

LONG PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL
THURSDAY 6th January 2022
MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Staveley (Chairman), Bellis, and Moorby.

In attendance: Marijke Hill (Parish Clerk & RFO), and two members of the public.

9.1 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.

Miss Scholes asked if the Council would consider if they could carry out some repairs to the right of way to the western side of their property. The Council **considered** this matter at item 9.9c.

Miss Scholes notified the Council that maintenance work to the roof along the eastern side of their property needs completing and asked permission for scaffolding to be erected. The Council referred to the Deed of Easement and **agreed** to grant permission, provided that the green is reinstated and any damage repaired when the works are completed.

9.2 Apologies for absence: Cllr Lis.

9.3 Code of Conduct and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

- a Councillor Moorby **recorded** a Personal Interest in relation to item 9.8c: to receive quotations for the grass cutting contract 2022.
- b No requests were made for dispensation in connection with items on this Agenda.

9.4 Minutes of Meeting

- a. The Council **resolved** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting 8 held 2nd December 2021 should be **confirmed** and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Staveley, as a true and accurate record.
- b. The Council was **informed** that some pages of the publicised Parish Council minutes had been removed from the notice board, notably the pages containing decisions regarding the Back Green Legal Advice from the October and November meetings. The Council **agreed** that removal of pages from the Parish Council notice board is theft and it will prosecute any person if found caught. The Council **agreed** to improve the lock on the notice board.
The Council **considered** publicising the minutes in the Parish Magazine and **agreed** to contact the Parish Magazine Committee to make enquiries in terms of costs.

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

There were no updates on matters from previous meetings reported.

9.6 To receive reports from Craven District and North Yorkshire County Councils, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and the Police

- a. County Councillor Staveley **reported** about the covid-19 Omicron variant, which is becoming increasingly widespread and is putting pressure on staffing resources across the wider community and the County Council. In the last 3 weeks the North Yorkshire 7 day average has risen by around 1000. Although it is widely reported that the Omicron variant is possibly up to a third less severe than the Delta variant there is an impact in terms of hospital admissions which have risen in the last week. The experts are predicting that the peak in terms of the Omicron surge will be in the next 3-4 weeks.

The County Council is currently going through its process of budget setting for the financial year 2022/2023, which will be the final year of the existing two tier system and NYCC as we know it. Consideration will be given to the medium term financial strategy of the services the County

Council delivers moving forward into the new unitary arrangement. Along with the inevitable repercussions of the pandemic, there are substantial cost increases across the care sector and the wider economy. This will inevitably lead to an increase in the County Council tax precept, but all options are being considered, including use of reserves, to mitigate the cost to residents. Applications for the current round of ward member locality budgets must be in by 31st January.

- b. There was no report from District Councillor Moorby.
- c. The Council had **received** the written police report, which contained 11 incidents during the period between 1 December 2021 and 4 January 2022, all minor.

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

a Applications

The Council noted that no new planning applications have been received.

b. Decisions

- 1 CDC: 2019/21304/FUL and amendment – conversion of Field Barn to a 1 bedroom dwelling with associated access & car parking. Conversion of roadside barn to a 4 bedroom dwelling with associated access & car parking. Partial demolition of a storage barn and conversion of the retained part into a 3 bedroom dwelling with associated access & car parking. Construction of a garage block, and conversion of field barn to a 1 bedroom dwelling, Bend Gate House. **Not yet decided**
- 2 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**
- 3 YDNPA: C/52/626D – Householder planning permission for erection of single storey link between existing two storey dwelling and existing single storey additional accommodation, alterations to rear raised patio, window and door openings, additional roof lights, timber gates to side of premises and reinstatement of metal railings and entrance gate to existing front wall, 1, Ivy Cottages, 31 Main Street. **Not yet decided**
- 4 CDC: 2021/23460/OUT – Outline application for the construction of agricultural workers dwelling including access with all other matters reserved for future consideration, Land At Cow Bridge Farm, Flat Lane. **Not yet decided**
- 5 YDNPA: notification under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for minor pruning works to 2 no. Cherries and 1 no. Silver Birch at Glebe House, Church Street. **No objection raised**

c. Other Planning Matters

There were no other planning matters reported.

9.8 To consider action regarding parish maintenance matters

a. street lighting matters

- 1 The Council had **received** a further representation regarding a bright LED light on Chapel Walk shining into their bedroom at Ivy End, Main Green. The Council **agreed** this is a NYCC street light and the resident will be given the contact details.
- 2 Cllr Bellis **reported** that the area at the Maypole Inn is inadequately lit. The Council will look into the possibility of installing an additional street light and report back at the next Parish Council meeting.
- 3 The Council **resolved** to make enquiries with NYCC with a view to informing us of their criteria for adopting parish council street lights into their energy and maintenance programme.

- b. Playing Fields matters
 - The Council was **informed** that the considerable damage to the shed after stormy weather is unrepairable following professional assessment. The Council **agreed** to obtain a quotation for a new standard shed.
 - The Council **agreed** to discuss future plans for the replacement of some items of play equipment at the next Parish Council meeting.
- c. grass cutting services

The Council was not quorate to make a decision regarding the grass cutting contract 2022. The item will be considered at the next Parish Council meeting.
- d. lengthsman services

There was no lengthsman services report.
- e. Kayley Hill tree maintenance

There was no report from County Cllr Staveley regarding the trees maintenance responsibility on Kayley Hill.
- f. land at Bridge End

The Council **noted** the reply from the NYCC Flood Risk Development Management Engineer, who assessed the risk associated with the woody debris. The fallen trees were identified but these were not significantly obstructing the flow of water as the culvert under the A65 is of significant size and, therefore, there is no immediate heightened risk of flooding in this particular location.

Regarding responsibility for the land, the area is not registered and is believed to be common land and unless the land is owned by the County Council, it does not inherit riparian responsibilities if land is unregistered. The County Council does have permissive powers to enter land to undertake work to alleviate risk, but this is done as a last resort in accordance with our protocol (Culverting Works and Drainage Maintenance Protocol 2019 North Yorkshire County Council). Work is prioritised in accordance with risk and generally where internal flooding to properties has occurred. The County Council does not, therefore, intend to undertake any maintenance work in this area at this time, but, nonetheless, will continue to monitor the situation, and if a heightened risk is identified, they will re-assess the options available.
- g. NYCC Highways matters

There were no issues relating to NYCC Highways reported.

9.9 To consider action regarding parish matters other than maintenance

- a. speeding

The Council **agreed** to send a letter to NYCC Leader Cllr Carl Les, and NYCC Executive Member for Access Cllr Don Mackenzie, asking them to implement a County wide policy to support 20mph as the default speed limit with higher limits only where the needs of vulnerable road users are fully taken into account.
- b. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons – 2nd June 2022

The Council **agreed** in principle to partake in this event and to discuss further details at the next Parish Council meeting.
- c. Back Green

The Council **resolved** that this matter 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 its policy in the past to offer legal Deeds of Easements to residents whose property affronts a registered Village Green is no longer in line with the recently received Legal Advice. The Solicitors' Advice states that no rights other than statutory pedestrian rights should be allowed over village greens with the exceptions given in the legal advice.

The Council **ratified** its decision to withdraw negotiations for any legal right of way to 4 Back Green Cottages and to respect the two existing rights of way by prescription, to pass and re-pass over Back Green to the front door with a private vehicle only; and to pass and re-pass over Back Green to the side of the property with an agricultural vehicle only.

The Council **reiterated** its position that parking on any part of Back Green or on any right of way is not permitted as parking is an obstruction. The Council **agreed** to replace 'no parking' signs on its village greens where required, subject to assessment of the current condition of signage, at the next Parish Council meeting. The Council also **reiterated** its position that the flower-beds should be removed from Back Green as was verbally agreed at a site meeting late spring 2021 between three Members of the Parish Council and the two affected residents; recently denied by one of the two residents.

The Council was **informed** that negotiations with Northern Gas Networks are still ongoing for them to remove the track to 4 Back Green Cottages and to reinstate the village green, but that the Parish Council has at no point suggested or requested the removal of the gas pipe connection as has been suggested by a resident.

The Council had **received** a request under the Freedom of Information Act and it **resolved** to send three papers following appropriate advice. Regarding the other eight pieces of information requested, the Council carried out a Public Interest Test and **resolved** that provision of the additional papers was not in the public interest.

The Council **considered** the matter raised in the public participation session and **resolved** to ask its solicitors for further advice.

9.10 Finance

- a. The Council **resolved** to approve the Financial Statements and Report to 28th December and **noted** the total balance as £14,837.69 of which £5,733.54 in revenue and £9,104.15 in capital funds.

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

Vodafone direct debit wifi Hall	£ 24.57
E.ON (electricity December)	£106.83
C & R Outdoor Lighting Ltd (street light shield at Ivy Dene)	£ 72.22
Clerk (salary & expenses December)	£652.32

The Council **noted** receipts of £0.10 and £0.09 from HSBC as interest for November and December respectively.

The Council **noted** receipt of £985.00 as adverts and an expenditure of £23.76 as expenses to the Parish Magazine Committee.

The Council **noted** receipt of £4.60 from Electricity North West as annual wayleave payments.

The Council **noted** that HSBC has introduced monthly bank charges of £8.00 for maintaining the account and £11.15 for activity charges. This amount for handling cash and cheques was carried out on behalf of the Parish Magazine Committee and will be deducted from their budget.

- c. The Council **resolved** to precept the Billing Authority, Craven District Council, for £26,000, an increase of 8.3%. Due to the impact on reserves of the abnormal professional costs incurred during the current financial year and the requirement for further expenditure, the Council **decided** it necessary to increase the precept by such percentage to maintain the Parish Council's financial position.

9.11 Reports on or Notice of meetings of Other Bodies

- * Local Government Reorganisation: presentation given at the online briefings for parish and town councils and parish meetings on the transition to a new unitary council for North Yorkshire and FAQs
- * NYCC: Skipton and Ripon Area Constituency Committee Meeting 7th January 2022
- * Craven Connection bus service revised Saturday timetable
- * CDC: Invitation to an Impact of Tourism (Zoom) Meeting 12/1; Craven Community Champions Awards 2021
- * PFCC: Precept consultation until midnight on Thursday 13 January 2022
- * YLCA: White Rose Bulletin 3/12, 10/12, 17/12; Law and Governance Bulletin 3/12, 23/12; Webinar Training Programme December 2021 to March 2021; Craven Branch meeting dates 2022

9.12 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 to be addressed as a matter of urgency

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

Cllr Moorby **reported** about the very successful Christmas Lights Event on 4th December, held in the Village Hall and organised by Ann Kay and Katie Attewell. The Council thanked all volunteers, who have been involved in the Christmas lights display, particularly Cllr Moorby, as well as John Dinsdale who sponsored the Christmas tree. The Council **agreed** it would facilitate future Christmas Lights Events by hiring the Village Hall as long as members of the community would organise such event.

9.14 Date and time of the next Parish Council meeting

The Council **confirmed** that the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 3rd February 2022 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55 pm.

Marijke Hill
Clerk to the Council