

LONG PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL
THURSDAY 3rd November 2022
MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Robert Wood (Chairman), Katy Attewell, Ann Kay, and Chris Moorby.

In attendance: Parish Council Clerk Marijke Hill, and two members of the public. County Councillor Simon Myers attended the meeting for 15 minutes.

7.1 Public participation session of up to 15 minutes to enable parishioners to comment on matters concerning the Parish. This will be conducted in accordance with paragraphs 3(e) and 3(f) of the Council's Standing Orders.

One resident participated at item 7.9g disposal of small area of land adjoining a property at 18 Main Street.

7.2 Apologies for absence have been received from Cllrs James Bellis, Steve Harris, and Liz Palmer.

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.
- c The Council had **contacted** the CDC Monitoring Officer in relation to resident's complaints regarding Councillors' and Clerk's conduct and **noted** the Monitoring Officer's reply that they may only consider investigating residents' allegations after receipt of a formal complaint by the residents. The Parish Councillors' position should be that until they have been found to have breached the Code of Conduct by the CDC Standards Committee Hearings Panel (following a complaint and subsequent investigation) there is nothing for them to answer. Whether a Councillor declares an interest or not is a personal matter for the Councillor after considering the Code of Conduct and their specific circumstances.
 The Parish Council **agreed** to continue to signpost the resident to the Monitoring Officer if and when further allegations are received.

7.4 Minutes of Meeting

The Council **resolved** that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 6, held on 6th October should be approved and signed by the 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

The Council **noted** there were no matters from previous meetings not otherwise included on the agenda reported.

7.6 To receive reports from Craven District and North Yorkshire County Councils, and the Police

- a. County Councillor Simon Myers **reiterated** that a meeting with Cllr Moorby and NYCC Highways will be arranged soon to look at the possibility of creating some safe on-street parking on the A65 in the Village.
 Regarding the creation of the new unitary Council, County Councillor Myers **reported** that this carries on at a pace with all of the fifteen work streams meeting and working up proposals as to how the new Council will operate. Councillor working groups, alongside the Council's scrutiny committees, will look into more detail at the policy issues that need resolving. One of the larger

issues is to bring together the Planning Policies of NYCC and the seven District and Borough Councils of Craven, Hambleton, Harrogate, Richmondshire, Ryedale, Scarborough and Selby. As District Councillor, Cllr Myers has funds available for application under the Ward Member Grant Scheme for the 'Warm Places project', and the Playing Fields.

Langcliffe Quarry has been transformed from a former waste management depot to a modern, flexible business space, featuring a range of business units extending from 1,000 to 8,000 square feet. It is expected that the new development will support around 30 full-time equivalent jobs. The scheme will also support preservation of the historic Hoffman Kiln and wider site through a long-term conservation management plan.

- b. As Chairman of the Licensing Committee, District Councillor Chris Moorby **reported** that Craven District Council has the most robust policy in place in relation to the mandatory placement of CCTV in all taxis and private hire vehicles, thus protecting both the drivers and the users. The County Council has launched a consultation on a single Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy for the new North Yorkshire Council. The new policy seeks to ensure that the public continues to be provided with safe and accessible hackney carriages and private hire vehicles and ensure a consistent regulatory framework for the trade across the county and the new policy will be considered by the NY Council with the aim of implementing the policy on the commencement of the new authority on 1st April 2023.
- c. The Council had **received** the written police report, which contained 11 incidents during the period between 4 and 30 October 2022, notably an incident of harassment on Back Green, which the Parish Council had reported to the Police. The Council **noted** the Police's advice to continue to report any such incidents, especially if there are verbal or physical altercations.

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

a. Applications

- 1 C/52/620E – full planning permission for re-siting of existing secure container; install feather boarding to all elevations and roof over with plastic-coated roof sheets (part retrospective) at Long Preston Playing Field, School Lane. 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**. The Council was **informed** that CDC will strive to determine this planning application before the integration to a unitary council on 1st April 2023.
- 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 CDC: 2022/23966/FUL – Conversion of existing farm buildings to 3 no. dwellings, Borks Hill, Sour Dale Lane. **Not yet decided**
- 5 YDNPA: C/52/93C – full planning permission for conversion of barn to 4 no. cottages for local occupancy or short term holiday lets, Maypole Barn, Main Street. **Not yet decided**
- 6 YDNPA: C/52/742 – householder planning permission for erection of single and double storey extension to rear of property, 4, Greenbank Terrace. **Not yet decided**

c. Other Planning Matters

- 1 alleged use of property for the sale of used cars on Back Green

The Council had **contacted** the YDNPA Planning Enforcement regarding the alleged use of 4 Back Green for the sale of used cars and **noted** the Planning Enforcement Officer's reply that an enforcement case has been logged and it would depend on the level of business activity at the property as to whether there is any breach of planning control. The Officer will contact the Council once the matter is investigated.

7.8 To consider action regarding parish maintenance matters

a. street lighting matters

- 1 The Council was **informed** that it had still not received a reply from NYCC Street Lighting Officer regarding the electricity connection to the newly erected column at Magna Print nor the installation of an additional street light at Greengates Lane and **decided** to ask County Councillor Simon Myers to address both issues with the Street Lighting Officer on behalf of the Parish Council.
- 2 The Council was **informed** that it had erroneously reported street light 21 at the Village Hall as faulty to the contractor and **decided** that Cllr Moorby would contact Harrison & Cross to carry out a repair on street light 22 on the Village Hall snooker room.

b. Playing Field matters

- 1 The Council had **contacted** the CDC Environmental Protection Officer regarding the requirement for putting up signage and **noted** the reply that the Parish Council has a duty to ensure the area is as safe as possible and that putting up signage will assist the Council achieving its duty. The Council **decided** to purchase a sign to say that 'people use the playing fields at their own risk', and a few signs saying 'no dogs allowed'. The Council **agreed** that Cllr Wood should make enquiries in terms of availability and cost of the signage.
- 2 The Council was **informed** that the Halloween event 2022, held at the pavilion, was a great success with approximately 50 people attending.

c. tree assessment quotations

The Council had **contacted** a further four tree surgeon firms from the YDNPA approved arborist list, as the trees are located in a conservation area in the National Park and was **informed** that only one of these had replied not to be in a position to provide a quotation. The Council **agreed** that, if no further reply was received within two weeks, it should accept the quotation by Tree Tops Forestry to carry out the tree assessment.

d. telephone kiosk

The Council was **informed** that the signs have been delivered and **agreed** that Cllr Wood should install these in due course.

The Council has not had a reply from the Heritage Group to come forward with their ideas about the future use of the kiosk.

e. lengthsman services

The Council was **informed** that the lengthsman had provided the invoice for works carried out this year and **agreed** to invoice the YDNPA for £250 for carrying out maintenance work on four PROWs on the National Park Authority's behalf.

Cllr Wood **reported** that the lengthsman will carry out the necessary maintenance on the benches soon.

f. NYCC Highways matters

- 1 The Council was **informed** that NYCC Highways has completed the works on the blocked gully on Main Street.
- 2 The Council had **contacted** the YDNPA Area Ranger regarding digging out of the soil and replacing with tarmac on Todd Style Footpath and **noted** the reply that Todd Style Footpath is

one of the 'Urban Sealed Pathways', which has recently migrated over to NYCC Highways' control to maintain. The Council **agreed** to monitor the situation and report back at the next Parish Council meeting.

g. YDNPA matters

- 1 The Council was **informed** that the YDNPA Area Ranger Rob Ashford has been given permission by the property owner on Pendle View to install the last of the 'footpath only' signs on their wall.
- 2 The Council was **informed** that some barbed wire has been placed on the fence on a Public Right Of Way between New Pasture Lane and Scalehaw Lane, near New Pasture Plantation along the beck going towards the reservoir and **agreed** to contact the YDNPA Area Ranger to investigate the matter as barbed wire on a PROW may be illegal.

7.9 To consider action regarding parish matters other than maintenance

a. Speeding matters

The Council **agreed** to consider writing a letter to NYCC Chief Executive regarding average speed cameras and the installation of a 20mph zone on either side of the A65 in Long Preston as well as to consider sharing its VAS data with NYCC Highways at the next Parish Council meeting.

b. Parking matters

The Council **decided** to defer discussions regarding the detailed report from the Parking Issues Workgroup, which identified specific areas of concerns, as well as general and specific options, to the next Parish Council meeting.

c. telephone kiosk

This item was discussed at 7.8d.

d. Remembrance Sunday

The Council was **informed** that the Remembrance Wreath has been ordered and that the Chairman, Cllr Bellis, will lay the wreath at the Cenotaph on the Maypole Green on Remembrance Sunday 13th November.

e. organisation of the Christmas Lights Switch-on Event 2022

The Council **decided** to have a Christmas tree on The Green and to ask Dinsdale Moorland Services to consider sponsoring the Long Preston Christmas tree in return for a small advert sign as in previous years.

The Council **resolved** to ask Harrison & Cross to check the RCDs to the Christmas lights on The Green and **agreed** that Cllr Moorby should make enquiries if additional Christmas lights could be purchased.

The Council **agreed** to facilitate the Christmas lights switch-on event for the community on Saturday 3rd December and to book and pay for the Village Hall.

f. nominations to the Craven District Council Legacy Sub-Committee

The Council was **informed** that Cllr Attewell had submitted the CDC Legacy Sub-Committee application form.

g. disposal of small area of land adjoining a property at 18 Main Street

The Council was **informed** that the Parish Council is not the owner of the Baptist Chapel Graveyard, but merely the lessor of this area of land, and that the lease contains covenants and restrictions. The Council **resolved** to contact the owner of Roselea that it is not the owner of the land and **agreed** to not further pursue this matter.

h. Village Greens and Back Green

The Council **resolved** that item 7.9h2 and 7.9h3 are 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.

- 1 The Council **ratified** the approval to provide information under the Freedom of Information Act regarding Parish Council legal advice paid for via precepted funds in relation to the dispute with the owners of 4 Back Green. The Council **noted** that the resident has been informed that a payment of £750 to Wellers Hedley was made in September 2021; a payment of £956 was made in November 2021; and a payment of £1,650 is to be approved at this Parish Council meeting, all amounts exclusive of VAT.
- 2 The Council had **received** correspondence from the Hartley Educational Foundation regarding the track leading to the field of Back Green Barn as well as enquiries in relation to some items being discussed in private session. The Council **decided** to reply to the Chair of the Trustees to the HEF that it recognises it is accountable for the quality of its decision-making and transparency in the decision-making process and access to the information upon which decisions have been made can enhance this accountability.
However, the Parish Council needs to be presented the full picture and the free and frank exchange of views for the purposes of deliberation should not be inhibited. By discussing the item in public, Councillors may inadvertently disclose the personal data of a third party. As a result, the Parish Council may not be fully informed and this would have a negative impact on the quality of decision making, which is clearly not in the public interest. Although discussions may be held in private session, all decisions are recorded in the Minutes, which are open to the public. In regards the rubble and material on the track leading to the field of Back Green Barn, the Council **agreed** to write to the HEF that this is a legal right of way, and that it had asked a resident on this track to remove some rubble and matter within the curtilage of their property, in order all residents abutting this track have unrestricted access to their property as is required by law.
- 3 The Council had **received** confirmation of continuation of parking and it had **instructed** its solicitors to institute legal proceedings against the owners of 4 Back Green. The Council **agreed** that its solicitors should appoint a litigation member of their team to provide clarification regarding the next steps and the implications for the two parties involved.
The Council had **received** two items of correspondence from the owners of Back Green and it **agreed** to reply to them that it had noted the contents of their correspondence.

7.10 Finance

- a. The Council **resolved** to approve the Financial Statements and Report to 28th October and **noted** the total balance of both accounts as £27,499.86.
- b. The Council **approved** the payment of the following accounts for November:-

Vodafone direct debit wifi Hall	£ 26.85
Sharon Press (Parish Magazine October)	£ 231.50
Steve Prior (village green maintenance October 2022 & expenses)	£ 452.03
Npower (street light electricity October)	£ 131.06
Wellers Hedley (legal advice)	£1,980.00
LP Village Hall (hall hire 6/10)	£ 20.00
M. Hill (clerk's salary & expenses October)	£ 726.34
Cllr Wood (expenses benches Danish oil)	£ 42.05
Cllr Wood (expenses HM Land Registry search)	£ 6.00
Harrison & Cross (checking SL21 on Village Hall)	£ 18.00
LP Village Hall (electricity costs for 2 lights on building)	£ 100.00
D. Bussey (lengthsman services to November 2022)	£ 412.50
HSBC monthly bank charges for October	£ 9.77

The Council **noted** receipt of £4.25 from HSBC as interest for August.

- c. The Council **agreed** to defer discussions on the draft budget for the Financial Year 2023-2024 to the next Parish Council meeting.
- d. Cllr Attewell **verified** the bank reconciliation for the 2nd quarter of the Financial Year 2022-2023, July to September 2022, and **reported** that no issues have been found.
- e. The Council was **informed** that the HSBC bank is in the process of verifying the completed, signed, bank mandate form and those Members who are not a customer with HSBC will need to provide identification to the Settle Branch.

7.11 Reports on or Notice of meetings of Other Bodies

- * NYCC: Devolution Public Consultation until 16 December; third online briefing on the transition to North Yorkshire Council, 28 or 30 November; consultation on Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy until 19 January 2023.
- * YDNPA: Autumn 2022 newsletter
- * CDC: invitation to Craven District of Sanctuary Awareness Event 2 November.
- * YLCA: White Rose Bulletin 14/10; 28/10; Training Bulletin; NALC Chief Executive's 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.

There were no matters not included on this agenda which the Chairman considered nevertheless should be addressed as a matter of urgency.

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

- a. The Council to consider terminating the lease for the Baptist Chapel Graveyard.

7.14 To review the clerk's salary and working hours

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.

- a. The Council **resolved** to increase the Clerk's working hours from 40 to 45 hours per month with effect from 1st October 2022.
- b. The Council **noted** the 2022 – 2023 National Salary Award for NJC employed staff and **resolved** to increase the Clerk's salary in accordance with the award.
- c. The Council **approved** the payment of £616.50 to the Clerk as salary for October at the new rate of £13.70 per hour.
- d. The Council **approved** the back payments of the Clerk's salary to adjust to the new salary award the months of April to September inclusive of £240.00

7.15 Date and time of the next Parish Council meeting

The Council **confirmed** the date of the next Parish Council meeting as Thursday 1st December 2022 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.55.

Marijke Hill
Clerk to the Council