

HAWES & HIGH ABBOTSDIDE PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD AT THE INSTITUTE, GAYLE
ON MONDAY 26th SEPTEMBER 2022

Present:

Cllr Jill McMullon (Chair)	Cllr Peter Metcalfe
Cllr Sheila Alderson	Cllr Marion Lloyd
Cllr David Stephenson	Cllr Emma Blades
Cllr Yurek Waluda	Cllr David Colley
Karen Prudden (Clerk)	
Cllr Yvonne Peacock (RDC & NYCC)	

Members of the Public

Mr Rob Ward	Mr Jack Sutton
Mr Stan Roocroft	Elaine & Mike Webster
Mr Paul Taylor	
Eight Residents of Lunds, including Mrs Debbie Pattinson	

The Chair welcomed everyone to this meeting of the Parish Council, noting that it was good to see several local residents present. Cllr McMullon explained that representatives from North Yorkshire Police had been invited to attend this meeting to introduce themselves and hear any local concerns, but none had appeared. Unfortunately, this seemed to be a regular occurrence which was disappointing. It was agreed that the Clerk would continue to issue an invitation to the local PCSO's to attend future meetings.

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 D Cockett and Cllr B Wilcox who were both unable to attend due to a prior engagement and transport issues, respectively. Pip Pointon had also offered her apologies due to a prior engagement.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr McMullon and Cllr Stephenson declared an interest in item 5.1. Cllr Blades declared an interest in item 6.5 and Cllr McMullon declared an interest in item 7.2.

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 25th July had been circulated to all councillors and uploaded to the Parish Council website. Cllr McMullen proposed that they be accepted as a correct record of proceedings and this was seconded by Cllr Waluda. Everyone was in favour and the Minutes were duly signed by the Chair.

5. Ongoing Matters

5.1 Dale Head Garage - Cllr Colley informed the meeting that grant funding had been received from the YDNPA Sustainable Development Fund and the District Council Community Fund towards the project to purchase the Dale Head Garage as a community facility. This has resulted in £25,000 being available as working capital. The purchase has now been completed and shareholders are enjoying the benefit of a 4 pence per litre discount on their fuel, plus 4% interest on their investment in the first year, commencing on 1st

September 2022. So far, everything seems to be running well. Interviews are now taking place to form a new Management Committee for the project ('Dale Head Community Limited'). It is hoped that with sufficient interest for positions, the new Management Committee can be created shortly and at that point, the current temporary directors from the Upper Dales Community Partnership will resign. A new bank account will be set up for the venture. Everyone was grateful for this update and pleased to hear that the project had been successful to date. Cllr Colley was thanked for the update.

- 5.2 Central Dales Practice - Cllr McMullon reported that there was no current update on the position at the local Practice. It is believed that Dr Scott will leave at the end of September but there is no news yet of his replacement, although it is believed that one has been appointed. It is hoped that there will be an update by the time of the next Parish Council meeting. Cllr Peacock advised that a date had now been set for the next meeting of the local health forum and it would be beneficial for a member of the Parish Council to attend. **RESOLVED: CLLR PEACOCK to advise the date of the next meeting and councillors to consider representation of the Parish Council at the meeting.**

6. **Planning Applications**

The Clerk had circulated details of the following applications to councillors as they had been received from the YDNPA. No comments had been submitted as the Council had no objections.

- 6.1 R/56/493/DIS1 - Approval of details reserved by Condition 3iii (external timber work colour), 3vii (sample panel of lime mortar) and 4 (bat box location) of R/56/493 Barn at Burtersett Road, Hawes
- 6.2 R56/415K - Full Planning Permission for erection of a single storey extension to the cafe kitchen wash-up area, re-location of gas tank and re-alignment of drystone wall at The Wensleydale Creamery, Hawes
- 6.3 R/56/533 - Full Planning Permission for erection of site manager's bathroom pod at Hawes Caravan and Motorhome Club Site, Brown Moor, Hawes
- 6.4 R/48/78W/LB - Listed Building Consent to install a specialist glazing solution to 9 no windows at School House, Hardraw
- 6.5 R/56/534 - Householder Planning Permission for removal of existing garage and replacement with detached two-storey double garage at Stonecroft, Burtersett Road, Hawes

7. **Planning Decisions**

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

- 7.1 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 - Discharge Approved 29th July 2022
- 7.2 R/56/109A - Full Planning Permission for installation of four LPG gas tanks with associated protective barriers and screen fencing (part retrospective), to replace existing tanks serving adjacent properties at Watersdale End, Gayle Lane, Hawes - Approved Conditional 7th September 2022
- 7.3 R/56/86Y - Full Planning Permission for erection of extension to the existing public toilet block (sited within the car park) at the Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes - Approved Conditional 8th September 2022
- 7.4 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 - Approved Conditional 25th August 2022

- 7.5 R/56/415J - Full Planning Permission for siting of a two storey temporary building to accommodate additional office and meeting room space for a period of five years at The Wensleydale Creamery, Hawes - Approved Conditional 19th August 2022
- 7.6 R/48/162B - Outline Planning Permission (with some matters reserved) for erection of agricultural workers dwelling and construction of yard and construction of associated highway access and track at The Cragg & Carr, Land at East Birkrigg - Approved Section 106 22nd August 2022

8. *Highways Matters*

- 8.1 Traffic Survey in Burtersett - Cllr Peacock confirmed that approval has been received to undertake this survey. She will investigate to find out when it is being done and will inform the Parish Council. **RESOLVED: CLL PEACOCK to advise Council of date of survey.**
- 8.2 'Birdcage Walk', Hawes - Cllr McMullon confirmed that she had reported this issue twice. Cllr Peacock confirmed that issues with the curbs had been reported and repairs will be undertaken as part of the current resurfacing project. Mr Ward noted that issues had been reported nine years ago but were still ongoing!
- 8.3 Gayle Green - Mr Paul Taylor had requested the opportunity to address the meeting with his concerns relating to Gayle Green. Prior to the meeting, Mr Taylor had informed councillors of these concerns via an email. He advised those present that he had inherited Beckstones House from his late father, Mr Robert Taylor. Mr Taylor pointed out that the land is designated as Village Green and is owned by the Lords Trustees of the Manor of Bainbridge who have a duty of care to maintain the site. It was noted that issues have been ongoing since the end of World War II, when the turf was taken off the site to allow its use for military purposes, and this has never been reinstated. Village green is defined under customary law as 'areas of land where local people indulged in lawful sports and pastimes. These might include organised or ad-hoc games, picnic, fetes and similar activities'. In 2012, David Gall (then local solicitor), 'acting on behalf of the Lords Trustees placed a 'caution' to anyone trying to first register the chance of using the land as their own for freehold'. Mr Taylor suggested that 'the Lords of the Manor have failed in their duty of care to keep this site as a village green'. Mr Taylor believes that, with increasing footfall in Gayle, parking space is now needed and although 'the 'green' is already used unofficially as a car parking site, the Village Green Act allows for a village green to be used for something else, provided it can be reinstated at a nearby site'. His proposal is that 'a disused reservoir immediately next to the village green (owned by Gayle Mill Trustees) could become an ideal potential reinstatement site' allowing the village green to be converted into a formalised car parking area. Furthermore, the Parish Council could seek funding to renew the existing green into a planned car park, ideally with charging points for electric vehicles. Cllr McMullon explained that there had been ongoing issues with Gayle Green for many years but that the land was not the responsibility of the Parish Council and there was little that they could do to assist Mr Taylor with his proposal. It was further noted that the reservoir in question is in the ownership of Cultura Trust as a registered Ancient Monument. Mr Taylor advised that the National Park Authority and Cultura Trust were in agreement with his proposal, however the Highways Department could not become involved until the plan gets the go-ahead. Cllr McMullon said she had discussed the matter with both the National Park and Cultura Trust and queried the validity of Mr Taylor's comment. Discussion took place following Mr Taylor's presentation during which residents noted that this was a controversial issue which had been ongoing for many years. One resident did not believe there was a need for a formal car parking area in Gayle as this had not previously been an issue. Another resident explained that the area has been 'used and abused' over the past fifty years and customs are now well-established, making it difficult to change the situation.

In conclusion, Cllr McMullon proposed that a committee of Gayle residents (those on the Electoral Roll) be formed to take forward discussions with the Lords of the Manor. This committee should be properly constituted and meetings held, which the Parish Council could chair, if required. Cllr Colley asked who was championing the proposal and Mr Taylor said that he would be. Cllr McMullon's proposal was put to the Council and seconded by Cllr Waluda. All councillors were in agreement. **RESOLVED: To leave the matter with Mr Taylor to investigate the formation of a residents committee to hold discussions with the Lords of the Manor.**

8.4 A684 Resurfacing Project in Hawes - Work on this six week project commenced today and so far, all appeared to be going according to plan. Cllr Peacock advised those present that the contractor has a good reputation. Letters had been issued to all local residents and businesses advising the plans and timings for the project, and details were available in the Community Office. If there were any issues, it would be necessary to contact Tarmac direct, and not the Highways Department. Cllr McMullon advised that there had initially been some confusion over the signage when it first appeared which was unfortunate. Cllr Lloyd advised that she had cause to speak to the contractors who had been very accommodating and helpful. A member of the public enquired about the area used for the mail drop of information regarding this project and Cllr Peacock confirmed that it was all those properties/residents on the Electoral Roll. A member of the public from Lunds advised that no-one there (in the LA10 postcode) had received information and indeed were often omitted from relevant information relating to the Hawes area. Cllr Peacock explained that if that was the case, the Post Office should be contacted and asked to include the LA10 postcode. Cllr McMullon was confused as to why no-one in the LA10 area received notification of this work if they were on the Electoral Roll and this would be investigated. A member of the public enquired whether remedial work to the cobbled areas in Hawes would be undertaken as part of the current project. Cllr Peacock advised that this was programmed to take place in March or April 2023 as a separate project.

8.5 Safety of the B6259 - The Council had been contacted by Debbie Pattinson, a resident of Lunds, on behalf of other residents expressing their concern over road safety in the community. Ms Pattinson was invited to inform the meeting of those concerns and she went on to explain that residents do not feel safe due to the speed that vehicles travel through the village. A representative from the Highways Department came to visit to look into the issue but did not see that there was a problem. However, residents remain concerned and one noted that they had actually been hit by a Police vehicle travelling through the village (the road is used for Police training). Another resident explained that the road through Mallerstang is a popular route for car rallies too. Residents would like to see a 40 mph speed limit put in place and additional signage erected to warn of the dangers, noting that there are numerous farm entrances and footpaths etc that abut the road and present a hazard to speeding vehicles. Cllr McMullon advised that there were specific criteria for placing speed limits, although it was noted that the Department of Transport has conflicting information to that of the Highways Department. She also advised that the Police decide upon what speed limit is appropriate for an area. Cllr McMullon proposed that a site visit be planned with residents, councillors and representatives from North Yorkshire Highways Department to walk the route and consider the issues raised. She suggested that a representative from North Yorkshire Police could also be invited to attend. Cllr Peacock advised that it had also been suggested to get a village sign indicating that vehicles were entering the village and she would be happy to pay for this from her Locality Budget. Ian Beighton from the Highways Department would need to advise on the appropriate siting for the new sign. **RESOLVED: CLERK to liaise with Cllr Peacock regarding the funding for the new sign. CLERK to contact Ian Beighton to obtain potential dates for a site visit and then advise councillors and residents of Lunds, along with the Police.** Ms Pattinson thanked the Council for the opportunity to

attend and present the concerns of the residents and agreed that a site visit would be very much appreciated to try and resolve the issues. The residents from Lunds then left the meeting.

8.6 Highways Concerns - No further highways issues were raised.

9. Financial Matters

9.1 The following invoices were approved for payment:-

- ➔ RDC - £25.00 - Green Bin Permit for Town Foot (paid)
- ➔ John Banks - £639.65 - Grass Cutting July (paid)
- ➔ John Banks - £595.90 - Grass Cutting August
- ➔ Mrs K Prudden - £211.93 - August Salary
- ➔ HMRC - £12.77 - PAYE Month 5
- ➔ John Banks - £579.70 - Grass Cutting September
- ➔ Mrs K Prudden - £211.93 - September Salary
- ➔ HMRC - £13.40 - PAYE Month 6
- ➔ P M Iveson Ltd - £228.00 - Maintenance work in the new Cemetery

9.2 The following income was acknowledged:-

- ➔ None had been received since the last meeting

9.3 The Clerk presented bank statements for 31st July, 31st August and 3rd September which were checked and signed by the Chair. The Clerk confirmed a balance of £23,857.63 in the current account as at 26th September 2022.

9.4 AGAR 2022 - The Clerk advised that, following the last meeting, a letter had been issued to HSBC explaining the importance of having a closing statement for the Council's bank account which was closed last year, to allow the accurate completion of the AGAR for the last financial year. This had eventually resulted in Cllr Alderson having to make a special journey to the nearest branch of HSBC in Settle to request the information be provided to her. This was not in the form of a statement, but in a list of transactions prior to the closure of the account. However, the Clerk was pleased to report that it did confirm the variance in the annual accounts and would therefore allow the completion of those and the AGAR, thankfully. The Clerk expressed her grateful thanks to Cllr Alderson for all her efforts in resolving this situation. **RESOLVED: CLERK to now submit the AGAR for external audit, as required.**

10 Correspondence

10.1 Request for Support from the North Yorkshire Citizens Advice Bureau - A request had been received from the CAB seeking financial support for their work. During the year 2021-2022, the service had helped 1,074 individuals with 5,777 problems. Within this Parish, it had helped thirty people. Councillors discussed the request but did not feel able to support the work of the CAB at this time, although they were grateful for the service it provided to residents.

10.2 'Let's Talk Local' Consultation - The Clerk had issued information received regarding this project which relates to the creation of the new North Yorkshire Council which will launch on 1st April 2023, replacing the eight district councils currently in existence. The Consultation aims to hear the views of residents on matters that are important to them to help guide the new council in its focus. The Clerk advised that there was to be a meeting on 3rd October at the Hawes Community Cafe as part of this project and asked if any

councillor wished to attend. **RESOLVED: ANY COUNCILLOR who is free to attend, please do so.**

10.3 'Communitree Project' - An email had been received from the District Council inviting the Parish Council to join this project which aims to plant 500 saplings across the district this year. To do so, appropriate land should be identified, an application completed and a site meeting arranged with the intention of planting in December. Councillors discussed the idea but agreed that a significant tree-planting exercise had already been undertaken by the National Park Authority and a suitable piece of land was not obvious.

11. Children's Play Park

11.1 Volunteer Maintenance Group - No report had been received recently.

12. Asset Register

Following the last meeting, the Clerk had issued a template to those councillors who had offered to compile the new Register. It was noted that the new Cemetery should be included. **RESOLVED: CLLRS WALUDA AND STEPHENSON will undertake this project as and when time permits. Any help will be much appreciated.**

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

A member of the public highlighted a significant hole into the sewer at the top of Gayle, outside the entrance to Cybil's Cottage (a holiday let). Cllr Peacock advised that this had been reported and is the responsibility of Yorkshire Water. **RESOLVED: CLLR PEACOCK to follow-up repair with Yorkshire Water.**

A member of the public expressed concern at the poor service provided by North Yorkshire Police when reporting an issue to them recently. The person on the telephone had no idea where Hawes was and seemed unable to take down basic details. It would be useful if a member of the Force were to attend a future meeting to discuss these concerns.

Cllr McMullen suggested that budgets be discussed and set following the creation of the new North Yorkshire Council next spring. **RESOLVED: CLERK to include on the Agenda for the May meeting in 2023.**

Cllr McMullon advised that information had just been released regarding the fact that the existing cemetery is now full and the new one is to be put to use. The information included details for the Clerk as the point of contact, but unfortunately, this was inaccurate. No-one is clear who is responsible for the management of the new cemetery, although it is owned by the Parish Council. **RESOLVED: CLERK to make enquiries and to ensure that amended contact information is issued.**

14. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **MONDAY 28th NOVEMBER 2022**, starting at **7.00 pm**, at **GAYLE INSTITUTE.**

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.00 pm.

Signed as a True Record: **Date:**

Name: