

DEIGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF DEIGHTON ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT 7.15PM IN ESCRICK VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 30TH MAY 2022.

A/Chairman: Cllr T Bartram

A/Clerk/RFO: Mrs H Guest,
deightonpc@gmail.com

Part 1

22119: Statutory annual meeting business:

- a) **Election of chairman** of the parish council.
 - i) Cllr Bartram was elected as chairman for the year.
 - ii) He signed acceptance of office; clerk witnessed signature.
 - iii) Clerk countersigned chairman's acceptance of office.
- b) **Election of vice-chairman** of the parish council.
 - i) Cllr E Hale was elected as vice-chairman for the year.
 - ii) She signed acceptance of office; clerk witnessed signature.
 - iii) Clerk countersigned vice-chairman's acceptance of office.

22120: Welcome: Chair welcomed councillors, clerk and visitors to the meeting.

22121: Apologies/Attendance:

- a. Present: Cllrs Bartram, E Hale, N Hale, Hartley, Lewis, one member of the public and Ward Cllr Vassie.
- b. Apologies were received from Cllr Dixon. It was resolved to accept reasons given.
- c. All present were requested to sign the Attendance book.

22122: Interests: Chair reminded members to make any declarations of interest in any agenda items – None.

22123: Minutes

- a. It was resolved to accept Minutes of last meeting.
- b. Chairman signed minutes as a true record.

22124: Council Policies: The Council considered policies/procedures which may need revision or to confirm that existing documents remain appropriate. The Clerk will review these in due course and will report to a future meeting.

22125: Committees: It was resolved that none were considered necessary at this time.

22126: Representatives: It was resolved that none were considered necessary at this time.

22127: Council Vacancy: One application to fill the last vacant position of Councillor was received. It was resolved that Sally Clarke be appointed as Councillor. She completed an Acceptance of Office form, as well as a Register of Interests Form.

22128: Council to receive comments on agenda items from electors. None received.

22129: Reports received, for information only, from:

- a) Ward Councillor: Cllr Vassie arrived at 7.30pm and made a report following the planning applications item at 22130.
- b) Police: None.
- c) A/Clerk: Access to the email account has only been gained in the past couple of days and there are a lot to catch up on; the Council has spent much of the past 3 years without a Clerk but, prior to this, the Clerk printed out the agendas, minutes and meeting documentation for Cllrs and discussions to avoid personal expense to Cllrs – A/Clerk asked Cllrs to consider whether this would be something to restart, but to note that the recent administration made much negative comment about the cost of ink and paper – this to be considered and brought to the next meeting; YLCA offered advice to Councils at the start of the pandemic that they might wish to consider a framework for making Council decisions when they are unable to meet – with the threat of spikes in Covid cases in the future, to consider whether to incorporate this into a new draft of the Standing Orders by way of future-proofing the ability to conduct Council business; A/Clerk asked about the status of the defibrillators regarding regular checks – Chairman to ascertain the facts and bring to the next meeting. Cllrs discussed the location of the Crockey Hill defibrillator, which is at the Vets surgery – Cllr Clarke declared an interest at this point, as she works for the group, but said she would find out whether a ‘defibrillator’ sign could be added under the business sign to highlight the location.

Ward Cllr Vassie arrived at 7.30pm.

22130: Planning:

1. **Applications:**
 - a. 22/00972/LBC: Internal and external alterations to include refurbishment of Deighton Hall and conversion of existing agricultural buildings for use as 3no. dwellings after demolition of later additions at Deighton Hall, Naburn Lane, Deighton. No objections.
2. **Decisions:** None known.
3. **Consultations:** None known.
4. **Other:** None known.

Cllr Vassie reported that he had been trying to resolve the issue around the repair of the wind damaged VAS sign, but has no new information; He also stated that the footpaths in Naburn will be undergoing footpath widening works; He also said that Naburn village primary school has been under threat of closure due to dwindling numbers of pupils – following a village meeting, it has been proposed to join an academy trust and build new homes to ensure the future of the school.

22131: RFO to report on closing balances, preparation of accounts for audit and recent payments.

- a) **Bank Balance:** Not known as not all bank statements held at present. Cllr Bartram to make arrangements for new signatories.
- b) **Payments made since last meeting under Clerk’s delegated powers:** None.
- c) **Payments to be made:** None.
- d) **Receipts**

1. Noted: Precept – This is normally expected at the end of April, but neither email access nor relevant bank statements held at this time. To be reported upon once evidence available.

e) **Audit:** Noted that the external auditors have granted an extension of time for the submission of the annual accounts due to facts that the email account is still unavailable at the time of publishing this agenda and all bank statements not yet held.

f) **General Power of Competence (GPC):** Noted that this power, held previously, has not been held for 3 years as the Clerk/Acting Clerk have not been qualified to the level required. This is to be considered at a future meeting if/when a suitably qualified Clerk is in place.

22132: Maintenance:

1. Crockey Hill Notice Board: It was resolved to progress the assessment and possible replacement of the glass/seals on the notice board at Crockey Hill, as items become unreadable due to condensation. It was resolved that Cllrs Bartam and N Hale have the authority to arrange for repairs on the notice board up to the value of £100.
2. Southbound VAS sign: High winds broke the solar panel off. For updates, see Cllr Vassie's report above.

22133: Jubilee Tree in Crockey Hill: It was resolved to purchase and plant a tree in Crockey Hill to mark the Platinum Jubilee (note that a tree has already been purchased for Deighton). Location already identified – an oak tree has previously been felled and a replacement for this was thought to be appropriate. Cllr N Hale to source a replacement. A plaque to be considered in due course.

22134: Other correspondence received:

1. Poster for mobile library visits.

22135: Comments from public present on agenda items – None.

22136: Items for the next agenda

1. To consider an earlier start time for meetings from 7.30pm to 7pm to avoid such a late finish.
2. Consider a VAS sign in Crockey Hill along Wheldrake Lane coming in from Wheldrake.
3. Overgrown hedges and trees along Wheldrake Lane in Crockey Hill.
4. When RTA occurs on A19, police send vehicles along Moor Lane or Howden Lane and through Naburn. This is inappropriate for large HGVs – this issue has been raised about 3 years ago with representatives from Highways who stated that the information given to police (often from out of the area) will be updated. This does not seem to have happened.
5. Wildflower verge in Wheldrake: Cllr Vassie stated that a wildflower verge has been created in Wheldrake, but some farmers have been cutting it back, preventing reseeding. He hopes to extend this to other areas to improve proliferation of wildlife. Cllr E Hale suggested the central reservation at the Mine Road entrance as a possible candidate for a wildlife verge.
6. Cycle footpath across from Wheldrake Lane end in Crockey Hill – there used to be a footpath/cycle path, but this was removed when the road was widened. Can this be reinstated? This was discussed about 3 or 4 years ago and a request made to Highways, but no action was taken.
7. Crockey Hill traffic lights junction raised again – can the left lane be for left turns, since some motorists take risks in the right hand lane in order to overtake perceived slower vehicles?
8. Damaged VAS sign – Cllr Vassie to report back as to extent of maintenance which CYC is responsible for and which the Parish Council is responsible for. Concerns were aired

that the sign near Escrick may be subject to damage from high winds across the neighbouring fields, due to its' location.

9. Cllr Vassie stated he has been asking for a dropped kerb at the garage. Highways said it could not be done as it was a dual carriageway, so he has suggested the dual carriageway start a little further along. To consider a formal request from the Parish Council.
10. The now-working light at the bus stop in Deighton has been of benefit to all. It was suggested that the Council consider requesting a lamp post at the Wheldrake end of Crockey Hill Lane, which might help encourage motorists to slow down on the entry to the Village.
11. Two boxes of documentation had been handed over from the previous administration regarding a possible neighbourhood plan. Councillors briefly discussed this and thought that the questionnaires were quite intrusive and indicated that it was sent from CYC. Inquiries did not reveal any department in CYC who would send this out and it was established that the questionnaire came from the Parish Council. Many didn't complete and return the form. Cllrs Clarke and Hartley to go through the forms and put anonymised information onto a spreadsheet, to be used if the plan were to be resurrected – the forms to be shredded thereafter. It was understood that there was a lot of printing, envelopes and other items which had been produced at a cost, but then the project was shelved. Cllrs to update Council on status.

22137: Date, time and place of meetings for 2022: 11th July and 3rd October. These dates to be reviewed. It was resolved that the start time of the meetings be brought forward from 7.30pm to 7pm.

8.30pm: Closure of Part 1 meeting.

22138: Confidential Business

It was resolved to exclude press/public on the grounds that the matter affects individual staff members/legal/procedural/finance issues.

22139: Discussion on administrative and staffing issues deferred.

Closure of Part 2 meeting.

Signed **Trevor Bartram, Chairman**
Deighton Parish Council

Date: 25th July 2022