

**LONG PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**THURSDAY 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024**  
**MINUTES Meeting 11 2023-2024**

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.

**11.1a Present:** Cllrs James Bellis, (Chair), Rob Wood, Katy Attewell, Gareth Croll, Steve Harris, Ann Kay, and Liz Palmer.

**In attendance:** North Yorkshire Council Councillor Simon Myers, for part of the meeting, PCSO Jayne Grace for part of the meeting, and Parish Council Clerk Marijke Hill.

**11.1b** The Council had **received** no apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting.

### **11.2 Code of Conduct and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

- a Councillors did not record any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) for the purposes of Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011, and any other relevant Interests under the Parish Council's Code of Conduct in connection with items on this agenda.
- b No requests were made for dispensation in connection with items on this Agenda.

### **11.3 Minutes of Meeting**

The Council **resolved** that the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 10, held on 1<sup>st</sup> February, should be approved and signed by the Chair, Cllr Bellis, as a true and accurate record.

### **11.4 To receive updates on Matters from previous meetings not otherwise included on the Agenda**

- a The Council **noted** that it has updated and sent two letters to the Playing Field Association regarding support for the renovation of the pavilion and the Council's responsibilities for the playing field to be used by the PFA to secure further funding.

### **11.5 To receive reports from North Yorkshire County Council and the Police**

- a. NYP PCSO Jayne Grace presented the police incidents report, which contained 8 incidents during the period between 31 January and 5 March, all of a minor nature.

NYP PCSO Jayne Grace left the meeting.

- b County Councillor Simon Myers reported on Highways' response regarding creating parking spaces on Main Street that they are not intended to carry out any works that will narrow the carriageway, nor any other speed calming measures, as the A65 is seen by them as a transit road. However, the collected VAS data of the four villages, Long Preston, Hellifield, Coniston Cold, and Gargrave, should make a case to Highways for the installation of average speed cameras after the mayoral elections.  
NYC will propose a development plan for Hellifield Station as train operator Northern has confirmed it will operate a weekly Saturday-only service between Rochdale and Ribbleshead via Manchester Victoria, Bolton, Clitheroe and Hellifield from Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June. The service will be called the Yorkshire Dales Explorer with further details set to be released closer to June.  
NYC has extended the loan repayment period to Settle Swimming Pool to alleviate some of their financial pressures.

From April 2025 NYC will add 100% council tax premium to the bill for any property liable for council tax and classed as a second home. Second home ownership within the North Yorkshire area is significant and is recognised to have a negative impact in terms of the supply of homes available to meet local housing need.

The creation of North Yorkshire Council means that there is a legal requirement to make sure all council taxpayers in the county are charged the same amount based on the council tax band of their home. This move to unify all council tax bills across all of North Yorkshire will be spread over two financial years. NYC agreed an average 4.99% council tax increase for 2024-2025, but residents in Craven will see a tax rise of 5.62%.

County Cllr Myers left the meeting.

## 11.6 To consider new Planning Applications, Decisions, and Other Planning Matters

### a. Applications

The Council **noted** it had not received any planning applications.

### b. Decisions

- 1 CDC: 2020/21553/OUT – Outline application with some matters reserved for the development of up to 99 lodges, reception cabin with parking, and landscaping including ground modelling and water features (resubmission of previous application 42/2016/17496 refused 28 March 2019), Amendment received December 2020, Land To The East Of Waterside Lane, Hellifield. **Not yet decided.**
- 2 YDNPA: C/52/675D Full planning permission for conversion of barn to local occupancy dwelling/holiday accommodation and installation of package sewage treatment plant, Mearbeck. **Not yet decided**
- 3 YDNPA: C/52/57C – Outline planning permission for erection of 10 No. residential properties with access, appearance, layout and scale (landscaping reserved) at Land at Grosvenor Farm, Main Street. **Awaiting legal agreement**
- 4 YDNPA: APP/C9499/W/23/3329633 – appeal made to the Secretary of State against planning application “refused” decision of C/52/690A Full planning permission for conversion of barn and outbuilding to form dwelling and annex (part retrospective). **Not yet decided.**
- 5 YDNPA: notification under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to remove a group of elder located at Cobles, 12 The Green, Long Preston. **No objection raised.**
- 6 YDNPA: notification under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to fell one spruce located at 3 Bankside, Long Preston. **No objection raised.** The Council **noted** that the YDNPA has made a recommendation that a replacement tree of native species is planted within the first planting season after felling.
- 7 YDNPA: notification under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to remove one willow spruce, located at 6 Church Street, Long Preston. **No objection raised.** The Council **noted** that the YDNPA has made a recommendation that a replacement tree of native species is planted within the first planting season after felling.

### c. Other and additional Planning Matters

- 1 The Council **noted** the NYC Local Plan Launch Event questions and answers document.

## 11.7 To consider action regarding parish maintenance matters

### a. Playing Field matters

- 1 Cllr Palmer **reported** that an on-site meeting is arranged with Rural Playgrounds, based in Kirkby Stephen in order they can provide a second quotation for the repair of the medium risk items of play equipment as highlighted by the RoSPA Inspection Report.

The Council **noted** that the Playing Field Association has received a quotation from Sovereign Play for the replacement of the tower slide.

- 2 Regarding the fire extinguishers at the pavilion Cllr Croll **reported** that the Council has a legal responsibility to carry out a fire risk assessment of the pavilion. The North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service do not provide fire risk assessments, but a completed fire risk assessment will be audited by them to ensure the Council is complying with legislation. The Council **agreed** for Cllr Croll to proceed seeking an expert company to carry out a fire risk assessment of the pavilion.
  
- b. bus shelter maintenance  
The Council was **informed** it is unable to obtain a second quotation for maintenance work on the bus shelter and the two outside notice boards next to the bus shelter. The Council **resolved** to accept the quotation provided by Keith Ward to varnish the windows, render and carry out internal and external pointing work, paint the inside notice boards, replace the cast iron fall pipe and soak away, and varnish the two outside Parish Council's notice board for a total of £875.
  
- c. lengthsman services  
Cllr Harris **reported** that the lengthsman has completed relocating the 'no parking' sign on Back Green, as well as replacing the removed sign on Main Green.
  
- d. NYC Highways matters
  - 1 state of the road on two sides of Back Green  
The Council has **received** a representation about the poor condition of the road on two sides of Back Green, which is badly potholed. The road is well used by pedestrians and vehicles and, at night, it is not well lit, therefore, a trip hazard to the many, often elderly, pedestrians on their way to and from the Post Office, and Toddstiles. The Council **agreed** to investigate the depth of the potholes and to ask NYC Cllr Simon Myers to address this issue with the NYC Highways and get the resurfacing of the two roads on their maintenance list or at least ask them to fill in the potholes.
  
  - 2 ongoing issues regarding collapsed culvert in the area of the junction at Maypole Green, School Lane, and Greengate Lane.  
The Council has **received** a representation about the ongoing flooding issues from both surface water drains and foul water drains from the owner of 7 Maypole Green. The Council **agreed** to reply that the surface water drains are the responsibility of NYC Highways. A survey was conducted last year by United Utilities, which identified a collapsed culvert under Maypole Green causing surface water, under extreme conditions, to back up to the highways drain outside their house. NYC Cllr Simon Myers confirmed that work to clear the blockage/collapse will be undertaken by NYC Highways and is scheduled for this summer.  
Foul water drains are the responsibility of United Utilities, who have agreed to conduct a second dye test survey (the first was carried out last year, successfully testing properties from Hill Croft into the main sewer running down Greengate Lane), which is scheduled to take place by the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and will dye test all other properties (Megs Croft, Greengate Terrace and if necessary School Lane) feeding into the main sewer. Hopefully, this will identify the cause of surface water contamination.
  
- e. methods to improve drainage on all village greens  
The Council was **informed** that the hire of an aerator from Skipton Hire Centre for a weekend from Friday afternoon to Monday morning would cost £75. The Council **agreed** to ask the grass mower contractor, Mr Prior, if he is willing to use the aerator on Main Green and Maypole Green sometime in April, for which the Council will pay Mr Prior's hourly rate.

Once confirmed, the Council will purchase sand and consider forming a volunteer group to brush in the sand.

f. grit bins, including additional grit bins

Cllr Croll **reported** on collating an inventory of the current salt bins in the village. NYC maintain the grit bins on School Lane and Chapel Walk. The grit bins on both platforms at the Railway Station are maintained by Network Rail. The Parish Council is responsible for the grit bins at the top of Moor Lane, West End, and at Greengate Lane. The Council was **informed** that the grit bin at Greengate Lane has a warped lid, no hinge and is full of water and litter and **agreed** for Cllr Harris to investigate if a repair to this grit bin is feasible. The Council **decided** to consider further action regarding additional grit bins at the Parish Council meeting in September.

g. framework for annual schedule of work

The Council **agreed** for Cllr Bellis to continue collating suggestions to be added to an annual schedule of work.

### 11.8 To consider action regarding parish matters other than maintenance

a. nomination of The Maypole Inn and The Post Office as Assets of Community Value

The Council was **informed** that the nomination form for The Maypole Inn and The Post Office to be included in the list of Assets of Community Value has been submitted to NYC and that NYC Officers are currently checking the contents of the form.

b. plans for Annual Parish meeting

The Council was **informed** that both NYC Cllr Simon Myers and the YDNPA Area Ranger Rob Ashford have confirmed their attendance to the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> April at 8.00 pm. The Council **agreed** to invite all village community groups as in previous years.

c. to approve the assets register

The Council **approved** the assets register and **noted** the total value of assets to be insured at £275,500.

d. biodiversity legislation

Cllr Palmer **reported** on the biodiversity webinar, organised by the YLCA, about practical changes and steps which can realistically be implemented to help enhance biodiversity. The Council **agreed** for Cllr Palmer to draft a Biodiversity Policy and report back at the next Parish Council meeting.

e. progress of court proceedings at Back Green

The Council **resolved** that this item is considered in private session, excluding the press and public under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, as discussion in public would be prejudicial to the public interest.

The Council was **informed** that a panel solicitor has now been appointed and that all files have been sent in order the solicitor can assess the case in terms of prospect for success.

### 11.9 Finance

a. The Council **noted** the total balance of both accounts to 28<sup>th</sup> February as £17,108.83.

b. The Council **approved** the payment of the following accounts:-

Vodafone (wifi Village Hall)	£ 30.45
Npower (street light electricity February)	£ 213.58
LP Village Hall (hall hire 1/2)	£ 25.00
Sharon Press (Parish Magazine March)	£ 221.00

Wellers Hedleys (legal expenses incurred to date)	£1,260.00
Zurich Municipal (grass mower motor insurance)	£ 548.78
YLCA (biodiversity training webinar)	£ 33.40
Npower (Christmas lights electricity 2023)	£ 19.74
HSBC monthly bank charges	£ 8.00
T. Palmer (postage expenses o.b.o. the Parish Magazine Committee)	£ 22.24

The Council **noted** payment of £761.75 to the clerk as salary and expenses for February.  
The Council **ratified** payment of £630 to Wellers Hedleys for legal expenses incurred in April 2023.  
The Council **noted** receipt of £65.00 on behalf of the Parish Magazine Committee to 28<sup>th</sup> February.  
The Council **noted** receipt from HSBC of £24.89 as interest for January and £24.93 as interest for February.  
The Council was **informed** that an amount of £2,225 has been transferred from the deposit account to the current account to cover all payments.

- c. To **consider** payments under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.  
The Council had **received** one request for a donation and **resolved** to approve a payment of £1,000 to Settle Area Swimming Pool, under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.
- d. The Council **agreed** to approve the Financial Risk Assessment and Management paper.
- e. To **review** the parish clerk's salary and **consider** applying holiday pay with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024.  
The Council **resolved** that this item is considered in private session, excluding the press and public under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, as discussion in public would be prejudicial to the public interest.  
The Council **resolved** to increase the clerk's salary to NJC scale SCP 18 to £15.21 per hour as well as to apply holiday pay to the hourly rate, therefore, approving a total salary pay of £767.25 per month with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024.

#### 11.10 Reports on or Notice of meetings of Other Bodies

- \* NYC: all-age draft substance use strategy public consultation until 30 April; cost of living campaign; 'Let's Talk Food' public consultation until 1 April; joint local health and wellbeing strategy public consultation until 31 March; North Yorkshire & York Local Nature Recovery Strategy early evening webinars during March; Home to School Travel Policy public consultation until 12 April;
- \* YDNPA: Strategic Housing Market Assessment questionnaire (SHMA); Newsletter winter edition; spring Parish Forum meeting April/May
- \* YLCA: White Rose Bulletin 2/2, 15/2, 1/3; Law and Governance Bulletin February, March; training programme April to September; NALC Chief Executive Bulletins;

#### 11.11 To determine any Matter not included on this Agenda which the Chairman considers must nevertheless be addressed as a matter of urgency.

The Council **noted** that no matters of urgency were reported.

#### 11.12 To receive reports/comments on other matters for information only, or for inclusion on a future agenda.

- a. The Council **noted** that the bus stop post at the Boars Head has been marked for repair by NYC Highways.
- b. The Council **noted** that the names of all affected farmers accessing Green Gate Lane and School Lane has been forwarded to NYC Cllr Simon Myers.

- c The Council **noted** the latest version of the D-Day 80 Guide and also that the Heritage Group will organise an exhibition on two boards on WW2 in the Village Hall and use extracts from a book based on Robert Slater's memories of the war. The Council **agreed** to write an article in the Parish Magazine, outlining the organised events so far.
- d. Cllr Wood **reported** that the street light at Greengate Lane is not working. The Council **agreed** to ask Harison & Cross to investigate and repair this if straightforward or, if it is complicated or at a higher expense, report back with an estimate of likely costs for repair.

#### **11.13 Date and time of the next Parish Council meeting**

The Council **confirmed** the date of the next Parish Council meeting as Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 6.30 pm in the Village Hall. This meeting is followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 8.00 pm.

There being no further business to conduct the Chair closed the meeting at 9.55 pm.

**Marijke Hill**  
**Clerk to the Council**