

Giggleswick Parish Council
Minutes of Meeting 9, held on 14th February 2023

15 Minutes for public participation session

Four members of the public attended the public participation session.

Mrs Wallace enquired if the Parish Council would consider carrying out repairs on the track at the side of St Alkelda Church. This item was further discussed at 9.7i.

Three residents had come to the meeting to raise concerns about the fenced off rugby pitch on the Lower Fellings at the Harrison Playing Fields and all had been approached by people, allegedly involved with the rugby club, telling the residents to not go into the fenced off rugby pitch with their dogs. One resident was intimidated and harassed by an aggressive person to the extent that this resident almost rang the police to report this incident. All residents stated that they were not in the fenced off rugby pitch at the time they were shouted at.

The Chairman, Councillor Isobel Perrings, replied that residents should report incidents of aggressive behaviour by another member of the public to the Police without hesitation. Cllr Perrings reiterated that a public footpath runs straight through the fenced off rugby pitch and that no member of the public has the right to stop people, with or without dogs, from going into the fenced off rugby pitch.

The Council **agreed** to contact the Rugby Club and discuss this matter with them as well as the future use of the pitch by the rugby club.

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

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

Apologies for non-attendance: District Cllr Robert Ogden.

9.2 Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interests

- a. Councillor Williamson **recorded** a Personal Interest in relation to item 9.8b: parking issues in the village
- b. No requests were made for dispensation in connection with items on this agenda.

9.3 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

The Council **resolved** that the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 8, held on 10th January 2023 should be **approved** and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Perrings, as a true and accurate record.

9.4 Matters from previous meetings not otherwise included on the agenda

- a. The Council had **received** the Declaration of Interests from Mr Bradley and **noted** a potential conflict of interest regarding the Council's biodiversity project, as Mr Bradley is the Managing Director of a business that provides biodiversity. The Council **agreed** to seek advice from the CDC Monitoring Officer regarding this matter and, until further notice, exclude Mr Bradley from becoming a member of the working group on biodiversity as well as any discussions thereon.

9.5 Reports from County and District Councillor and North Yorkshire Police

- a. County Councillor Staveley **reported** in summary that residents are set to be asked to share their priorities for the future of transport in the county to help the new North Yorkshire Council to shape its plan for the coming decades. The Government requires a detailed plan to set out how the council will maintain and improve all aspects of local transport, including road, rail, bus, cycle and walking infrastructure.

The new local transport plan would link closely with the new council's wider strategies to support the growth of the local economy and sustainable development.

Hundreds of residents, businesses and charity and voluntary organisations, a total of 1,943 people completed the survey in the biggest public consultation ever undertaken by councils in North

Yorkshire to collect the public's views on a proposed devolution deal under the Let's Talk banner, expressing views on a range of topics including housing, transport, skills and employment and climate change.

The Government is set to be asked to forge ahead with plans to bring a host of benefits including new jobs, more affordable housing and measures to tackle climate change to North Yorkshire. The public engagement also highlighted that affordable, low-carbon housing should be made a priority under the proposed devolution deal. Several organisations, including Zero Carbon Harrogate and Northern Power Grid, suggested that zero carbon or low-energy housing should be a formal requirement as part of plans.

The Yorkshire Food, Farming and Rural Network also recognised that the food and farming sectors have a major contribution to make towards the ambition of reducing carbon emissions to net zero. However, concerns were expressed by some members of the public about ensuring the mayoral combined authority remains democratically accountable to the electorate, especially as it will serve such a vast area across England's largest county. Other respondents voiced reservations that a top tier of local government was being introduced with the combined authority over-arching both the new North Yorkshire Council and the existing City of York Council.

The current tranche of Councillor Ward Member grants has now closed and both Craven District and North Yorkshire County Council grants have been allocated by Cllr Staveley to a range of projects and organisations, including energy efficiency improvements to community spaces, support for youth sports and updated safety equipment for the Cave Rescue Organisation.

The recommendation for 2023-2024 is for the existing scheme to continue on the same terms as the current NYCC scheme, with a funding allocation of £10,000 per member.

Once approved grants will be available from mid-May until the end of January 2024.

- b. There was no report from District Councillor Robert Ogden.
- c. The Council had **received** the written police report, which contained 24 incidents during the period between 8 January and 11 February 2023, notably a burglary on Stackhouse Lane and on Craven Bank.

9.7 Planning

a. Applications

- 1 CDC: 2022/24600/OUT – Outline planning application for an agricultural worker's dwelling, Littlebank Bungalow, New Hall, Rathmell. The Council **ratified** it had no comments to make.
- 2 CDC: 2023/24674/TCA – remove two groups of Sycamore trees, Park House, Bankwell Road. The Council **ratified** it had no comments to make.
- 3 YDNPA: C/31/664B – Householder planning permission for erection of detached garage/home office with solar panels to roof and installation of air source heat pump (ASHP), Galadale, Stackhouse Lane. The Council **agreed** it had no comments to make.

b. Decisions

- 1 YDNPA: C/31/643B Householder planning permission for conversion of attached garage to additional accommodation/living space, Four Winds, The Mains. **Approved conditionally.**

c. Other planning matters

- 1 planning application for Little Lords Field – update on S106 biodiversity enhancement areas for planting as well as key areas of habitat/biodiversity enhancements through recovery schemes. Cllrs Martin Saunders and Rosie Scott **reported** on the site visit with the Principal Planner of the developers' agents during which five key areas of habitat / biodiversity enhancements through recovery schemes were suggested and that the large areas at the Harrison Playing fields, originally

suggested for Biodiversity Net Gain enhancement and planting, should be removed, leaving just the peripheral areas as potential areas for landscaping enhancements.

The Council was **informed** that Craven District Council, as the Planning Authority, has no objection in principle to the developers' agents supporting the recovery projects in addition to the requirement of some planing areas. However, CDC need to determine if there is a mechanism for this to take place given that CDC will cease and become the new North Yorkshire Council on 1st April 2023.

Therefore, the developers' agents require more detail and information on what the recovery schemes involve, where they would be focussed and what work is anticipated. The Council **agreed** to set up a working group, which includes Cllrs Perrings, Saunders, and Scott, and, if available, Ewin-Newhouse for them to arrange another site meeting with the developers' agents, as well as their ecologist, to further discuss the proposals in more detail.

9.7 Reports and updates regarding parish maintenance matters

a. Harrison Playing Fields:

- The Council had **received** a quotation from Timberworks for the installation of non-slip steps on the 'zip wire', including a handrail, for £995.00 plus VAT. The Council was **informed** that District Cllr Ogden has submitted a Ward Member Grant Application of £490.00 and that, if successful, the Parish Council require to pay £505.00 plus VAT on the whole amount from its capital funds. The Council **resolved** to accept the quotation and **agreed** to ask Timberworks to proceed.
- Regarding the emptying of waste bins the Council **agreed** to obtain a quotation for a waste bin box to house the wheelie bin and report back at the next Parish Council meeting.
- The Council was **informed** that the rugby club has put up signage on the gates on either side of the fenced off pitch asking people to clear up after their dogs and keep them on a lead. However, dogs have been seen to crawl under the gates into the pitch and the Council **agreed** to ask the rugby club to put up some meshing to avoid this behaviour.

b. street lighting

- 1 The Council has **received** the official report from the NYCC Energy and Asset Management Officer following a survey of the Parish Council's street lighting assets. The Council **noted** that 29 street lights can have a 15w LED for a total estimate of £10,300 + VAT; 5 street lights need a new column and LED light for a total estimate of £14,500 + VAT; one street light needs a 'raising and lowering' column of an estimated £3,100 + VAT; one street light needs a wall / pole bracket column and LED for an estimated £2,700 + VAT; and one street light needs to be removed for an estimated £1,100 + VAT.
The Council **decided** to discuss which street lights should be decommissioned at the next Parish Council meeting.
- 2 The Council was **informed** that both street lights at the entrance to the swimming pool are working; that a timer switch has been placed on LP10 on Church Street; that the Street Light Officer has raised an order for the repair of LP37 at Otter Rise; and that no progress has been made regarding LP 32 at the staff entrance to Settle College. The Council **decided** to contact ENW directly regarding LP32 and ask for an explanation why this light has not been connected yet by them.
- 3 The Council was **informed** that LP 7 on Main Street opposite The Mains is faulty and **agreed** to contact the Street Light Officer at NYCC to have this repaired.

c. fallen down kerb stone at Tems Beck

The Council was **informed** that a kerb stone at Tems Beck just in front of the noticeboard has been undermined and fallen into the water and that the kerb stone beside the slate bridge is tilting. The Council **agreed** to contact Giggleswick School, as the riparian owner of this section of the Beck, to enquire if they will carry out a repair and report back at the next Parish Council meeting.

d. broken handrail on steps below Harts Head

The Council had **received** confirmation that NYCC has offered a grant of £300 from County Cllr David Staveley's Member Localities Budget Fund towards the provision of a replacement handrail along the side of a footpath below the Harts Head and **decided** to contact the contractor to proceed.

e. collapsed boundary wall on Stackhouse Lane

The Council had **contacted** NYCC Highways regarding the collapse in several places of the boundary wall on Stackhouse Lane and **noted** the reply from NYCC Highways Officer Nik Goodman that the boundary wall is the responsibility of the adjacent landowner and is, therefore, not a highway matter but the wall may be a NYCC responsibility as landowner. The Council also **noted** the reply from NYCC Property Transactions Manager, Property Service, Strategic Resources, Shaun Wilson that NYCC is only responsible for the section of wall from the Stackhouse Lane junction up to just opposite Mansfield Close. If the damage is further North, then that will be the responsibility of Settle College. Mr Wilson will visit the area and report back to the Parish Council.

f. state of road surface on Belle Hill

The Council **noted** the reply from NYCC Highways Project Engineer Andrew Mellor that some temporary repairs on Belle Hill will be arranged and also that this site will be added to the forward capital programme for resurfacing from 2024 onwards. The Council was **informed** that Church Street, Bankwell Road, Riversdale and Kendalmans will be added to the forward capital programme list for future works funding.

g. dumped rubble on the verge at the Riverside Path near Sandholme Close

The Council had **contacted** CDC regarding the rubble on the verge near Sandholme Close and **noted** the reply from Cleaner Neighbourhoods Officer David Pope that this land is privately owned as confirmed by HM Land Registry and that the registered title holders for the land are no longer at the address on the Title Deeds and a forwarding address is not known for them or a responsible party. Removal of items which have been deposited on private land would fall to the landowner, person, or party responsible for the land to action. Craven District Council may be in a position to assist in the removal process, although there may be a cost involved, however, without ownership contact details CDC is unable to assist further at this stage. The Council **agreed** to no further pursue this matter.

h. provision of gritting bins

The Council had **received** correspondence from parishioners and Settle Town Council regarding the provision of grit bins for the pavements from Giggleswick towards Settle as well as a grit bin at the bottom of the ginnel from the Riverside Path to Bankwell Road and one on Church Street. The Council **agreed** to ask County Cllr Staveley to make enquiries about filling responsibility of grit bins.

i. footpath at the side of St Alkelda Church

The Council had **received** correspondence from a resident on Church Street, next to the unmade road at the side of St Alkelda Church, raising concerns about the state of the surface. The resident had contacted NYCC Highways who had replied that the track between St Akelda Church and the resident's property is recorded on the Definitive Map as a Public Footpath and that, therefore, NYCC has no duty to maintain the surface of this route for motor vehicles.

Where a public right of way is also used for private vehicular access, those persons exercising that private right, must make good any damage caused to the surface of, in this instance, a footpath and, as the damage to the surface is mainly caused by the passing and re-passing of motor vehicles, the cost of any repairs, or certainly the major portion of any repairs, would be borne by those persons exercising that private right.

The Council **agreed** to contact Giggleswick School, as the owner of the cottages along the track, to enquire if they will carry out some remedial repairs to the track and report back at the next Parish Council meeting.

j. NYCC arrangements for urban highway grass cutting in 2023-2024

The Council has **received** correspondence from NYCC Highway Asset Management Highways & Transportation Business & Environmental Services if the Parish Council would consider carrying out urban highway grass cutting in visibility areas and be recompensed £523.61. The Council **agreed** to not cut visibility grass in 2023/24 on behalf of NYCC and was **informed** that the County Council will then undertake five cuts of the visibility grass and that no payment will be made to the Parish Council.

k. further issues relating to NYCC Highways

No further issues relating to NYCC Highways were reported.

9.8 Reports and updates on parish matters other than maintenance

a. To consider plans for Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III on 6th May 2023

The Council **agreed** that the Chairman, Cllr Perrings, liaise with members of the Jubilee community group for the organisation of events for the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III and report back at the next Parish Council meeting.

b. parking issues in the village

The Council has **received** a number of representations about alleged inappropriate parking of vehicles on Craven Bank Lane. The Council was **informed** that Giggleswick School had implemented their policy that staff are not allowed to park their cars within school grounds about three years ago and also that NYCC had not given permission to install double yellow lines on Raines Road from the car park to the junction with Church Street. The Council **agreed** to contact Giggleswick School to make them aware of residents' concerns about the number of cars not parked in the School's car park at Raines Road.

9.9 Financial Matters

a. The Council **approved** the Financial Statements, including the bank reconciliation to 31 January 2023 and **noted** the total balance of all accounts as £22,256.27.

b. The Council **approved** payment of the following accounts in February:-
- clerk of £558.00 as salary for February 2023;
The Council **noted** payment of £5.00 to HSBC for monthly banking services charges.

c. The Council had **received** a quotation from its grass cutting contractor for grass cutting on the Harrison Playing Fields as well as for verges strimming for the year 2023-2024 and was **informed** that the charges remain the same as last year's. The Council **agreed** to accept the charges at £210.00 + VAT per cut on the Harrison Playing Fields and £28.00 + VAT per hour for the strimming and clearing of verges.

d. Regarding the setting up of a new account with Skipton Building Society the Council was **informed** that the signature of the four signatories are required on the forms.

9.10 Reports on or notice of meetings of other bodies

* The Council **noted** the NYCC notification to pass a resolution that the provisions of Part III of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 shall be adopted and shall apply within the county of North Yorkshire with effect from 1 April 2023. The Council also **noted** that, in accordance

with the North Yorkshire (Structural Changes) Order 2022 from 1 April 2023 the North Yorkshire Council will be the sole principal authority for North Yorkshire. The relevant predecessor district and borough councils previously resolved to adopt the provisions of Part II of the 1976 Act, which relates to the licensing of hackney carriages and private hire vehicles, drivers and operators.

* NYCC: draft Parish Charter consultation until 12 April 2023; update on North Yorkshire Council: Parish and Town Council communications pack; Parish Council liaison drop in sessions; 'let's talk climate' communication pack;

* free funded electrical vehicle charge points

* CDC: invitation to attend the 5th Regiment Royal Artillery's Freedom Parade on 2nd March 2023

* YDNPA: grant update meetings for farmers and land owners in February; parish newsletter winter edition

* PFCC: quarterly Engagement Blog post highlighting the community engagement between October to December 2022;

budgets approved for North Yorkshire Police and North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service for 2023/24.

* YLCA: White Rose Updates 20/1; 3/2; NALC parliamentary briefing – Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill-Lords second reading 17/1; Craven Branch meeting 21 February; Law and Governance Bulletin January 2023; NALC Chief Executive's bulletins; various webinar training sessions;

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

- a. The Council **confirmed** the date for the working group to carry out an assessment on all of its benches and picnic tables as 11th March at 10.00 am.
- b. Cllr Scott **reported** on light pollution from Arla dairies and the Council **agreed** to discuss this item at the next Parish Council meeting.
- c. Regarding the CDC Legacy Nominations the Council was **informed** that all people and their nominees have been invited to attend Craven District Council's last meeting on 30th March 2023.

9.12 Date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting

The Council **confirmed** the date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting as 14th March 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Rooms.

There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.55.

M. Hill

Clerk to the Council