

MINUTES OF THE RUFFORTH WITH KNAPTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD BY
ZOOM ON MONDAY 11 JANUARY 2021 AT 7.30pm

Present: Cllr. Peter Rollings, Chairman (PR), Cllr Anne Powell, Vice Chairman (AP)
Cllr Helen Butterworth (HB) Cllr. Andrew Mate (AM)
Cllr John Flynn (JF) Cllr Jane Wright (JW) Cllr Mark Reynolds (MR)

In Attendance: Ward Cllr James Barker (JB), Stephanie Warden (Parish Clerk)

122 Public Comments: There were no members of the public present

123 Apologies and Reason for Absence: Cllr. Nick Murray (NM), Ward Cllr Anne Hook (AH)

124 To receive Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (not previously declared):
there were no declarations of interest

125 Minutes of Previous Meetings: Minutes of 7 December 2020 were proposed by AM, seconded by HB and agreed and would be signed as a true record.

126 Ward Councillors' Comments:

- The new fund for play areas has been set up. Applications for a grant should be in by 28 February 2021. The link is www.york.gov.uk/PlayAreaImprovements
- The budget for 2021/22 is being prepared and the public are being asked to make comments. With income being significantly reduced by COVID and costs being increased, especially with Adult and Social Care, the budget will be very tight and even more savings are being sought from each department.
- The public can get involved in the budget process as follows:
 - Complete the **online survey** which closes on Sunday 31 January at www.york.gov.uk/budget There is a link to the budget survey on the new Parish Council website
- Cllr. Widdowson is scheduled to give the same talk to UPPC on 11 January as she did to Rufforth with Knapton PC. If she mentions any updates to the plans for the Northern Forest, AH will pass them on.
- COVID continues to go from bad to worse at the moment. Help of all kinds can still be accessed via covid19help@york.gov.uk or 01904 551550.
- There are also business grants for businesses affected by increasing restrictions. The council is urging qualifying companies who have not yet made a claim to make sure they are not missing out.
 - All businesses that have applied for and are receiving grants in Tier 2 **do not** need to reapply for Tier 3 grants. The council will automatically process the grants under existing schemes.
 - The council will automatically register and pay the appropriate grants to any business which has successfully applied for:
 - The Local Restrictions Grants brought in to support business through Tier 2
 - The Additional Restrictions Grant introduced to support businesses which were severely impacted, but not forced to close during November's lockdown.
 - Tier 3 grants include:

- Businesses forced to close by law.
- Businesses not forced to close but with trade reduced by over 75% due to the pandemic can receive between £500 and £3000 for every two weeks we remain in Tier 3.
- If businesses haven't applied for a grant recently and think they may be eligible, apply straight away via www.york.gov.uk/COVID19BusinessGrants.
- Council staff are once again ready to put in a huge effort to get this money into businesses' bank accounts as quickly as possible.
- JB reported that though planning for affordable housing at Boroughbridge Road did not get approved the applicants were likely to appeal the decision, JB felt there was a strong case for refusal not to be overturned by the Inspector.

127 Clerk's Report: to update council on outstanding issues arising from previous meetings:

- Drains and Kerbs, Wetherby Road: drains had been cleared and ditches dug out round the Playing Fields and by Harewood Whin.
- Middlewood Close to beyond West Cottage: JW would look at the state of the footpath and get back to the Clerk if it needed following up.
- Chestnut Tree: The Clerk would chase CYC re. the branches overhanging the Highway.
- Back Lane Knapton: James Gilchrist (CYC) had responded to a request by the Parish Council to resurface the road saying that survey information ranked each street in terms of its current condition. At the moment Back Lane ranks 218 out of 3093 which realistically means it would be years before it was fully resurfaced.
- JB would get back to CYC on the potholes that were such a danger to cyclists.

128 Finance:

Monthly financial report by the Clerk

- a. The following payments were ratified that had been made since 7 December 2020:
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|--|----------|
| Clerk's Salary 31 December 2020 | £ 383.04 |
| Clerk's expenses last ¼ | £ 150.26 |
| SLCC Subs | £ 112.00 |
| Cardiac Science for Defibrillator electrodes | £ 41.94 |
| Fast hosts for Domain name paid by the Clerk | £ 73.20 |
- b. Payments received since 7 December 2020:
- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| AJ1 Road Safety Fund Grant | £ 3823.96 |
| a. Funds available: | £20057.76 |

The memorial stone fee of £50 had not yet been received. The Funds available on the financial report included the grant received from the AJ1 Road Safety Fund, CYC had been collecting data on both ends of the Wetherby Road before Christmas and NM had been chasing the results. CYC have granted approval of the signage, Speedwatch equipment and the VAS on Bradley Lane. If the data meets the criteria for Wetherby Road VAS signs will be placed there also.

129 Budget/ Precept 2021/2022:

The draft budget was discussed. Clerk's wages had been set at the level agreed at the last meeting but Burial fees had not been included as they came directly from any fees into the Burial Grounds.

AP proposed the budget and for the precept to be set at £11,445 for 2021/22, AM seconded the proposal and all agreed.

PR reminded all that if the precept was being increased the general reserve would have to be increased by the same amount at the end of the financial year.

The tidy up of the grants/reserves in the accounts at the end of the financial year was also agreed.

130 Planning Matters:

Refuse Planning: 20/01605/FUL Ash Farm Yard Rufforth for change of use from agricultural building to storage and distribution (use class B8): Andy Blain, CYC Enforcement Officer, was preparing the necessary paperwork for an enforcement notice. It would take time and there was a right of appeal for the planning decision even once the notice is served.

Planning decisions to be taken by the Council: 20/02462/FUL Wooley Edge Farm Bradley Lane Rufforth for replacement agricultural building for the housing of livestock: there were no objections to this application. This was proposed by PR, seconded by AM and agreed to highlight the relevant policy in the Neighbourhood Plan.

131 Burial Grounds:

- a. Maintenance in Burial Grounds: HB asked approval for buying a large storage box to keep essential equipment in at the Burial Ground, costing £60. This was agreed. HB also asked that if anyone had an old rake and leaf rake they didn't need she would be glad to have them for the Burial Grounds.
- b. Burials: There had been one Natural Burial last week and there was to be another on the 22 January.

131 AJ1 Project Road Safety Fund: this had been covered earlier under Item 128.

132 Knapton Recreational Field:

JF was progressing the Play Area with CYC, speaking to Dave Meigh and Tim Bradley from CYC and Erik Matthews from CYC Planning.

Simon Burke from Komplan was drawing out a masterplan, 40% of the costs would be on a safety surface and 60% on equipment. There was to be a phased scheme with a masterplan. The Masterplan would come back to the Parish Council. Applications to CYC have to be in by 28 February and for Ward Grants asap.

133 Knapton Woodland:

A stakeholder advisory group was to be set up, there would be members from the Woodland Trust, Treemendous, 1 person from the Ward Committee and one from the Parish Council as well as CYC. Paul McCabe will be sending out invitations shortly. PR proposed that JF be our representative on the advisory group and this was agreed. If JF was unable to attend a meeting PR would act as substitute. It was thought to be a good idea to have a sub committee of some parish council members and some community members to feed into JF and the advisory group.

134 Website:

All agreed to the confirmation of the launch of the new website the week commencing 11 January 2021. The Parish Council wanted to thank NM and Charlotte for all the work they had done to get the new website up and running.

135 Footpath, The Avenue to Hutton Wandersley : JW asked that this went on the next agenda.

136 Representatives Reports:

- a. YLCA would be meeting in February after our meeting.
- b. Yorwaste: the next meeting would be mid February, hopefully once work had started to the entrance. PR had received an email from a resident to say that water was seeping over the path at a couple of points. PR would write to Kevin about the water. MR raised the problem of light pollution from the tip – this would be raised at the next meeting.

137 Minor Matters and Items for the Next Agenda:

Knapton Woodland, Knapton Recreational Field and The Avenue to Hutton Wandersley.

138 Date of Next Meeting: 1 February 2021 by Zoom at 7.30pm

PR thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 21:05

Signed _____ Date _____

Parish Clerk: Tel: 738751 Email: clerk@rufforthwithknapton-pc.gov.uk