

ASKHAM BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL

held on Thursday 20th July 2023 starting at 7:45pm in the Village Hall

PRESENT: Councillor Simon Peers (Chair)
Councillors Julie Barber Mark Walker David Wiseman

In attendance: Two residents and the Clerk.

1 APOLOGIES. Cllrs. Boakes, Dawson and Smith.

2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST: None.

3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were two members of the public in attendance who raised the following matters;

- One resident addressed the meeting regarding item 8.2 (below) and in particular the mower. There was discussion about whether to stand down the current grass cutting contractor, this would be an agenda item at the next meeting. He was happy to service the lawnmower. A user guide the size of one side of a sheet of A4 paper was needed. He suggested a grass cutting rotor and confirmation of maintenance plans. Cllr. Walker agreed to work out some costs within the next few days.
- A resident asked whether there had been any progress with contacting the local public house with the mole control contractor. It was felt that this contractor was not suitable for the Recreational Area. Cllr. Wiseman volunteered to make further enquiries and report back.
- One of the residents asked for an update on getting paths registered as public rights of way. He was advised that there was no progress, however the Chair advised that he had begun putting together an email to try to move this forward.
- The resident was thanked for the work he had done with the grass cutting and the other resident present offered to help.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PC HELD ON 15th JUNE 2023.

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the PC held on 15th June 2023 be approved and that the Chair be authorised to sign, all in favour.

5. PLANNING

a. Planning Applications Received

There was one planning applications to consider.

- a. 22/02387/FUL - Tuevais, 101 Main Street - Erection of two storey 4no. bedroom dwelling following demolition of existing dwelling. Revised design, alterations to roof pitch, porch to front and window layout. City of York Council (CYC) Planning Department had determined this application earlier on the day of the meeting had given approval for the work to go ahead.

b. Planning Decision Notices Received

The following applications had been determined by CYC planning department as follows;

- a. 23/00339/FUL - Long Acre, 112 Main Street - Two storey side extension, single storey link extension from garage to house with partial conversion of existing garage and store to habitable area, single storey rear extension after demolition of existing conservatory, replacement windows and external doors throughout with reconfiguration of some openings, new widened vehicle access and installation of front gates. Approved.
- b. 23/00845/TCA – Stoneville, 94 Main Street - Fell 1no. Cypress; re-pollard 1no. Willow; crown reduction of 1no. Magnolia by 0.5m in length, crown Lift to 2.5m in height from ground - tree works in a Conservation Area. No objection

6 CRIME REPORT

A copy of the crime report for June 2023 had been circulated showing no reported crimes.

7 REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR HOOK

Ward Cllr. Hook was not in attendance but had sent an email. There were ongoing issues with the grass cutting of the verges. The roads had been resurfaced and looked smart, However a small section had had to be left due to a parked car.

8 OTHER MATTERS.

8.1 Redevelopment of the Recreational Area.

The new playground equipment had been installed and inspected however one of the joints had failed where the rope bridge attaches to one of the towers. Earlier that day the Clerk had spoken to the supplier of the equipment and forwarded photographs via WhatsApp but not had a response. The PC wanted this to be repaired and reassurances that the equipment had been properly installed. The Chair would put up hazard tape to warn potential users of the danger and there would be a communication to residents via the village WhatsApp group.

The PC then considered phase two of the project and felt that the next piece of equipment should cater for children of a slightly older age, either a zip wire or a rope pyramid. Picnic benches would form part of phase two. It was suggested that the zip wire should start from the top of the mound but there were concerns that the installation would be unnecessarily challenging and that a free standing zip wire with a staircase going up to it would be a better option. A sensory garden around the mound was considered, however, there were safety concerns due to rabbit holes and it was felt that phase 2 should not include proposals for using the mound. It was agreed that quotations be obtained in order to set a target for fund raising and grant applications. 3D pictures would give an idea of what phase two equipment would look like and a flyer would be produced. The preferred option was the rope pyramid. There would be provision in the 2023/24 budget and a target of getting an estimate in the spring with a view to getting this installed by the start of next summer. Cllr. Walker suggested a small set of goals. Cllr. Wiseman agreed to get some prices for the equipment.

8.2 Grass cutting and playground inspections.

It was agreed to initiate a rotor for grass cutting. The Chair would write a sign-off sheet for people to sign to show that they had completed the necessary training. Cllr. Wiseman agreed to sort out maintenance. The resident had a copy of the operations manual of the lawnmower and he agreed to send the make and model of this to the Chair. A record would be kept to show that the playground equipment had been checked and was satisfactory. This check would be carried out at the same time as the grass cutting. In the winter months (when there was no grass cutting) the PC would liaise between themselves and go and carry out playground equipment checks. The resident had a Jerry can for the fuel. A sign-off was needed when the mower was returned. Prices for mole control were considered, one being £40 per mole and the other was a charge of £90 plus £15 per mole. The Clerk used his delegated authority accordingly.

8.3 Event at Christmas.

The Chair advised that his wife was willing to do a trail similar to the one done last year. The theme for this trail would be Christmas carols and a budget of £300 was suggested. There was a need to think about where to store things that were not in use. Christmas tree lighting would be the same as last time and there would be a raffle and prizes. The date of the event was set as Saturday 2nd December 2023 in the Village Hall. Cllr. Wiseman would sort out the Just Giving QR code. There would also be karaoke and carols in the public house as a separate event. Cllr. Wiseman would speak to the landlord about this, this event could be ticketed if necessary. The budget would be similar to last year's event. Consideration was given to donations, recognition (Cllr. Wiseman would think about this)

and an auction. Banners would not be needed but the fairy lights would need to be renewed. The Village Hall would be approached. Last year, The Village Hall paid half the cost of the tree and a local resident put it up.

9 FINANCE

9.1 Report of invoices to be paid

It was **resolved** that the following invoices to be paid, all in favour.

- Clerk's Salary 01/06/2023 to 30/06/2023 plus deductions payable to HMRC

The invoice for the new playground equipment was still awaited (the Clerk having requested it some weeks previously). However, in view of the concerns about it (see 8.1 above), it was agreed that the invoice for the playground equipment (£13,300 + VAT) would not be approved until the August meeting, assuming that the repairs had been made good and that appropriate reassurances about the quality of the build had been received.

10 CORRESPONDENCE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Most of the correspondence was from the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA) but items 561 and 570 were from Askham Bryan College offering assistance. There were plans for a working party to assist with maintenance of PC land. A risk assessment would be needed and it was agreed that people should bring their own equipment. There would be nettles round the edge but the forest would be left. The college had volunteered student help with tree maintenance.

11 ACTION TRACKER

An Action Tracker had been circulated with the agenda papers listing all previously agreed actions and reports on progress.

- The item regarding mole management had been dealt with under item 8.2 (above).

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be 17th August 2023 at 7:30pm.

The calendar of other meetings for 2023 was 21st September, 19th October and 16th November 2023. All to be held at the Village Hall at 7:30pm.

The meeting closed at 8:53pm.

Signed

Chairman
17 August 2023