

*Oliver*  
*26.9.22*

HAWES & HIGH ABBOTSDALE PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF A MEETING  
HELD AT THE INSTITUTE, GAYLE  
ON MONDAY 25th JULY 2022

**Present:**

Cllr Jill McMullon (Chair)  
Cllr Sheila Alderson  
Cllr David Stephenson  
Karen Prudden (Clerk)

Cllr Yurek Waluda  
Cllr Marion Lloyd  
Cllr Emma Blades

Mr Jack Sutton  
Richard Noble  
Liz Lawson

Rob Ward  
Elaine & Mike Webster  
Ruth Annison

The Chair welcomed everyone to this meeting of the Parish Council.

**1. Council's Expectations for the Audio or Visual Recording of the Meeting**

Cllr McMullon advised that the meeting was not being recorded by the Parish Council. No-one else indicated that they were recording the meeting.

**2. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllr P Metcalfe, Cllr D Cockett and Cllr D Colley who were engaged elsewhere. Cllr Wilcox offered his apologies as he was unable to get to the meeting. Cllr Yvonne Peacock offered her apologies due to annual leave.

**3. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr McMullon and Stephenson declared an interest in item 5.1

**4. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Minutes of the meeting held on 16th May had been circulated to all councillors. Cllr Alderson proposed that they be accepted as a correct record of proceedings and this was seconded by Cllr Lloyd. Everyone was in favour and the Minutes were signed by the Chair. Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting held on 29th June to discuss the AGAR had also been circulated. Cllr Stephenson proposed that these be accepted as a correct record of proceedings and this was seconded by Cllr Blades with all those present in agreement. The Minutes were signed by the Chair.

**5. Ongoing Matters**

5.1 Dale Head Garage - Cllr Colley had been due to present an update on the community takeover of the garage but in his absence this was postponed to the next meeting.  
**RESOLVED: CLLR COLLEY to present an update at the next meeting.**

5.2 Central Dales Practice - Cllr McMullon reported that following discussions at a previous meeting, letters had been sent to other local Parish Councils enquiring if they had similar concerns about the Practice and would be interested in attending a meeting. All local Parish Councils confirmed that they would. Cllr McMullon proposed that a public meeting be arranged for early September to allow the Practice the opportunity to respond to concerns and to address rumours that had been circulated. **RESOLVED: CLLR McMULLON to seek a date for a meeting and CLERK to issue information to local Parish Councils and communities and an invitation to the Central Dales Practice.**

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## 6. **Planning Applications**

The Clerk had circulated details of the following applications to councillors as they were received from the YDNPA. No comments had been submitted as the Council had no objections, although comments had previously been submitted relating to application R/56/527 which the Council stood by.

- 6.1 R/56/527 - Full Planning Permission for conversion of traditional stone barn to create two-bedroom living accommodation for local occupancy, reinstatement of existing access track and installation of package treatment plant at Barn North of Burtersett Road, Hawes.
- 6.2 R/48/78V/LB - Listed Building Consent to add slates to external west/northwest facing walls to the rear of the property to match existing at School House, Hardraw.
- 6.3 R/48/71C - Householder Planning Permission for erection of replacement single storey rear extension at Fell View, Cotterdale
- 6.4 R/56/415J - Full Planning Permission for siting of two storey temporary building to accommodate additional office and meeting room space for a period of five years at The Wensleydale Creamery, Gayle Lane, Hawes.
- 6.5 R/56/530/GPDO - Application to determine if prior approval is required under Schedule 2, Part 6 of the Town & Country Planning Act (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) for proposed new and upgraded forestry tracks at land at Snaizeholme.

## 7. **Planning Decisions**

The Clerk confirmed the decisions made on the following applications:-

- 7.1 R/48/91B/DIS1 - Approval of details reserved by Condition 7 (planting scheme) of R/48/91B at Upper Low Shaw, High Shaw, Simonstone - Discharge approved 13th July 2022
- 7.2 R/56/302C/GPDO - Prior approval under Schedule 2, Part 6 of the Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) (England) (as amended) for the erection of an extension to the existing agricultural building at East Shaw Farm, Gayle - Prior Approval granted 20th May 2022
- 7.3 R/56/528 - Householder Planning Permission for erection of single-storey extension to front of dwelling linking the outbuilding to the dwelling, removal of windows from rear elevation and alterations to dwelling's internal layout at Fell View, The Gaits, Gayle - Approved conditionally 28th June 2022
- 7.4 R/56/516/DIS1 - Approval of details reserved by Condition 3 (sample panel of stonework, slate sample and render colour) of R/56/516 at Ings House, Ings Drive, Hawes - Discharge approved 13th July 2022
- 7.5 R/48/167/DIS1 - Approval of details reserved by Condition 2i and 2ii (remedial works) and Condition 4 (flood resilience measures) of R/48/167 at Fossdale Farmhouse, Fossdale Road, Simonstone. Approved 14th July 2022.

## 8. **Highways Matters**

In her absence, Cllr Y Peacock had forwarded the Clerk a response to these queries from Deborah Flowers at NYCC Highways Department.

- 8.1 Traffic Survey in Burtersett - North Yorkshire Highways were not planning any further traffic surveys here. However, they will now make arrangements for one and will share the survey data once it is available with the Parish Council and Cllr Peacock.
- 8.2 Vehicles Speeding in The Holme - Cllr Peacock had confirmed that the Parish Council would need to approach North Yorkshire Police direct about this matter. The Clerk had subsequently completed an online request for a speed check and had received a response indicating that 'the layout of the road and other technical constraints make this location

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unsuitable for the deployment of covert monitoring equipment. Neither police enforcement nor road engineering works are an option as a result.' They further advised that it would be the local authority who should be approached to seek any changes in speed limits, road signage or flashing speed warning signs etc. Councillors were extremely disappointed by this response and will monitor the situation to see if an approach to the local authority is required.

- 8.3 Repairs and Maintenance in Hawes - Patching has been undertaken recently from Harker Hill to the foot of Fleet Moss, along with some work near The Creamery. Three potholes had been filled in the Market Place in March. Kerbs had been pointed near The White Hart Inn during July and rocking flags had been addressed in the same location in June. Cobbles had been patched in February. On Burtersett Road, a damaged slab over a culvert had been replaced in June and some gullies had been re-set in March. There is an order in place to trim back vegetation from the roadside along Bruntacres Road. Patching and re-setting of gullies has recently been undertaken on the road between Hawes and Appersett. Councillors noted that the patching work to the cobbles looks dreadful and recorded their disappointment
- 8.4 Potholes and Kerbs in Gayle & Hawes - See above.
- 8.5 Re-surfacing of Gayle Lane - This work has been defected to the contractors and is currently under dispute about the level of remedial work required. The engineer has been asked to keep the Parish Council informed of any progress as and when it happens. Some councillors believed that re-surfacing had not actually been done in Gayle Lane.
- 8.6 Gayle Green - NYCC Highways require further information on the location and cause of concern.
- 8.7 'Birdcage Walk', Hawes - Cllr McMullon confirmed that she had reported the condition of this area to the District Council and they intend to visit and rectify shortly.
- 8.8 Repairs to Haylands Bridge and Rains Hill - The works to Haylands Bridge and Rains Hill have now been completed. Resurfacing of Rains Bridge is planned to be undertaken when the main resurfacing in Hawes takes place later this year.
- 8.9 A684 Re-surfacing Work in Hawes - Letters were issued to 3,500 business and residential properties in the area on 18th July detailing proposals to undertake this work starting on 26th September in the Market Place, with a programme to last five weeks. Further information will be provided nearer the start date but it was confirmed that this work cannot be further postponed. Currently, the outcome of trial holes on Appersett Bridge are awaited before any further details can be confirmed. NYCC Highways will arrange another letter-drop, together with a press release, social media posts and information provided to the Community Office once firm details are known. Cllr McMullen confirmed that the Parish Council would like to see meetings organised to keep local residents and business owners updated on the plans and progress. **RESOLVED: CLERK to contact Highways to request these meetings, starting with business owners.**
- 8.10 Culvert in Burtersett Road - An email was received on 11th July advising that the works currently underway to strengthen the culvert near the Rope Makers will take an additional two weeks to complete due to the condition of the culvert being much worse than first anticipated. Work is now expected to be completed on 5th August. It was noted that the Parish Council had not received prior notice of the extension to this project, which was disappointing.

Councillors were in agreement that there were considerable issues to address here and believed that the best way forward would be to hold a site meeting with staff from NYCC Highways Department. **RESOLVED: CLERK to contact Deborah Flowers to arrange a meeting as soon as possible.**

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## 9. Financial Matters

9.1 The following invoices were approved for payment:-

- ➔ HMRC - £21.60 - PAYE Month 1 (paid)
- ➔ Streetscape - £29,540.00 - Payment for new Play Equipment (paid)
- ➔ Mrs K Prudden - £211.93 - Clerk's Salary for May (paid)
- ➔ John Banks - £638.48 - Grass Cutting May (paid)
- ➔ Richard Noble - £1,500 - Donation to Hawes in Bloom 2022 (paid)
- ➔ Mrs K Prudden - £8.16 - Purchase of Stamps (paid)
- ➔ Mrs K Prudden - £211.93 - Clerk's Salary for June (paid)
- ➔ John Banks - £607.70 - Grass Cutting June (paid)
- ➔ Mr M Hirst - £422.50 - Purchase of new Batteries for De-fibs (paid)
- ➔ Mrs K Prudden - £211.93 - July Salary
- ➔ HMRC - £13.40 - PAYE Month 2

9.2 The following income was acknowledged:-

- ➔ £10,000 - 17.06.22 - RDC Grant for new play equipment
- ➔ £6,672.77 - 17.06.22 - RDC Grant for new play equipment

9.3 The Clerk presented the latest bank statements which were checked and signed by the Chair. The Clerk confirmed a balance of £24,734.21 in the current account as at 25th July.

9.4 AGAR 2022 - At the Extraordinary Meeting held on 29th June, the Clerk had presented the 2022 Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021. Councillors had checked and approved this and the Clerk duly completed the requirements by 30th June. However, the Clerk reported that gross income for the year had exceeded the £25,000 threshold due to the District Council loan required pending transfer of funds from the closed HSBC account. Upon enquiring with PFK Littlejohn, the Clerk had been advised that this would mean the AGAR would require external audit. Consequently, she was in the process of meeting the requirements for this to be undertaken. There was, however, a problem highlighted by the internal auditor that the closing bank statement from HSBC was not available. The Clerk and the Chair had looked into this and neither had been sent the statement. The Chair had consequently contacted the previous Clerk who was the point of contact for HSBC as it is presumed that the statement would have been sent to her. To date, no statement has been found and councillors therefore agreed to send a letter to HSBC requesting a duplicate. **RESOLVED: CLERK to issue a letter to HSBC under the signatures of the Chair and Cllr Alderson.**

## 10 Correspondence

10.1 Noticeboard in Sedbusk - An email had been received from a resident of Sedbusk reporting that the glass/perspex in the village noticeboard had been broken. Cllr McMullon reported that she had mentioned this to Mr Ward and he was kindly arranging for this to be replaced.

10.2 DalesBus 856 Service - Mrs Annison had come along to ask the Parish Council to once again consider supporting this bus service via a financial contribution. Mrs Annison advised that she had new evidence that councillors may wish to consider. She confirmed that the average spend for passengers on this route was £17. Under 19's can use the service for £1 each way. 19% of households had no car and therefore relied on public transport. The service is run by volunteers and Mrs Annison is now seeking financial support from Parish Councils along the route to ensure the continuation of the service

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beyond October. Cllr McMullon applauded the work undertaken by Mrs Annison to help this bus service and acknowledged that there were many people supportive of the bus service locally. However she pointed out that this matter was considered by the Parish Council at their meetings in February and March and a decision had been reached not to support the service as the benefits to the community were not clear. Councillors had confirmed that they stood by this decision and therefore no support would be available. Mrs Annison expressed her disappointment that the matter was not fully discussed by councillors at this meeting and pointed out that other councils had offered financial support. Cllr McMullon thanked Mrs Annison for attending the meeting and presenting her case but confirmed that the Council's previous decision still remained. All councillors present were in agreement.

- 10.3 Bus Shelter in Gayle - An email had been received from NYCC advising that they had received a complaint regarding offensive graffiti on the bus shelter in Gayle. Cllr McMullon advised that she had spoken to the District Council who will paint the shelter and suggested that the Parish Council purchases anti-graffiti paint to prevent further such situations. It was extremely disappointing that this had occurred in the community.

## 11. Children's Play Park

- 11.1 Volunteer Maintenance Group - A report had been received from Robin Peters pointing out that the sandpit and playhouse at the Town Foot play park had deteriorated badly since his previous report. The playhouse roof is in need of repair and new plywood has been ordered at an approximate cost of £140, with further materials required to complete the work. The repair will be undertaken as soon as the materials are available and Robin will then undertake the painting. It was questioned whether this deterioration was down to vandalism rather than wear-and-tear. **RESOLVED: Councillors were happy to agree to this expenditure and were grateful to Robin and his team for undertaking the repairs. CLLR McMULLON will contact the press to publicise this disappointing situation in the hope of deterring further damage.**
- 11.2 Boundary Fence Repair - Cllr Waluda reported that no repairs were currently required, He will monitor the situation, undertaking a full inspection every six months. **RESOLVED: CLLR WALUDA to monitor and report to the Council.**
- 11.3 Working Parties - The formation of working parties will be discussed later in the meeting.

## 12. Standing Orders

The Clerk confirmed that she has not yet completed this task and will return it to a future meeting when the work has been completed. **RESOLVED: CLERK to continue to work on this and present the updated Standing Orders to a future meeting.**

## 13. Review of Asset Register

Cllr McMullon reported that Mr Richard Noble had kindly undertaken a survey of the benches in Hawes and had provided a report to the Parish Council. It was noted that all these benches are currently serviceable but a programme is required to ensure that damaged and worn benches are replaced as required. The Clerk advised that there is a format for the Asset Register which she will forward to those involved in creating this for the Parish. Cllr Waluda and Cllr Stephenson agreed to take on the role of creating and monitoring the Asset Register, with help from Cllr Lloyd, if required. **RESOLVED: CLERK to forward template for Asset Register to Cllr Stephenson and Waluda who will arrange for its completion.**

## 14. Creation of Council Working Parties

Cllr McMullon advised that she had given thought to this idea and agreed with Cllr Colley that it was important to set budgets for various areas of the Councils work. In order to do this effectively, it will be necessary to set up working parties to oversee those various areas.

However, Cllr McMullon believed that it may be best to discuss this with the intention of implementing the new groups when the new unitary council is set up in May next year, as there is the possibility that some areas of responsibility may move to Parish Councils. Cllr McMullon pointed out that Parish Councils were not obliged to take on more responsibility but it would be wise to see how things develop over the next few months before settling upon working parties.

**RESOLVED: CLERK to include this on the Agenda for May/July 2023.**

**15. Important Matters Raised by the Public for Inclusion on the Next Agenda**

- ➔ Overgrown Footpaths - Cllr Blades reported that there were many footpaths and stiles in the Parish which were overgrown. Cllr McMullon said that she had already spoken to the National Park Authority about this and they will undertake some clearance.
- ➔ Keep Clear Signage near The Club - The 'Keep Clear' markings on the road opposite The Club in Hawes have worn away and owners of a nearby property are using the area to park their car. **RESOLVED: CLLR McMULLON will visit to explain the situation to the property owners. CLERK to write to Highways Department to ask for the markings to be re-painted and request a sign on the lamp post.**
- ➔ Parking in Hawes - Mr Sutton noted that the yellow lines had never been replaced outside the old Post Office after re-surfacing which was leading to the area being very crowded with parked cars. Cllr McMullon suggested that this may be rectified when the major re-surfacing work is undertaken in the Autumn. **RESOLVED: CLLR McMULLON to contact Deborah Flowers at North Yorkshire Highways regarding this matter.**
- ➔ Weeds in Hawes - Mr Noble said that the Hawes in Bloom project really makes the town look good during the summer but unfortunately, the displays were being let down by the number of weeds that are evident on the footpaths and highways. **RESOLVED: CLLR McMULLON will mention this to Highways Department and request them to attend to the problem.**
- ➔ Signage near Haylands Bridge - It was noted that a landowner has placed 'private' signs at the end of a popular footpath near Haylands Bridge. **RESOLVED: CLLR McMULLON to contact the National Park Authority to request this be investigated.**
- ➔ Vandalism in St Margaret's Church, Hawes - Cllr Lloyd reported that over recent weeks and months there has been vandalism resulting in damage inside St Margaret's Church. Toilets have been mis-used and drinks sprayed around, with sandwiches etc being left in the pews. It is believed that this is being undertaken by local children/youngsters, which is extremely disappointing. As a result of this, it has been necessary to lock the church earlier than usual. **RESOLVED: CLLR LLOYD to ask Revd Dave Clark to contact Cllr McMullon with a view to going into the local schools to talk to the children. CLLR McMULLON will speak with North Yorkshire Police to seek their support in addressing the situation.**

**16. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on **MONDAY 26th SEPTEMBER 2022**, starting at **7.00 pm**, at **GAYLE INSTITUTE**.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10 pm.

Signed as a True Record: ..... *J McMullon* ..... Date: ..... *26.9.22* .....

Name: ..... *J M C MULLON* .....