson (late arrival).
Apologies for absence received from Cllr Janet Ewin-Newhouse.
In attendance: NYC Councillor David Staveley for part of the meeting, and Parish Council Clerk Marijke Hill.
- 7.1b** The Council **considered** the reason for absence provided by Cllr Ewin-Newhouse and **resolved** acceptance of this as relevant.
- 7.2 Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interests**
- a. Cllr Sarah Williamson recorded an Other Interest in connection with item 7.8e: future use of the Parish Room.
 - b. No requests were received for dispensation in connection with items on this agenda.
- 7.3 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**
 The Council **resolved** that the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 6 2023-2024, held on 10th October 2023 should be **approved** and signed by the Chair, Cllr Martin Saunders, as a true and accurate record.
- 7.4 Matters from previous meetings not otherwise included on the agenda**
 Cllr Scott **reported** about the continuous inconsiderate parking of two large motorhomes on the pavement on Raines Road, near Bucks Lane, obstructing the pavement in such a way that pedestrians have to walk into the road to pass. The Council **agreed** to contact the PCSO and make enquiries with respect to activating enforcement and issuing parking fines to the owners of the motorhomes.
- 7.5 Reports from County and District Councillor and North Yorkshire Police**
- a. NYC Cllr David Staveley presented a written report about government's proposals to reform waste management and collection policies in a drive to increase recycling rates, called 'Simpler Recycling' in the next few years. The proposals include household and business waste; digital waste; as well as stricter regulations for those who manage and transport waste. NYC Cllr Staveley also reported that, following the recent consultation by the Rail Delivery Group looking at the potential closure of many ticket offices, Transport Secretary Mark Harper MP has announced he has asked train operators to withdraw their proposal.
 NYC Cllr Staveley reported on various items on the agenda, such as the replacement and relocation of the waste bins at the Harrison Playing Fields, exposed grate at Station Road at the junction with Church Street reported to NYC Highways, and the proposed signage on Tems Street, and left the meeting.
 - b. The Council had **received** the written police report which contained 7 incidents during the period between 7 October and 10 November 2023, all minor in nature.

7.6 Planning

a. Applications

- 1 NYC: ZA23/25295/VAR Application to vary condition no 2 (Approved Plan) and 4 (Finished Floor Level Section) of planning approval referenced '2020/21538/FUL', The Bungalow, Settle Middle School. The Council **agreed** it had no comments to make.
- 2 NYC: ZA23/25430/LBC Replace the timber structure of roof to the rear of the building; re-felt with breathable felt; retile using the original stone slates. Replace existing skylight with a heritage style skylight, Rallinbrow, Bankwell Road. The Council **agreed** it had no comments to make.

b. Decisions

- 1 YDNPA: C/31/664C Section 73 application for variation of Condition 2 of C/31/664A (Full planning permission for erection of a replacement dwelling (to replace steel framed bungalow), in respect of increase to the height of the dwelling by 270mm, Galadale, Stackhouse Lane. Approved conditionally
- 2 NYC: ZA23/25309/FUL Retrospective covering of midden, Rome Farm Yard, Rome Farm, Storth Gill Lane. Granted

Cllr Sarah Williamson arrived.

c. Other or additional planning matters

- 1 The Council **noted** the NYC draft Housing Strategy 2024-2029 consultation until 11th December.
- 2 The Council had **received** additional planning application NYC: ZA23/25482/HH Two storey side extension, 2 Police House, Station Road and **agreed** it had no comments to make.
- 3 The Council had **received** additional decision NYC: ZA23/25355/TCA to fell T1 Sycamore, Rallinbrow, Bankwell Road and **noted** this was granted

7.7 Reports and updates regarding parish maintenance matters

a. Harrison Playing Fields:

* quotation for repair of items of play equipment as of the RoSPA Inspection Report

The Council was **informed** that the junior swing and the frame have been removed and that the individual items are stored safely.

The Council had **contacted** a local play ground maintenance contractor and was **informed** that a site visit be arranged soon to discuss repair of the medium risk items as highlighted by the RoSPA Inspection Report and to provide a quotation.

* Coronation bench

The Council was **informed** that Walker Loughlin Projects has installed the coronation bench and that the bench would need varnishing to protect it. The Council **decided** to leave this until a spell of dry weather in the spring or summer of next year.

* consider replacement of the one bay, two seat junior swings

The Council **considered** the options for replacing the removed junior swings and **agreed** to postpone making a decision until the spring of next year.

* Maintenance to the top of the metal gate near the Vicarage

The Council had **received** a representation to consider painting the gate and surrounding ironwork of the metal gate near the Vicarage in bright primary colours and it **agreed** to seek the professional opinion of the local play ground maintenance contractor.

* Other issues

The Council **noted** that NYC Cllr David Staveley had reported at 7.5a that the green waste bin near the bus shelter has been relocated to nearer the kerb on Bankwell Road and that a large wheeled bin has been placed by the gate into the children's play area, and that both bins are to be serviced by a NYC operative. The Council **agreed** to investigate the removal of the three bins in the children's play area.

b. street lighting

- 1 The Council had **contacted** the NYC Street Light Officer for a quotation to erect a new column and light as near to Beggar's Wife Bridge as possible in replacement of the removed LP49 and **resolved** to accept the estimated cost of £3,185.01 + VAT.
- 2 Regarding the street light conversions to LED, the Council was **informed** that Harrison & Cross completed 27 street lights, leaving another six to do. The Council **decided** to contact the NYC Energy and Asset Data Management Officer to amend the street light inventory list and base their calculations for incurred energy costs to the Parish Council on the amended inventory list with effect from 1st December 2023. The Council **agreed** to ask Harrison & Cross when they intend to convert the remainder of the street lights.
- 3 Regarding the two street lights on either side of the entrance into the swimming pool car park, the Council **ratified** the repair of LP25. The Council **considered** the options regarding LP24 and **agreed** to ask Harrison & Cross to repair this light as well.
- 4 Regarding other street lighting issues, Cllr Scott **reported** that the street light in the ginnel between Bankwell Road and the Riverside Path is obscured by overhanging branches of a tree at Rallin Brow. The Council **agreed** to write to the owners of Rallin Brow, asking them to cut back the tree in their garden in such a way that it will no longer obscure the lamp post located just before the slope that leads to the memorial bridge.

c. Ribble River Trust funding opportunities for Tems Beck

The Chair, Cllr Martin Saunders, **reported** on the ongoing discussions with members of the Ribble River Trust (RRT) and the two visits that have taken place, one along Tems Beck in the village and one to the source of the beck. The Council was **informed** that the RRT suggest clearing the vegetation within approximately 6 metres of the road bridge on Church Street to keep conveyance of water unimpeded under the bridge. For a wider strategy of Tems Beck the RRT suggest to focus on some of the endangered species for which the beck is important habitat, as well as explore opportunities to re-naturalise some of the straightened and culverted sections in the upper catchment, which would both reduce the speed of water flow towards the village and improve the habitat quality. These proposals require landowner engagement, community support and funding, before doing any work.

The Council reiterated to remain neutral but to facilitate another body to drive any action and education forward whilst fully engaging with the necessary authorities, landowners, riparian owners, and wider members of the community.

d. Tems Street bollard and signage

The Council **noted** that NYC Cllr David Staveley had reported at 7.5a to continue addressing this matter with NYC Highways.

e. other issues relating to NYC Highways

The Council **noted** no other issues relating to NYC Highways reported.

7.8 Reports and updates on parish matters other than maintenance

a. speeding issues

1 quotation for banners

The Council **resolved** to accept the quotation for the purchase of three '20's Plenty' banners for £135.00 as a reminder to drivers that Bankwell Road, Church Street and Raines Road all have a 20mph speed limit.

- 2 speed calming measures on the B6480
 The Council had **contacted** NYC Highways requesting a review of their decision to not implement any of the suggested speed calming measures the Parish Council had requested in 2020, such as the 30 mph sign to be repositioned a bit further up the hill in order the two footpath crossings are included within the 30 mph limit; a 40 mph buffer zone to be installed; installation of speed reduction warning signs at various intervals; and replacement of all reflectors. In addition, the Parish Council asked for a roundel to be painted on the road at the Harts Head Hotel to make is clear to drivers that they are within a 30 mph speed limit zone. The Council **noted** it has not had a reply. The Council also **noted** it has not received the Community Traffic Management Report from Giggleswick School in respect of the Giggleswick School English Schools Fell Running Championship.

- 3 The Council **considered** to seek support from NYC Cllr David Staveley for a ‘planned speed limit review’ on the B6480 by NYC and **agreed** to write to NYC Cllr Staveley highlighting the huge community support for a speed reduction that was expressed at the public meeting held in November 2019. The Council **suggested** that the locations for data collection would include the stretch from Buck Haw Brow down to the junctions to the golf course and the school entrance and not just at the current location of the permanent traffic counter, which is at a point where traffic naturally slows down. The Parish Council would welcome a speed limit review on the B6480 as suggested by NYC Executive Member for highways and transport, Cllr Keane Duncan. The Council further **decided** to consider inviting some companies in the region to ‘express interest’ in carrying out a Road Safety Audit of the B6480 between the A65 and the Harts Head Hotel, in order the data gathered from such an audit may add weight to the Parish Council’s request for a speed reduction on the B6480.

- b. YLCA whole council training
 The Council was **informed** that the YLCA Training Officer can provide a face-to-face ‘Whole Council’ training session in the course of the day or in the early evenings only. The Council **agreed** to re-engage with the YLCA when future dates are announced for the year 2024-2025.

- c. winter floral displays
 The Chair, Cllr Martin Saunders, **reported** that the 80 winter flowering plants were collected from Horticap in Harrogate and are now on display around the cross and at the side of Tems Beck.

- d. quotation for Christmas tree 2023
 The Council has **received** the quotation from Lay of the Land for the supply and installation of the Christmas tree and the hire of the lights for £285.00 + VAT and **resolved** to accept this. The Council **agreed** to ask the supplier to have the Christmas tree lights switched on by 25th November. The Council **reiterated** that the dismantling of the tree will be carried out in conjunction with ‘The Young Farmers Club’.

- e. future use of the Parish Room
 1 The Council has **received** correspondence from the Parochial Church Council Treasurer, Mr David Fox, giving notice for the Parish Council to move out of the Parish Room after its meeting on 12th December in order the PCC can re-submit a planning application for a ‘change of use’ of the Parish Room to ‘residential’ in order the building can be sold and that the PCC is offering alternative meeting space in the Church.
 The Council **agreed** to reply to Mr Fox that a one month’ notice given by the PCC will provide an insufficient timescale to find an alternative meeting room, suitable for all members of the public and that, therefore, the Parish Council will ask for an extension to move out of the Parish Rooms until 1st April 2024. The Council also **agreed** to offer putting the heating on ahead of its monthly meetings in order to alleviate additional workload for the PCC.

Furthermore, the Council **agreed** that the two meeting rooms, offered by the PCC at the church are not suitable as a permanent solution for the Parish Council to hold its statutory meetings and have the Council's filing cabinet stored securely in the church permanently.

The Council **decided** to make enquiries to NYC and to Giggleswick School to send or return historic records that are stored in the Parish Council's safe in order to empty this and keep all remaining records in the filing cabinet.

The Council also **decided** that Cllr Sarah Williamson should make enquiries with Giggleswick School, the Primary School, the PCC and Settle Area Swimming Pool regarding the availability of a permanent alternative meeting room for the Parish Council to hold its monthly, statutory meetings.

- 2 Regarding the concept of a building for the community, the Chair, Cllr Martin Saunders, **reported** that discussions with the Trustees of Freda's Playgroup and other community groups, as well as individual residents who have a historical link or an interest in the concept are ongoing.

f. gritting bins

The Council was **informed** that a salt bin is in place at Belle Hill, Yealand Avenue, and Meadow Rise and that these salt bins are refilled by NYC by 1 November and that a second refill may be carried out mid-season or after significant snowfall. The Council **agreed** to purchase two additional salt bins from NYC at a cost of £50.00 for a bin and an annual charge of £75.00 for up to two refills in principle at two locations and first seek permission from the two landowners to have a salt bin installed on their land.

g. hedge cutting at Stack House, Stackhouse Lane

The Council has **received** a letter of complaint from a resident in Stackhouse that the Parish Council contractor had inflicted damage to the trees and hedging, which were not overhanging the road and being on the resident's curtilage. The resident requests to place on record that they do not wish to have their trees and hedges cut and that they will deal with any overhangs as and when they occur. The Council **agreed** to apologise for any damage caused and that the Council will ask its contractor to no longer cut the resident's trees and hedges next year. The Council explained that the decision to trim the hedges and trees on the verges, such as Stackhouse Lane and others, was taken three years ago after having received a number of complaints that Stackhouse Lane and others, were becoming more narrow each year and therefore, more unsafe for other road users, such as cyclists and pedestrians each year as there are no pavements on these lanes.

7.9 Financial Matters

- a. The Council **approved** the Financial Statements to 31 October 2023 and **noted** the total balance of both accounts as £24,301.89.
- b. The Council **approved** payment of the following accounts for November:-
 - Harrison & Cross of £1,885.20 for street light conversion to LED;
 - Walker Loughlin Projects of £441.60 for repair of 2 boundary walls at Bankwell Road and Raines Road;
 - Walker Loughlin Projects of £463.94 for materials and installation of new bench at HPF;
 - R.B. Askew of £666.90 for hedge trimming on outlying areas;
 - Greg Donald t/a General Maintenance Works of £250.00 for grass cutting of the HPF for October.

The Council **noted** the 2023-2024 National Salary Award for NJC employed staff and **approved** payment of £608.40 to the Clerk as salary for November at the new rate, as well as the back payments of salary to the Clerk to adjust to the new salary award for the months of April to October inclusive of £280.00.

The Council **noted** payment of £5.80 to HSBC for monthly banking services charges.

The Council **noted** receipt of £141 from the Giggleswick School as Mill Hill rent.

- c. The Council **considered** the budget for the financial year 2024-2025 and **agreed** to defer determining the precept to the next Parish Council meeting.

7.10 Reports on or notice of meetings of other bodies

- * NYC: recharging by-election costs from April 2024; Polling District review consultation until 13 November; annual statutory budget consultation until 18 December; Local Nature Recovery strategy introductory webinar 21 November
- * YDNPA: parish planning training seminar 19/10 follow up
- * Kirkby Lonsdale Coach Hire: winter timetable for services 580/581/81/82 between Skipton, Settle, Ingleton, Kirkby Lonsdale and Lancaster
- * YLCA: White Rose Bulletins 20/10, 3/10; Law and Governance bulletin October; NALC Executive's Bulletins; analysis of parish precepts 2023/2024

7.11 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.

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

- a. The Council **ratified** contacting Castleberg Hospital about a large number of apples on the pavement at Raines Road from an overhanging apple tree, following a representation that the apples pose a risk to pedestrians. The Council **noted** that the apples were removed from the pavement and also from the tree and that the overhanging branches have been trimmed.
- b. The Council was **informed** that Settle Area Swimming Pool Trustee Anne Galloway has been named North Yorkshire volunteer of the year and that Mrs Galloway received the award from NY Council Chair Cllr David Ireton to recognise the contribution that the community organisations and volunteers make to life across the county.
- c. Cllr Coleman **reported** that Craven Bank Lane was temporarily blocked by a fallen tree, which was cleared by NYC Highways promptly.

7.13 Date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting

The Council **confirmed** the date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting as 12th December 2023 in the Parish Rooms at 7.30 pm.

There being no further business to discuss the Chair closed the meeting at 22.07.

M. Hill

Clerk to the Council