

LONG PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL
THURSDAY 2nd November 2023
MINUTES Meeting 7 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.

7.1a Present: Cllrs Robert Wood (Acting Chairman), Katy Attewell, Ann Kay, and Liz Palmer (late arrival).

Apologies for absence received from Cllrs James Bellis, and Steve Harris.

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

7.1b The Council **considered** the reasons for absence provided by Cllrs Bellis and Harris and **resolved** acceptance of these as relevant.

7.2 Notice of by-election in the Office of one Parish Councillor on 23rd November 2023.

The Council was **informed** that the by-election is contested and that the poll will be held on 23rd November 2023. The nominated persons are Gareth Edwin Croll; and Penny Jamieson.

7.3 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.

7.4 Minutes of Meeting

The Council **resolved** that the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 6, held on 5th October, should be approved and signed by the Acting Chairman, Cllr Wood, as a true and accurate record.

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

- a. use of the Maypole Green by a commercial cycle event company
The Council had contacted Saddle Skedaddle about the use of the Maypole Green for a commercial cycle event in August and **noted** the reply from their UK Operations Manager, apologising if the stop in Long Preston of their Pennine Bridleway mountain biking holiday towards Settle has caused any upset with the Council or residents. The Company was not aware that they needed to contact the Council on this occasion and they will save the information in their detailed guide notes so they can keep in touch should they wish to use the area again in 2024. While hiring a village hall itself for a short lunch stop on their tours would more than likely fall over budget they are always happy making donations for the upkeep of locations. The Council agreed it would redirect the company to the playing field where an honesty box is located should they wish to use the area again in the future.

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

- a. County Cllr Simon Myers **reported** on various village matters, in particular on 7.8g: sewage leak on School Lane. The collapsed culvert which needs to be replaced is approximately 1.7 m deep and 35 m in length. There are three gullies connected to it, which also need to be replaced. NYC Highways estimate the work to take 4 to 6 weeks.
Regarding the Parish Council's request to have 'do not follow sat nav' signs installed on Back Lane Cllr Myers reported that such signs are not installed by NYC Highways, but that he will continue to address this.
Cllr Myers encouraged Members of the Parish Council to partake in the consultation regarding the Housing Strategy.
Cllr Myers will forward a link to access the 'UK Shared Prosperity Fund', a central pillar of the government's levelling up agenda, providing funding for local investment by March 2025. The ambitions are based around the government's 3 investment priorities: communities and place, supporting local business, and people and skills.
- b. The Council had **received** the police incidents report, which contained 10 incidents during the period between 3 and 29 October 2023, all of a minor nature.

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

a. Applications

- 1 NYC: ZA23/25431/HH Two storey side extension, Railway View, 12 Ribblesdale Estate. The Council **agreed** it had no comments to make.

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/52/675D Full planning permission for conversion of barn to local occupancy dwelling/holiday accommodation and installation of package sewage treatment plant, Mearbeck. **Not yet decided**
- 4 NYC: ZA23/25012/FUL Conversion of existing farm buildings to 3 no. dwellings, Borks Hill, Sour Dale Lane, Long Preston. **Not yet decided**
- 5 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. **Not yet decided**
- 6 YDNPA: C/52/718A – Full planning permission for erection of extensions to north and south of existing field shelter to provide implement shed and stable at Todd Styles (Grid Ref: 383356 458068). **Not yet decided**
- 7 YDNPA: notification under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to fell one sycamore tree at 3, Jubilee Croft. **No objection raised**

c. Other and additional Planning Matters

- 1 The Council **considered** the NYC draft Housing Strategy 2024-2029 consultation paper until 11 December 2023 and **agreed** that Members should write their comments for the Council to consider at the next Parish Council meeting.
- 2 YDNPA: C/52/77E Householder planning permission for installation of solar panels on the front roof elevation, 4, Rileys Croft. The Council **agreed** it had no comments to make.

7.8 To consider action regarding parish maintenance matters

a. street lighting matters

- 1 In relation to an estimate for a solar powered low level electricity supply pillar at Todd Style Footpath, the Council was **informed** that there has been no response from the electrical suppliers Cllr Harris had contacted to date.
- 2 In relation to the disconnected street light on Maypole Green the Council was **informed** that the estimated costs for a re-connection would be £2,832.15 plus VAT. The Council **resolved** to not pursue this project as there is no justification for the spending.

b. Playing Field matters

The Council had contacted a local contractor to provide an estimate for the repair of the items of play equipment at the Playing Field as highlighted by the RoSPA Inspection Report and **noted** it has not received a reply.

Cllr Wood **reported** that the PFA have held some fundraising events and that their members are looking into the possibility to replace the slide.

Cllr Palmer **reported** that the nets and posts on the tennis court need some maintenance. The Council **agreed** that the nets could be lifted up by volunteers, and that the maintenance or replacement of the tennis net posts should be addressed by the PFA.

The Council **agreed** to look at the item of piling up grass cutting clippings when the grass cutting contract is considered in due course.

c. telephone kiosk

Regarding receiving a quotation from Timberworks for a display board, the Council was **informed** that there was no further report.

d. bus shelter maintenance

The Council was **informed** that the bus shelter at Maypole Green is in need of some maintenance, such as masonry work inside, painting or varnishing of the windows, pointing and rendering outside and repair at the entrance and **agreed** to contact a minimum of two local contractors to provide an estimate of the maintenance costs.

e. Trees matters

Regarding the maintenance responsibility for the Ash tree on Lover's Walk the Council had contacted the NYC Public Rights of Way Team and **noted** their reply that this footpath has been taken on by NYC Highways and not by NYC Countryside Access. The Council **agreed** to contact NYC Highways and ask that they investigate the state of the Ash tree and carry out any necessary maintenance.

f. lengthsman services

There were no matters reported.

g. NYC Highways matters

1 sewage leak on School Lane

The Council **noted** that NYC Cllr Simon Myers reported at 7.6a that the NYC Highways engineer is currently preparing a scheme of works to replace the collapsed culvert as well as three gullies that are connected to it and that the works will take 4 to 6 weeks.

2 request for road markings at the end of Chapel Walk

The Council had **contacted** NYC Highways, asking them for their position regarding the installation of any road markings at the end of Chapel Walk to make it clearer to people to not park too close to the junction and it is awaiting a reply.

3 any other Highways matters

There were no other Highways matters reported.

h. YDNPA matters

There were no YDNPA matters reported.

i. litter bin matters

- 1 The Council had **contacted** NYC Waste Management with a proposal to replace the waste bin at the Playing Field and position the existing waste bin at School Lane to the other side of the road, nearer the Playing Field, in order the waste from the Playing Field is collected in the waste bin that is emptied by a NYC operative and **noted** that this is completed.
- 2 The Council was **informed** that the padlock on the wooden bin on The Green has been removed and **agreed** that, therefore, a replacement bin at a cost of £249.80 + vat is no longer necessary as this waste bin is now continued to be emptied by a NYC operative.
- 3 Regarding the small dog waste bin at the junction on Back Lane with Lover's Walk, the Council was **informed** that the lid has been replaced by NYC at no cost to the Parish Council. Cllr Palmer **reported** that this dog waste bin fills up quickly and the Council **agreed** to ask NYC Waste Management to either increase the frequency of emptying this small dog waste bin or replace it by a larger, general waste bin at this location.

j. any other maintenance issues

The Council was **informed** that there has been a delay in completing the order from Timberworks for the 'no parking' stakes, owing to their workload, but that the stakes will be ready for collection in the next couple of weeks.

7.9 To consider action regarding parish matters other than maintenance

a. speeding issues

The Council had **contacted** NYC Highways in respect of the suggested speed calming measures, such as a 40 mph buffer zone, installation of speed reduction warning signs at various intervals, painted roundels on the road, and it is awaiting a reply.

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

The Council **noted** that there was no further report.

c. relocation of defibrillator

The Council was **informed** that the defibrillator cabinet has been successfully relocated to the bus shelter and that the First Responder has purchased new front door stickers and a new cabinet light on behalf of the Parish Council. The Council **resolved** to recompense the First Responder immediately.

d. D-Day 80 event on 6 June 2024

The Council **noted** that there was no further report.

e. complaints about traveller

The Council **ratified** reporting the traveller's wild camping on the moor above Long Preston to the Police, following a number of complaints regarding the presence of, and number of, untethered horses as well as the dogs not being tied up. The Council was **informed** that a visit by two PCSOs was conducted on the day the traveller intended to leave and that the police have now closed the incident. The Council was also **informed** that the churned up area left by the traveller is starting to recover.

f. renewal of nomination of The Maypole Inn, The Boars Head, The Post Office, and The Mechanics Institute, now known as Village Hall as Assets of Community Value

The Council **agreed** to defer discussions regarding this item to the next Parish Council meeting.

g. to ratify reply in connection with three complaints received by a resident

The Council **ratified** the reply to the resident in connection with three complaints received regarding discussions by Members of an agenda item at two Parish Council meetings, as well as a complaint about delayed action by the Parish Council. The Council had **decided** to advise the resident that the Council is a statutory body and all its meetings must be open to the public and the press. Public and press can be excluded only by a resolution, if publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, or for some other reason stated in the resolution and arising out of the business. The principle of transparency and openness suggest that the actual debate and the decision regarding proposals in recognition of 40 years' service to the community by former Councillor Chris Moorby as both District and Parish Councillor in June 2023 and regarding the notice of vacancy in the office of Parish Councillor in October 2023, should be in public. The Council had **agreed** that the nature and content of the second complaint was such that it had signposted the resident to the NYC Monitoring Officer as they are the Principal Authority to consider an investigation into the conduct of Members and the Council as a whole.

Regarding the complaint in respect of the delay of publicising the notice of vacancy, the Council had not established the new officers' contacts at the North Yorkshire Council until August and had **decided** to deliberately delay publicising the vacancy a couple of weeks more in order to give electors the opportunity after the summer holidays to request that the vacancy be filled by by-election rather than co-option.

h. village green matters

- 1 The Council **ratified** the reply in connection with correspondence received from the owner of 4 Back Green regarding scaffolding put up by the owners of Back Green Barn. The Council had **decided** to give permission to the owners of Back Green Barn to put up scaffolding to carry out essential repairs in June 2023 and write to the owners of 4 Back Green to move the permanently parked horse box from Back Green forthwith. The Council had **noted** that temporary scaffolding had been erected by 11th September and had **agreed** that the owners of Back Green Barn were acting within the existing Deed of Easement they have with the Council. Furthermore, the Council is satisfied that the scaffolding is not obstructing the driving of a vehicle from the road through the narrow gap between the two properties to the side of 4 Back Green and into the agricultural field and the scaffolding is, therefore, not obstructing 4 Back Green's right of way. The Council had **reiterated** that a right of way is a right to drive over Parish Council owned land from point A to point B with a private vehicle only, whereby neither point A, nor point B is positioned on Parish Council owned land.

The Parish Council had also **reiterated** that parking of any vehicles is not allowed on any part of Back Green, including any rights of way and that this is an obstruction under the Victorian Laws and the Parish Council's By-Laws.

- 2 To **receive** an update regarding progress of court proceedings at Back Green and consider asking the Police for information in relation to all disturbances, public order incidents and crimes specifically for the area of Back Green under the Freedom of Information Act.

The Council **resolved** that item h.2 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.

Regarding the court proceedings the Council was **informed** that its solicitors are in the process of demonstrating to the Council's insurers the prospect of success as well as proportionality to progress this matter by issuing court proceedings.

The Council **resolved** to submit to the Police a request for information in relation to all disturbances, public order incidents and crimes specifically for the area of Back Green from 1 January 2020 to today under the Freedom of Information Act.

7.10 Finance

- a. The Council **resolved** to approve the Financial Statements and Report to 28th October and **noted** the total balance as £22,809.30.
- b. The Council **considered** the budget for the financial year 2024-2025 and was **informed** that, following the decision by the Council to allocate a sum in the budget for the recharging of costs for any by-elections by NYC from 1st April 2024, the NYC Election Officer has calculated this for the Council to be £3,400. The Council **agreed** to set the expenditure budget at £30,250 and **resolved** to precept the Billing Authority, NYC, for £28,000, an increase of 5.36%, thereby accepting that the receipts budget for the year, set at £28,200, is not fully covered.
- c. The Council **approved** the payment of the following accounts:-
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|---|---------|
| Vodafone (wifi Village Village Hall) | £ 30.45 |
| Npower (street light electricity October) | £194.45 |
| Sharon Press (Parish Magazine November) | £214.00 |
| Steve Prior (grass cutting October) | £452.01 |
| LP Village Hall (hall hire 5/10) | £ 25.00 |
| Harrison & Cross (check and repair of 5 RCT boxes) | £225.44 |
| Harrison & Cross (electrical connection to relocated defibrillator) | £109.26 |
| M. Hill (clerk's salary & expenses October) | £721.25 |
| Cllr Wood (expenses light bulbs in bus shelter) | £ 3.20 |
| D. Eastwood Garden Maintenance (spraying in front of pavilion) | £ 10.00 |
| G. Croll (defib expenses) | £ 35.18 |
| HSBC monthly bank charges | £ 8.00 |
- The Council **noted** receipt of £17.48 from HSBC as interest for October.

7.11 Reports on or Notice of meetings of Other Bodies

- * The Council has **received** the NYC polling district review consultation until 13 November and **noted** that no change to the polling station at LP Village Hall is proposed.
- * YDNPA: Parish planning training seminar follow up
- * The Council had received the Kirkby Lonsdale Coach Hire winter timetable for services 580/581/81/82 between Skipton, Settle, Ingleton, Kirkby Lonsdale and Lancaster and noted the service 580 between Skipton and Settle where the journeys at 11.45 from Skipton and 12.30 from Settle will now also run on Saturdays.
- * YLCA: White Rose Bulletin 6/10, 20/10; Law and Governance Bulletin October; NALC Chief Executive Bulletins;

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

The Acting Chair, Cllr Wood, **enquired** in relation to the organisation of Remembrance Sunday, and the Council **agreed** that Cllr Wood should order a poppy wreath.

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

- a. Regarding the possible availability of renting part of a field off Station Road from the trustees of the Hartley Educational Foundation, for the purpose of vehicles' parking, the Council was **informed** that this is not a feasible proposition.

7.14 Date and time of the next Parish Council meeting

The Council **confirmed** the date of the next Parish Council meeting as Thursday 7th December 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further business to conduct the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.15 pm.

Marijke Hill
Clerk to the Council