Hawes & High Abbotside Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 21st May 2024

Present:

Parish Cllrs: Jill McMullon (Chair); Yurek Waluda; Sheila Alderson; Peter Metcalfe; David Cockett, Ruth Lindsey.

Parish Clerk: Mrs Kate Kelly, also Responsible Financial Officer.

Members of the Public including Ruth Annison who had requested to address the meeting.

Apologies: Cllrs Barry Wilcox; Dave Stephenson; Emma Blades;

County Cllr. Yvonne Peacock

Hawes & High Abbotside Parish Council

1. Chairman reminded everyone present of the right to record the meeting although the Council would not be doing so.

2. Election of Parish Council Chairman & Vice Chairman

The Clerk sought nominations for the role of Chairman of the Parish Council.

Cllr. Metcalfe nominated Cllr. Jill McMullon and this was seconded by Cllr. Alderson. Everyone was in agreement and Cllr McMullon accepted the position for a further period.

Cllr. McMullon then sought nominations for the role of Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council. Cllr. Waluda nominated Cllr Peter Metcalfe and this was seconded by Cllr Alderson. Everyone was in agreement and Cllr Metcalfe accepted the position for a further period.

Thanks were expressed to both Councillors for undertaking these roles for the past year and congratulations expressed on their re-election.

Cllr McMullon thanked all councillors for their support of the Parish Council.

3. Acceptance of Office

Cllr. McMullon signed the Acceptance of Office form for Chairman of the Parish Council.

4. Consideration of Apologies for Absence

Cllr. B. Wilcox due to illness & Cllrs.D Stephenson & E Forbes due to prior commitments.

5. Declarations of Interest

To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's Code of Conduct or members Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

No changes since last year.

Cllr. McMullon declared an interest in Point 10 Planning Decisions – Dryden House.

6. Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 26th March 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th March 2024 had been circulated to all Councillors and posted on the website. It was agreed that they were an accurate record of the proceedings. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

7. Councillor Vacancy

Cllr. Marion Lloyd has resigned due to moving away from the area. The Chair thanked Cllr. Lloyd for all her hard work particularly with setting up and running the official records for Gayle Lane cemetery.

The Clerk had advised the local authority and the statutory notice had been prepared and was currently on display on our noticeboards and website.

8. Ongoing Matters

8.1 RTS Forestry proposed Widdale Woodland Consultation

This is still a proposed project and no official planning has yet been sought.

It was resolved to close this matter until an official planning application is lodged.

8.2 Gayle Bus Stop

Cllr. Peacock had advised at the last meeting that the bus stop has now been inspected by NYC and she was waiting to hear back from them. As Cllr. Peacock was unable to attend this meeting no update is available.

This matter will be carried forward to the next meeting.

8.3 Email received regarding Hawes Christmas Lights.

An email was received requesting a donation towards this years Christmas Lights. Unfortunately the Christmas Lights Group had advised us that the trees on the School green had been trimmed and the lights which had been left in situ were destroyed. These would cost £500 to replace.

The Council had donated £250 last year but due to the circumstances it was agreed as a one off to increase this years donation to £500.

This matter is now resolved.

8.4 WHP Telecoms regarding site of new telecoms mast at Cam Houses.

No updates received. This is still a proposed project and no official planning has yet been sought.

It was resolved to close this matter until an official planning application is lodged.

8.5 YDNPA Spring Forum 24

The meeting has been held but YDNPA has not issued an update yet.

This item will be carried forward to the next meeting.

8.6 North Yorkshire Council Subsidised Local Bus Services.

As discussed at the last meeting it was noted that the proposed changes would have a huge impact on families choice of school and education for their children

It was felt that this policy would discriminate against children in our rural areas, particularly those whose families may not have the time or means to pay for transporting their children to a different school.

The Clerk had completed the survey on behalf of the Council and also written to Carl Les, Annabel Wilkinson & Stuart Carlton to raise our concerns regarding this proposed policy which could prove a barrier to education and reduce opportunities for children in our area asking for their support.

A reply had come from Stuart Carlton's office to advise that due to his position within the Council he was unable to comment.

Cllr. Les thanked us for sending it and said he'd read it in due course. Cllr. Annabel Wilkinson replied highlighting the savings that the Council could possibly make.

The NYC meeting to discuss the proposals is due to be held on the 11th of June.

It was resolved to carry this matter forward to the next meeting.

Mrs Ruth Annison then addressed the meeting on the subject of buses, particularly the current Sunday only services. There are 37 buses through Hawes on a Sunday serving many different routes and run by varied providers. These are a boon for the area and Mrs Annison is keen that we encourage locals and visitors to use these as much as possible whilst we have them. The Parish Council have posted copies of the timetable on our notice boards.

There is a maximum single fare of £2 payable on any of these buses.

Mrs Annison also advised that trains are now running on a Saturday between Rochdale in Lancashire & Ribblehead. These are good for bringing walkers to the area and it is also possible to do a return journey on the same day for shopping etc. The Chair thanked Mrs Annison.

8.7 Pavement kerbstones.

The pavement kerbstones require to be redone. Some work had been carried out last week outside the Chip shop at Pennygarth but it wasn't deemed to be a good job.

It was resolved to carry this matter forward to the next meeting.

8.8 Remembrance Day Commemoration

The large poppy shaped emblems from the Royal British Legion have arrived and Cllr. Metcalfe is kindly storing them until needed.

It was resolved to carry this matter forward to the Agenda for the meeting due to be held in September.

8.9 D-Day Celebrations June 2024

It was agreed that it would be good to take part in the Celebrations by lighting the beacon on Thursday 6th June at 9.15pm. Cllr. McMullon had contacted Diane regarding this and the beacon will be lit.

It was resolved to carry this matter forward to the next meeting.

9. Planning applications

To consider planning applications.

• Full planning permission for change of use of bar to 1no. dwelling and Manager's residence/office space to licensed tea room, plus retention of three letting rooms (retrospective) at The Moorcock Inn, Garsdale, LA10 5PU - R/56/154F – amended application received.

This application was discussed at a YDNPA planning Committee and permission has been refused.

- Full planning permission for demolition of existing garage workshop and replace with a one-bedroom local occupancy dwelling/holiday cottage at Garage/Workshop adjacent to Fell View, Market Place, Hawes, DL8 3RG - R/56/540C- this application has been superseded by R/56/540C.
- Full planning for demolition of existing garage/workshop, to be replaced by Commercial Office Space at Garage/Workshop adjacent to Fell View, Market Place, Hawes, DL8 3RG - R/56/540D

This application was discussed and it was felt our comments on the previous application for a dwelling concerning access and parking would be even more pertinent if two businesses were to be run from here. There would be more footfall, with staff and potential clients coming and going, also parking for staff and clients. Also deliveries of goods etc.

It was resolved that the Clerk would write adding these concerns to the current application. It was noted that this application is to go forward to a YDNPA planning committee.

• Full planning permission for conversion of barn to form a 3-bedroom local occupancy dwelling with associated access, curtilage and septic tank at Barn at Ivan Farm, Sedbusk, Hawes (GR: 387880, 491311) - R/48/172

This application was discussed and it was felt that as this property would be used to house a member of the family who farms here the Parish Council will support it. The Clerk will advise the planners of our decision.

Householder planning permission for erection of extension to lower ground floor to accommodate
the new internal staircase and corridor to the bedrooms; installation of 1no. dormer to the southern
roof pitch; replacement of windows and doors; removal of rooflights and the addition of solar panels;
installation of 2 No air source heat pumps within new external shelter at Loxley House, The Holme,
Hawes, DL8 3QR - R/56/290E

No comments were received regarding this application.

10. Planning Decisions

To receive decisions/information relating to recent planning applications.

 R/56/13LI - Full planning permission for conversion, change of use and extension of former bank to form non-residential (Class E) accommodation at ground floor with residential apartments on existing first and second floors at Barclays Bank, Market Place, Hawes.

This matter is noted on the planning website as awaiting legal agreement. Cllr. Peacock was to again contact the planners looking to have it confirmed that the ATM would be retained as this is a vital resource for the community.

It was resolved that it be carried forward to the next meeting.

 R/56/139E - Full planning permission for conversion of redundant agricultural building to local occupancy house/holiday let, together with installation of package sewage treatment plant at West Shaw Farm, Beggarmans Road, Gayle, Hawes, North Yorkshire, DL8 3SF.

The Clerk had written to the planners voicing the Councils concerns. This matter is on the portal with

a decision date due of 16/6/24.

It was resolved that it be carried forward to the next meeting.

• Full planning permission for the installation of a new telecommunications base station comprising; a 20m lightweight lattice mast with 3no. radio antennas, 3no. 600mm dishes, radio equipment housing, a solar array and ancillary development within a new compound area (SRN32) at Land at Black Hill Moss, Cotterdale, Hawes, North Yorkshire, DL8 3LT - R/48/169.

This is noted as under consideration on the planning portal.

It was resolved that it be carried forward to the next meeting.

Full planning permission for conversion of outbuilding to a holiday let at Honeycott House, Hawes,
 DL8 3LH - R/56/544

This has been approved conditional and the matter is now resolved.

• Full planning permission for change of use from self-contained residential flat back to commercial office premises at Dryden House, Market Place, Hawes, North Yorkshire, DL8 3RA - R/56/211E.

This has been approved conditional and the matter is now resolved.

10.1 National Parks Local Plan

The work continues and local landowners have been asked to come forward with land which may be considered for potential future sites.

It was resolved to carry this matter forward to the next meeting.

10.2 NYC Draft Housing Strategy 2024-2029

As above NYC have asked for landowners etc. to put sites forward for consideration.

It was resolved to carry this matter forward to the next meeting.

11. Highways matters

To receive updates to the following issues raised at previous meetings:-

• The A684 from Appersett to Garsdale, and the road to Hardraw.

The weight limit restriction is still in place as more work and testing will be required before that can be raised. Some of the potholes a done appear to have been done but there is still more to do.

It was resolved to carry this matter forward to the next meeting.

• The area of the road cordoned off awaiting repair between Snaizeholme Road End & Lanaker Lane.

The traffic lights are still in place and no work has yet been carried out. It was resolved to carry this forward to the next meeting.

• Update regarding The Hill opposite the White Hart which is in disrepair.

The Clerk contacted the National Park regarding the footpath and the steps in front of Heriots which are in a bad state of repair. They have replied to say that the Ranger is happy that the majority of the footpath is in a suitable condition but will look closely at the steps. It was resolved to carry this matter forward to the next meeting.

It was noted at the previous meeting that the potholes on the lower part of the hill had been filled in presumably by the Highways department but that white lines showing a keep clear area had been painted on by someone unknown. These lines are not legal and will require to be removed. The top half of the hill is still full of potholes. The cobbled area had been adopted by the Highways department legal point of view who owns some of the land on the Hill.

It was also reported that prior to the potholes at the bottom being filled in someone had been sweeping them out and that the debris from this had caused a drain to be blocked near the little shop on the hill.

Cllr. Peacock has contacted the Highways department and this matter is ongoing.

It was resolved to carry this matter forward to the next meeting.

Update regarding the road at The Holme which is in poor condition.

The Clerk had received a reply from the Highways department stating that they are unclear which area we are referring to. They have requested a map or plan. Cllr. McMullon will take a photograph of the Area and then liaise with the Clerk re sending this with a map to the Highways department.

It was resolved to carry this matter forward to the next meeting.

Email received regarding pool of water on Burtersett road at cemetery.

It was noted at the last meeting that there was a drain there which may be blocked and it was resolved that the Clerk should write to the highways department regarding this matter.

This matter is ongoing and it was resolved to carry this forward to the next meeting.

Dog waste bin at Beulah Bank

The resident who owns the land where the dog waste bin at Beulah Bank is currently situated has requested that this be removed from their land as this is private. It was resolved that the Clerk would write to NYC and request that the bin be moved to the other side of the wall which is public land.

It had also been suggested that a further dog bin at Gayle should be made available. The Clerk has contacted NYC to request an additional bin.

This matter is ongoing and it was resolved to carry this forward to the next meeting.

Dog waste on the pavements in Hawes.

Cllr. Stephenson had as agreed to walked around the town looking at the current signage and it was felt that more signage should be provided.

It was resolved that Cllr. McMullon would contact NYC regarding this matter.

• Wall in top carpark

The wall in the top carpark on the righthand side near the steps is starting to collapse. Cllr. Peacock was to take this to Highways.

It was resolved to carry this matter forward to the next meeting.

12. Financial Matters

12.1 The following accounts were approved for payment:

- Mrs K Kelly Clerks Salary March24 £192.50
- Mrs K Kelly Clerks Salary April24 £192.70
- Mrs K Kelly c/c- Royal British Legion Large poppies £100.00
- E-ON Next Electricity May DD £19.80 pd
- Bainbridge Parish Council McAfee Subs.1/2 share £45.00
- Mr R Noble -Hawes in Bloom Donation- £500.00pd
- Zurich Insurance Renewal Premium £684.06pd
- North Yorkshire Council Garden waste permit £46.50pd
- Mr J Banks Grasscutting £457.18
- Gayle Institute- Room Hire £160.
- PWLB DD -Loan repayment £876.03pd
- Yorkshire Dales Accountancy Fees 23/24 £180.00
 Added to Agenda
- P30 Month12- £95.36

12.2 The following receipts were acknowledged.

North Yorkshire Council – Precept £8750.00

12.3 To receive the latest bank balances and sign statements

Copies of bank statements to 30th April 2024 were presented and signed. Current balance in Unity Trust Current Account was £35034.00

12.4 Unity Bank

Cllr. Forbes has now been added as a signatory but she hasn't received sign on codes for Internet Banking. Unfortunately Cllr. Metcalfe has forgotten his.

It was resolved that the Clerk would contact the Bank to have these sent and that signatories would then meet to make an initial payment.

12.5 Unity Trust Bank - Savings Rates

A NEW savings account will be opened.

12.6 PWLB Loan

The balance outstanding as at 8th April 2024 is £11176.32

12.7 Year End Accounts

- The Accounts for the year end 31st March 2024 had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. The Clerk has completed the Year End Accounts and the Internal Audit has been completed by Paul Miller. The Clerk read out the Notes to the Accounts and The Explanation of Variances.
- The AGAR (Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2023/24 was completed and signed by the Chair.
- It was resolved to send the Certificate of Exemption to PKF Littlejohn, the external auditors, as t/o under £25k.
 - The Clerk will ensure these documents are sent and that everything is posted on the website per the laid down procedures.
- VAT return The Clerk will complete this prior to the next meeting.

13. Correspondence

To consider the following correspondence received and decide action where necessary:-

13.1 Loose steps near toilets in car park

An email had been received from a visitor saying how much they'd enjoyed their visit to Hawes but pointing out that there were some loose steps in the car park.

It was resolved that we should write to the Council regarding this matter.

14. Children's Play Area

Mark Murphy attended the meeting and was warmly welcomed by the Councillors and Cllr. McMullon who thanked him for taking on the volunteer role of looking after our playparks.

It is still early days and he is finding his feet but he is looking forward to working alongside the Council.

He gave an update re the Playparks – the swing park at Town Foot may need the old cushions replaced.

It was noted that the local fire service washed down the play equipment last year as part of an exercise and it was resolved that they should be approached to do so again this year.

The Clerk has ordered the garden waste permit for Town Head and will get advise Mark once this has been received.

The boundary stone wall near Beulah Bank in the Gayle Lane playpark needs attention. The Clerk had written to Matt Neale, Ranger for YDNP to ask whether they might consider doing this as part of their drystone walling projects or if the National Park volunteers might consider doing so on a voluntary basis. He has replied that this would not be possible. We will need to find out the owners of the wall and speak to them.

This matter is ongoing and it was resolved that this matter would be carried forward to the next

meeting.

Cllr.McMullon has contacted a company and asked for quotes regarding the blocked culvert which crosses the Playpark and had caused a property to have flooding issues. Matt Dinsdale has been out and looked at this and we are awaiting quotes for the work.

The Parish Council have the use of the land for the Playpark but do not own it.

It was agreed that the owner should be advised of the problem and that her contact details would be given to the Clerk who will then write to her.

The slide has been made safe but the slide but the top part will need to be replaced. Mark Murphy is looking into this.

Pip Pointon is liaising with Mark Murphy regarding researching the 75th Anniversary of Town Foot Playpark and arranging a photograph of the Current team to mark the occasion. Pip has a copy of one taken when the Playpark was opened.

It was resolved to carry this item forward to the next meeting.

15. Cemetery

As noted Cllr. Lloyd who kept the cemetery records has resigned and Cllr. McMullon had asked for volunteers to take over this role. Cllr. Forbes had offered to do so but was not able to attend this meeting and Cllr. Waluda also expressed an interest but was happy for Cllr. Forbes to go ahead. Cllr. Lloyd was also the Upper Dales Health Watch representative and Cllr. Waluda would be happy to take this on if Cllr. Forbes is taking over the cemetery duties.

Cllr. McMullon thanked both Councillors and will speak to them regarding their preferred role.

The Clerk read out the Year End report for the Cemetery detailing Income received.

The Clerk suggested that perhaps it should also show the expenditure for the Cemetery and this was agreed.

16. Upper Dales Health Watch

See Point 15 above.

The Clerk gave an overview of the Minutes from the March meeting and these will be available on the website.

17. Litter in Hawes.

A litter pick had been organised and Cllr. McMullon thanked Laura Dunn for her role in this. The volunteers did a really good job and the town looked better for it.

It was mentioned that the skip outside The Board seemed to be a permanent feature and was always overflowing. It is in quite a prominent position and was felt to be unsightly.

It was resolved that Cllr. McMullon would contact The Board and ask for them to have it removed.

It was also mentioned that there was quite a bit of litter being washed down and collecting at the

bridge near the Industrial Estate. It was felt that this area would benefit from being tidied up however it would be difficult to access.

It was suggested that new signs about leaving litter and cigarette ends should be provided, perhaps with a catchier slogan, perhaps along the lines of Welcome to Hawes, Don't be Rubbish, Take Yours Away.

It was resolved that Cllr. McMullon would contact NYC regarding these.

18. Parish Clerk

A new printer has been ordered.

19. Monthly Police Report

The latest report was discussed.

20. Potential BT Payphone and Telephone Box Removal

The Clerk received an email from NYC advising that BT had decided to go ahead with removing the payphone. Also the telephone boxes unless we advised them by the end of June that we wished to adopt the boxes.

It was resolved that this was totally unacceptable as due to the poor mobile phone signal in the area these could save lives and that the Clerk should reply to NYC advising them of that. Cllr. McMullon would also write to Cllr. Peacock.

21. Litter Bin in Cotterdale

There is currently a dog bin at Cotter Force but it was felt that this area would also benefit from a litter bin.

It was resolved that the Clerk would see if the current dog bin could be replaced with a dual purpose bin.

22. Agenda Items

Items for inclusion on the next Agenda:-

Brenda Peacock mentioned that there appeared to be a blocked drain at the corner of the car park entrance off Gayle Lane.

Cllr. Waluda noted that no notes had been issued from the meeting he attended on Highways. He will contact Deborah Flowers regarding this.

23. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting will be held in Gayle Village Institute on Tuesday 23rd July.

Signed as a true record.

Dated.