

LONG PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL
THURSDAY 7th September 2023
MINUTES Meeting 5 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.

5.1 Public Participation

Ms Scholes reported that the grass cutting contractor is not always able to cut the grass on Back Green, due to parked cars. The Council replied it is aware of this situation and it has instructed the grass cutting contractor to not get involved in the dispute. The item of parked cars on Back Green was further discussed at item 5.10j.4.

Mr Middleton asked if the Council would consider reconnecting the streetlight opposite 1, Maypole Green next to the clean water drainage channel and **agreed** to make enquiries to the NYC Street Light Officer what it would involve to have this street light reconnected.

Mr McDonald participated at item 5.10i: provision of allotment.

5.2 Apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting.

- a The Council had **received** advice from the YLCA that the giving of apologies for absence is a courtesy only and that the Council should approve the reason(s) for absence. The Council **agreed** to adopt this procedure as best practice.

Present: Cllrs James Bellis (Chairman), Robert Wood, Katy Attewell, Steve Harris, Ann Kay, and Liz Palmer.

In attendance: Parish Council Clerk Marijke Hill and three members of the public.

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

5.3 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.

5.4 Minutes of Meeting

The Council **resolved** that the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 4, held on 6th July, should be approved and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Bellis, as a true and accurate record.

5.5 To receive updates on Matters from previous meetings not otherwise included on the Agenda

Cllr Palmer **reported** to write an article in the Parish Magazine in relation to planting shrubs on the banks at the playing field to reduce the growth of weeds.

5.6 To receive reports from North Yorkshire County Council and the Police

- a. County Cllr Simon Myers had sent a written report and reported in summary about the Homes Allocations Policy and the Housing Strategy, which will both be going out to consultation soon. These reflect a real recognition by the NYC to tackle the 'affordability crisis' which is affecting so many in our communities and in particular young people. The Children's Social Care Services has been rated 'outstanding' by Ofsted; the only Local Authority to achieve this under the new Ofsted Reporting system. The County Council has recruited new Heads of Service in various departments and new officers have been appointed in the Planning Service, which may lead to a faster determination of planning applications.

There have been some chaotic situations on the A65 over the summer. The 3 ½ week traffic lights in Gargrave were caused by unauthorised scaffolding by an unauthorised contractor. The Diesel Spillage on the A65 by the Courtyard caused massive disruption and spilled over to adjoining roads which were overrun by unsuitable HGVs. It seems that there is no 'strategic disaster management plan' to cover the closure of parts of the A65 and where traffic should be diverted since 1974. Cllrs Myers and Staveley are insisting that one is developed between NYC and the Police and Highways England so that heavy traffic does not leave the M6 / Skipton roundabout and then get stuck on our inadequate roads.

The Village Hall has received the Locality Budget grant for the roof on the Caretakers property. A VAS system will be in place in Hellifield soon and hopefully all the villages can work together to make the case to tackle speeding traffic on the A65.

- b. The Council had **received** the written police report, which contained 15 incidents during the period between 5 July and 5 September 2023, notably two Road Traffic Collisions, involving two vehicles, on Main Street and two RTCs, also involving two vehicles on A65.

5.7 To consider new Planning Applications, Decisions, and Other Planning Matters

a. Applications

- 1 ZA23/25012/FUL Conversion of existing farm buildings to 3 no. dwellings, Borks Hill, Sour Dale Lane, Long Preston. The Council was **informed** that the previous planning application, 2022/23966/FUL was withdrawn in November 2022. The Council **agreed** to notify NYC that it objects to the new proposals as the proposed development is in open countryside, which the Council believes is to be preserved. Also, vehicular access onto the main road (the A65) is now in between the bungalows for the elderly at Moorfield and there are limited sightlines to see traffic in both directions, but particularly turning southbound towards Skipton.

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/52/76A – full planning permission and relevant demolition of an unlisted building in a conservation area in respect of demolition of concrete, dashed render single garage and erection of 1 no. dwelling at Land to rear of Greengates, School Lane. **Not yet decided**
- 3 YDNPA: C/52/57C – Outline planning permission for erection of 9 No. residential dwellings (access only and with all other matters reserved), Land at Grosvenor Farm, Main Street. **Not yet decided**
- 4 YDNPA: C/52/680B – Householder planning permission for installation of flue for woodburning fire (retrospective) - amending planning approval C/52/680A, 1 Cornmill Cottages, Main Street. **Not yet decided**
- 5 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**
- 6 YDNPA: C/52/93C – further amended full planning permission for conversion of barn to 3 no. cottages for local occupancy or short term holiday lets, Maypole Barn, Main Street. **Approved – Section 106**
- 7 YDNPA: C/52/11R/LB Listed building consent for subsidence damage repair and reinstatement works at Glenroyd, 4 Main Street. **Approved conditionally**
- 8 YDNPA: notification under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to fell one ash and crown clean and thin (by no more than 10%) a further ten trees at Fern Hill, Long Preston. **No objection raised**

- 9 YDNPA: notification under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to fell one Tree-of-heaven at 4, Riley's Croft. **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.
- 10 YDNPA: notification under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to reduce one willow and one silver birch and pollard one willow located at May Barn. **No objection raised**

c. Other and additional Planning Matters

- 1 YDNPA: notification under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to crown reduce one cherry and one rowan by 20%, and to fell one maple at 37a Main Street. **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.
- 2 YDNPA: notification under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to trim the lower branches of one mature ash on Lover's Walk, Long Preston, encroaching on the property of 4 Riley's Croft. **No objection raised**.

5.8 Policy papers

The Council **agreed** to approve the following policy papers:

- a. Code of Conduct 2023, including Member-Officer Protocol;
- b. Press and Media Policy.

5.9 To consider action regarding parish maintenance matters

a. street lighting matters

- 1 The Council **noted** the reply from the NYC Street Light Officer in relation to the new street lights at Greengates Lane and Magna Print that both lights are connected and working.
- 2 The Council **noted** the reply from the NYC Street Light Officer in relation to the low level supply pillar at Todd Style Footpath that the cable which supplies the sign post is not big enough to add any more additional lights. The Council **agreed** to explore alternatives, which may involve trenching in the carriage way with a view to potentially budget for this.

b. Playing Field matters

- 1 The Council was **informed** that the May Day Committee has successfully held a fundraising barbeque and camping night at the Playing Field on 11th August. Cllr Wood **reported** that the Playing Field Association have secured funding for a new post and small gate for the entrance to the playing field immediately next to the pavilion, which would ensure that the whole of the playing field is enclosed. As the main gate was quite old and in need of repair, the Council **ratified** the purchase of a new 12 foot gate for £250.50 + VAT. The Council **agreed** that Cllr Wood should use some of the left over wood to close off the small unfenced area. The Council also **agreed** that Cllr Wood could order a 'please shut the gate' sign for the small gate and a 'do not put dog waste in here' for the waste bin at the Playing Field, which is personally emptied by Cllrs Palmer and Wood.
- 2 The Council **noted** the incident on 7th May 2023, reported by a resident volunteer, who had fallen off a ladder whilst refurbishing the Playing Field pavilion, causing a mild concussion and the fracturing of a wrist.
- 3 staff/visitors vehicle car parking
The Council had **contacted** the Primary School asking that staff and/or visitors to the school use the 'honesty box' for payment of car parking fees at the Playing Field and **noted** the reply from the Primary School Federation Business Manager, that the Council's communication has been shared with the School's staff. However, Long Preston Primary School does not advise staff or visitors to park their vehicles in the car park; they do so of their own volition. The Council **agreed** to improve the signage to make it clear to any visitors who choose to use the car park, to pay.

- c. telephone kiosk
There was no further report.
- d. maintenance on the two grass cutting mowers
The Council was **informed** that the Kubota broke down early July and that it was out of guarantee. The Council **ratified** an inspection and repair of the Kubota by the suppliers, Gibson Garden Machinery. The Council also **ratified** a service and repair of the Toro by Beck's Garden Machinery as a back-up grass cutter for the Kubota.
- e. Trees matters
- 1 maintenance responsibility for Ash tree on Lover's Walk
The Council had **contacted** the YDNPA Area Ranger, Rob Ashford regarding maintenance responsibility for an Ash tree on a strip of land on Lover's Walk, overhanging in the garden of 4 Riley Croft. The strip of land appears to have been missed in various transactions and it is unclear who the current landowner is.
The Council was **informed** that the resident of 4 Riley's Croft has submitted a tree works application to the YDNPA to trim the lower branches of the Ash tree, which are encroaching on their property and that the YDNPA has raised no objection to this.
- 2 tree works by ENW on Kayley Hill
The Council was **informed** that ENW have statutory rights to carry out any tree work they deem necessary without applying for tree work consent and it **ratified** giving permission to ENW to cut back the trees on Kayley Hill as they are nearly touching the overhead electricity lines.
- f. lengthsman services
There was no report.
- g. NYC Highways matters
- 1 maintenance on Back Lane, including request for 'do not follow sat nav' sign
The Council was **informed** about the chaotic traffic situation in the village on a couple of occasions this summer, once when the A65 between Long Preston and Settle was closed for a very long time due to diesel spillage, and also when lights controlled the traffic. On both occasions vehicles tried to bypass over Back Lane, unsuitable for motorised vehicles due to its narrowness. The Council **agreed** to contact NYC Highways and request they install a 'DO NOT FOLLOW SAT NAV' sign on either end of Back Lane in an effort to avoid vehicles getting stuck.
- 2 manhole cover compromised at Main Street opposite Pendle View
The Council had **received** a representation that a manhole cover at Main Street opposite Pendle View is seriously compromised, resulting in bouncing and echoing sounds when vehicles drive over it, particularly HGVs. The Council **agreed** to report this to NYC Highways for repair in the first instance.
- 3 request for road markings at the end of Chapel Walk
The Council had **received** a representation, asking if road markings could be installed at the end of Chapel Walk now that the resurfacing is completed, as this would prevent people from parking right at the corners at both ends of the road, which happens frequently and is a hazard for cars and children playing as the line of sight is limited, as well as narrowing the turning circle for vehicles turning left or right at the junction. The Council **agreed** to contact NYC Highways and ask for their position on the installation of any road markings to make it clearer to people to not park too close to the junction.
- 4 any other Highways matters
The Council was **informed** that the maintenance on Todd Style footpath has not been carried out yet and **agreed** to contact NYC Highways again.

h. YDNPA matters

There were no YDNPA matters reported.

i. other maintenance issues

1 fixing of 'no parking' signs on all village greens

There was no further report.

2 overhanging foliage on Lover's Walk

The Council was **informed** that the overhanging foliage on Lover's Walk has been cut back by the various residents.

3 benches

Cllr Wood **reported** that three more benches have been refurbished.

5.10 To consider action regarding parish matters other than maintenancea. review of North Yorkshire Council's approach to managing speed limits in the county

The Council **noted** correspondence received from the NYC Executive Member for Highways and Transport, Cllr Keane Duncan about a more strategic approach to consider speed limits in all areas. NYC plan to review all locations over the coming years, based on a speed management strategy to be prepared and approved.

The Council **agreed** to contact Hellifield, Coniston Cold, and Gargrave Parish Councils asking their views on 'joining forces' to make the case for reduction of speeding traffic through the villages on the A65 and, as a first step, share any speeding data.

b. Community Emergency Plan

The Council was **informed** that the Community Emergency Plan has been updated by Lead Contact Paul Morley and Deputy Lead Contact Cllr Katy Attewell and **agreed** to approve this paper. A poster with some detail about the Community Emergency Plan will be widely publicised as soon as possible.

c. planting of trees as part of Woodland Recreation grant by YDNPA on land at Edge Lane

There was no further report.

d. Christmas Lights Event1 The Council was **informed** that the Christmas Lights Event will be organised by members of the Playing Field Association and the May Day Committee. The Council **agreed** to undertake the annual checking of the electrical boxes and ask Harrison & Cross to check the five RCD boxes on Maypole Green, Village Hall, Magna House, Bus Shelter, and Kayley Hill. The Council also **agreed** to consider any financial assistance, should the organisers contact the Council.2 The Council has **received** correspondence from Settle Town Council asking to contribute towards the cost of the fireworks display at the Settle Town Christmas Lights Switch-On and **agreed** to not contribute.e. May Day Committee request to use the Playing Fields for May Day celebrations 2024

The Council had **received** a request that the May Day Committee would like to use the Playing Field for the 2024 May Day celebrations and agreed to this, provided that the kitchen in the pavilion is not used.

f. relocation of defibrillator

The Council was **informed** about the disrupted power supply to the defibrillator cabinet, caused by a leaking roof that dripped water onto the fuse board at the Boars Head and it **noted** correspondence received from Gareth Croll, Community First Responder, asking the Council to consider the option of moving the location of the village defibrillator.

The Council **agreed** to explore the option of relocating the defibrillator to the bus shelter near the notice boards and ask Harrison & Cross to check if it is possible to electrically connect a defibrillator cabinet at this location.

g. donation of bench

The Council was **informed** that a resident would like to purchase a bench, including a memorial plaque, in replacement of the old bench outside Lotties Cottage on The Green. The Council **agreed** to contact the resident to proceed, but to also enquire who would be responsible for future maintenance of the bench.

h. on-street parking on School Lane

The Council has **received** correspondence from a resident on School Lane asking if the Council consider moving the stone wall back by one metre along the stretch opposite numbers 9 and 11 on School Lane, creating additional parking spaces for the resident. The Council was **informed** it is neither the owner of the land opposite the properties on School Lane, nor is there a requirement in law for the Council to provide parking. The Council **agreed** to reply to the resident that it has no authority to consider this proposition and that the resident should contact the landowner.

i. request for provision of allotments

The Council has **received** a representation for the provision of allotments and **agreed** that it has no available land, or the funds to acquire any land for allotments. The Council also **agreed** to signpost Mr McDonald to the allotments near the railway line, owned by Network Rail.

j. village green matters

1 use of Maypole Green by commercial company

The Council was **informed** that a commercial company dealing in cycling holidays and events used Maypole Green one day in August as a 'pitstop' for one of its cycling tours without asking the Council's permission. The Council **agreed** to write to them they should ask for permission to hold any such event on any of the village greens in the future.

2 wild flowers on village green at West End opposite Moorfields

The Council was **informed** that a patch of wild flowers, possibly Golden Hawks-beard, has appeared on the village green below Cromwell House and **agreed** to mow this area before the flowers shed their seeds.

3 The Council **ratified** the response to the owner of 4 Back Green following a police visit.

The Police had informed the Council that the owner of 4 Back Green had stated and presented documents to them to be the owner of the right of way on Back Green and therefore, in control of this land and that the issue with the Parish Council was resolved. The police officer concerned was advised by a Member of the Council that the issue was far from being resolved and that the Council had sought legal advice and was now acting in accordance with that advice.

The Council **reiterated** its position that the whole of Back Green is in ownership of the Parish Council, given by the Duke of Devonshire to the residents of Long Preston for the purpose of recreation and that Village Green legislation, as well as the Parish Council's Byelaws, be applied. The Council understands the resident's position to be the owner of the right of way on Back Green and, therefore, to be in control of this land, because this is registered with HM Land Registry. The resident also claims to have acquired parking rights.

The Council has advised the owner of 4 Back Green to get a second opinion from an independent legal professional on the resident's perception of the case and the chances to be successful in court.

- 4 parking on Back Green, preventing neighbours to carry out necessary repairs
 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 had **contacted** the owners of 4 Back Green to move the horse box, which is parked in such a way that it is obstructing their neighbours legal pedestrian right of way and is preventing them from carrying out necessary repairs to their property, Back Green Barn. The Council has **received** further correspondence from the owners of Back Green Barn, if the Council would consider removing the vehicles and apply for an injunction. The Council **agreed** to reply that this case is complicated as the village green is owned by the Council as a statutory body and not by individual Members or employees of this organisation on behalf of the residents and that, as such, it has been advised to follow the route of formal court proceedings to get a judgment. As the Council is not authorised to incur expenditure on behalf of a resident against another resident, the Council **agreed** to advise the owners of Back Green Barn that they could apply for an injunction to the civil court.

5.11 Finance

- a. The Council **resolved** to approve the Financial Statements and Report to 28th August and **noted** the total balance as £14,111.08.
- b. The Council **ratified** payment of the following accounts for July:-
- | | |
|---|---------|
| Vodafone (wifi Village Hall) | £ 30.45 |
| Npower (street light electricity July) | £114.10 |
| Steve Prior (grass cutting July) | £476.03 |
| LP Village Hall (hall hire July) | £ 25.00 |
| D. Bussey (lengthsman services for July) | £ 81.00 |
| M. Hill (clerk's salary & expenses July) | £741.64 |
| C. Rushton (rebuilt of wall at Baptist Graveyard) | £600.00 |
| HSBC (monthly bank charges) | £ 8.00 |
- The Council **noted** receipt of £1,343.97 from HMRC as VAT reclaim financial year 2022-2023.
 The Council **noted** receipt of £18.87 from HSBC as interest for July.
- c. The Council **approved** the payment of the following accounts for August:-
- | | |
|---|---------|
| Vodafone (wifi Village Hall) | £ 30.45 |
| Npower (street light electricity August) | £111.76 |
| Sharon Press (Parish Magazine September) | £224.00 |
| Steve Prior (grass cutting August) | £451.00 |
| D. Eastwood Garden Maintenance (spraying of Todd Styles) | £ 12.00 |
| Gibson Garden Machinery (repair Kubota grass mower) | £498.18 |
| Becks Garden Machinery (repair Toro grass mower) | £180.00 |
| Timberworks (12" gate at Playing Field) | £300.60 |
| M. Hill (clerk's salary & expenses August) | £712.25 |
| HSBC monthly bank charges | £ 8.00 |
| Cllr Wood (expenses for outside tap repair) | £ 14.14 |
| T. Palmer (postage expenses on behalf of Parish Magazine Committee) | £ 15.75 |
- The Council **noted** receipt of £21.34 from HSBC as interest for August.
 The Council **agreed** to transfer £2,500 from the HSBC deposit account to the current account to cover these payments.
- d. The Council was **informed** by the External Auditor that the erroneous instruction by them to net off an amount of £2,545 in the financial year 2021-2022 is to be undone and **agreed** to amend the AGAR figures in Section 2.

- e. The Council **noted** correspondence received from Npower regarding their new tariff price for electricity as of 1st September 2023.

5.12 Reports on or Notice of meetings of Other Bodies

* The Council has **received** the NYC finalised and published Parish Charter, which sets out the relationship between North Yorkshire Council and all Town and Parish Councils. The Council **noted** that the NYC Charter 'Review Group' will be monitoring and developing the Charter as and when required.

* NYC: new local Transport Plan consultation until 11 August.

* YLCA: White Rose Bulletins 14/7, 31/7, 11/8, 25/8; Joint Annual meeting 22/7; Law and Governance Bulletins July and August; training programme August, September; whole Council training; Annual Review; D-Day 80 – 6 June 2024 guide; NALC Chief Executive Bulletins; Craven Branch meeting 5 October; training programme October to December

* YDNPA: Parish Council planning training session 19 October; Parish Forum Presentation Notes and Briefings Spring 2023; Yorkshire Dales Cheese Festival 6 to 9 October

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

There were no matters to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

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

- a. The Council **noted** the notification of the RoSPA play area annual inspection in September.
- b. The Council **agreed** to publicise the notice of Vacancy in the Office of Parish Councillor, following the resignation of Chris Moorby.
- c. The Council **agreed** to consider the D-Day 80 event on 6th June 2024 at the next Parish Council meeting.
- d. The Council **agreed** to consider setting up a 'Friends of Long Preston' Association at the next Parish Council meeting.

5.15 Date and time of the next Parish Council meeting

The Council **confirmed** the date of the next Parish Council meeting as Thursday 5th October 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further business to conduct the Chairman closed the meeting at 22.06.

Marijke Hill
Clerk to the Council