

**LONG PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**THURSDAY 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023**  
**MINUTES Meeting 8 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.

**8.1a** The Council **welcomed** newly elected Parish Councillor Gareth Croll and received his Declaration of Interests. Cllr Croll signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**8.1b Present:** Cllrs Robert Wood (Acting Chairman), James Bellis, Gareth Croll, Steve Harris, Ann Kay, and Liz Palmer.

**Apologies** for absence received from Katy Attewell.

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

**8.1c** The Council **considered** the reason for absence provided by Cllr Attewell and **resolved** acceptance of this as relevant.

**8.2 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.

**8.3 Minutes of Meeting**

The Council **resolved** that the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 7, held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, should be approved and signed by the Acting Chair, Cllr Wood, as a true and accurate record.

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

- a. state of the Christmas lights  
Cllr Harris **reported** that, following the adverse wintery and windy weather in the last few weeks, some of the Christmas lights strings have broken, particularly on Kayley Hill. The Council **decided** to take down all Christmas lights as soon after Christmas as possible, and store these.

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

- a. PCSO Jayne Grace reported on the police incidents report, which contained 19 incidents during the period between 30 October and 6 November 2023, notably a couple of reports of a suspected dog attack on sheep at Mearbeck.

PCSO Grace left the meeting

- b. County Cllr Simon Myers **reported** on the replacement of the collapsed culvert on Green Gates Lane that NYC intends submitting a bid for funding for the works, anticipated to be circa £60K. The increase from the original estimate is likely to come from annual price increases and also due to the number of utilities around which means it would be safer and more practicable to use vacuumed excavation for the works, actual cost of this is likely to be significantly more than conventional excavation rates, but may be quicker. Due to the timescale of works, 4 weeks, and

the access issues with mainly the school, Highways anticipates the most ideal time would be school summer holidays. NYC remains sceptical that the works will actually cure the problems that have been reported but it would replace a poor section of highway culvert and prove the responsibility for the problem lies with others.

NYC Cllr Simon Myers also reported about the devolution deal, bringing investment of more than £540 million over the next 30 years to the region, which included an elected mayor who will lead a regional combined authority for both North Yorkshire and York and who will have more decision-making powers over issues such as adult education, transport, skills, jobs and housing. A legal order for York and North Yorkshire has now been laid in Parliament, marking another step towards a devolution deal becoming law in early 2024. The new mayor will be elected on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024.

County Cllr Myers left the meeting

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

### a. Applications

- 1 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/52/76A – 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. **Awaiting legal agreement**
- 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. **Withdrawn**
- 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. **Awaiting legal agreement**
- 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). **Approved conditionally**
- 7 NYC: ZA23/25431/HH Two storey side extension, Railway View, 12 Ribblesdale Estate. **Not yet decided**
- 8 YDNPA: C/52/77E Householder planning permission for installation of solar panels on the front roof elevation, 4, Rileys Croft. **Not yet decided**
- 9 YDNPA: notification under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to fell one ash and reduce and reshape by 10% a small group of trees consisting of 1 ash, 1 elm, 1 cherry and 1 rowan, at Beckstone House. **No objection raised.** The Council **noted** that the YDNPA has made a recommendation that one replacement tree of native species be planted within the first planting season after felling.
- 10 YDNPA: notification under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to remove one privet and one willow species located at Ivy Cottage. **No objection raised.**
- 11 YDNPA: notification under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to remove one rowan located at Ash Park, West End, Long Preston. **No objection raised.** The Council **noted** that the

YDNPA has made a recommendation that one replacement tree of native species be planted within the first planting season after felling.

**c. Other and additional Planning Matters**

- 1 The Council **agreed** it had no comments to make on the NYC draft Housing Strategy 2024-2029 consultation paper.
- 2 The Council **agreed** it had no comments to make on the NYC draft Statement of Community Involvement consultation.
- 3 The Council **noted** the NYC North Yorkshire Local Plan Launch briefing for Parish Councils, 5 December

**8.7 To consider action regarding parish maintenance matters**

a. street lighting matters

- 1 In relation to a low level electricity supply at Todd Style Footpath, the Council was **informed** that a solar powered pillar is not feasible and **resolved** to not pursue this project further.

b. Playing Field matters

- 1 Regarding the repair of the medium risk items of play equipment at the Playing Field as highlighted by the RoSPA Inspection Report the Council **agreed** to arrange a site meeting with a local contractor to provide an estimate of the costs involved.  
Cllr Wood **reported** that a side gate and fencing around the car park area, which would complete the project as agreed, is estimated by Timberworks to cost £595 + VAT. The Council **resolved** to accept the estimate and **agreed** for Cllr Wood to proceed.
- 2 The Council had **received** correspondence requesting to allow dogs on the Playing Field, at least for half the year, October to March. The Council was **informed** that the general advice on all fenced off playgrounds is that these areas are for children only, and adults if accompanied by a child and that dogs are not allowed in any playground. Furthermore, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) describes the problem of dogs in children's play areas on their website as a major health and injury hazard, such as the risk of Toxocariasis, a rare infection caused by roundworm parasites to which children and young adults are affected due to contact with contaminated soil or sand within play areas; dog faeces can also carry E.coli and hepatitis; and the risk of dog bites and attacks. The Council **resolved** that dogs continue to be not allowed in the Long Preston Playing Field during any time of the year as this would represent a major health and injury hazard.
- 3 Cllr Wood **reported** that the fire extinguishers at the pavilion need replacement or servicing and the Council **agreed** that Cllr Palmer should make enquiries and report back at the next Parish Council meeting.

c. bus shelter maintenance

The Council had **contacted** one local contractor to provide an estimate of the maintenance costs to the bus shelter and the notice boards and it is awaiting a reply. The Council **agreed** for Cllr Palmer to liaise with the other local contractor asking them to contact the Parish Council.

d. lengthsman services

There were no matters reported.

e. NYC Highways matters

- 1 sewage leak on School Lane  
The Council **noted** that NYC Cllr Simon Myers reported at 8.5b that the NYC Highways Authority is intended to carry out the work to replace the collapsed culvert as well as some gullies

connected to it, which will take 4 weeks, at the summer holidays next year. The Council **agreed** to write to NYC Cllr Simon Myers that a closure of School Lane and Green Gates Lane for 4 weeks will seriously affect the livelihood of about 6 farmers if they cannot access the main road. The Council asked Cllr Myers to liaise with the Highways Authority to find a practical solution in order the farming businesses can carry on, whilst the work on the culvert and gullies is being carried out.

2 any other Highways matters

There were no other Highways matters reported.

f. YDNPA matters

There were no YDNPA matters reported.

g. litter bin matters

1 The Council had **contacted** NYC Waste Management asking to either increase the frequency of emptying the dog waste bin on Lover's Walk at the junction with Back Lane or to replace this small bin with a larger bin. The Council **noted** the response from the Waste Management Officer that reduced staffing levels over the past few weeks had impacted on the street cleansing services but that regular collections will resume again soon. The Council **agreed** to not purchase a larger bin at a cost of £249.80 + VAT as this would need to be moved to the other end of the cul de sac to make easier access with the NYC refuse vehicle.

2 The Council was **informed** that the bin on The Green has not been emptied and **agreed** to make enquiries with NYC Waste Management.

h. any other maintenance issues

The Council was **informed** that the 'no parking' stakes have been collected from Timberworks and **agreed** that Cllrs Bellis and Harris should place these on the village greens at their discretion.

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

a. speeding issues

The Council **considered** relocating the VAS and **agreed** for Cllr Bellis to proceed.

b. D-Day 80 event on 6 June 2024

The Council **considered** asking the Heritage Group to organise an exhibition about Robert Slater and **agreed** to make enquiries.

c. 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 **considered** a renewal of nomination of the four buildings as Assets of Community Value and **agreed** to present a nomination form for the Maypole Inn; and the Post Office for submission to NYC as Assets of Community Value at the next Parish Council meeting.

d. village green matters

1 To **receive** an update regarding progress of court proceedings at Back Green.

2 To **receive** an update regarding information from the Police 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 items d.1 and d.2 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 was **informed** that negotiations between its insurers and its solicitor in respect of indemnifying solicitors' fees are continuing and that the Council's insurers confirmed to cover a civil claim for trespass and nuisance only, should the case proceed to court, as the Council's policy would not cover action related to a criminal offence. The Council was also **informed** that its solicitors are suggesting instructing Counsel to provide an Opinion on prospects and that the insurers should either fund Counsel's Opinion directly or refund the Parish Council if that Opinion is positive.  
The Council **agreed** to note the above and await the outcome of negotiations.
- 2 The Council has **submitted** a request for information to the Police 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 and **noted** the reply from the Legal Officer (Civil Disclosure) that North Yorkshire Police have 1 reported incident in the Back Green area of Long Preston from 1 January 2020 to 22 November 2023.

### 8.9 Finance

- a. The Council **resolved** to approve the Financial Statements and Report to 28<sup>th</sup> November and **noted** the total balance as £20,803.92.
- b. The Council **noted** the 2023-2024 National Salary Award for NJC employed staff and **approved** payment to the Clerk as salary for November at the new rate of £14.95 per hour, as well as the back payments of salary to the Clerk to adjust to the new salary award for the months of April to October inclusive.
- c. The Council **approved** the payment of the following accounts:-
 

Vodafone (wifi Village Village Hall)	£ 30.45
Npower (street light electricity November)	£220.44
Sharon Press (Parish Magazine December)	£214.00
LP Village Hall (hall hire 2/11)	£ 25.00
LP Village Hall (hall hire 2/12 for Christmas lights switch-on event)	£ 60.00
M. Hill (clerk's salary & expenses November)	£791.85
M. Hill (clerk's back payments of salary April to October)	£315.00
HSBC monthly bank charges	£ 8.00

The Council **noted** receipt of £22.86 from HSBC as interest for November.
- d. The Council **considered** financial assistance to the organisers of the Christmas Lights Switch-on Event  
The Council had **received** correspondence from the Chair on behalf of the Long Preston Playing Field and Mayday Committees, who have volunteered to organise the Village Christmas Light Switch On Event this year, asking for financial assistance to fund this year's event, held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December, in order the current funds could be used towards improving and renewing of lights and decorations next year. The Council **agreed** to give a donation of £130.00 to the organisers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

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

- \* NYC: Local Nature Recovery Strategy introductory webinar 21 November; Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) consultation until 31 January 2024; December Climate Change Newsletter
- \* YLCA: White Rose Bulletin 3/11, 17/11, 1/12; Law and Governance Bulletin November; NALC Chief Executive Bulletins; training programme January to March 2024

**8.11 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.

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

- a. NYC: application under Schedule 2(4) of the Commons Act 2006 to register Western Green, Long Preston, as common land.

The Council **noted** that this application, submitted to NYC by the Open Spaces Society, ensures that Western Green remains common land and is not registered as village green as the Parish Council had decided at its meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> October.

- b. The Council was **informed** that there will be a Mayoral Election on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 and that, therefore, the Council will not be able to have the Village Hall main room that day, but that the upstairs room is available.
- c. The Council **noted** that NYC Highways have completed the resurfacing of Todd Style footpath.

**8.13 Date and time of the next Parish Council meeting**

The Council **considered** the date of the next Parish Council meeting and **agreed** to postpone the scheduled meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> January and **confirmed** the date of the next Parish Council meeting as Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further business to conduct the Acting Chair closed the meeting at 10.35 pm.

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