

TERRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10 November 2020 at 7:30 pm remotely by Zoom video link

1. Apologies & Attendance

Present : Cllr Winning (Chair and Zoom facilitator), Cllr Barnett, Cllr Lewis, Cllr Stockdale, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Goodrick (NYCC - part), James Holliday (Castle Howard Estate - part) and two members of the public.

Apologies – none received.

2. To confirm the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2020 were approved as a true and correct record. Proposed – Cllr Lewis, seconded – Cllr Watson.

3. Ongoing issues

Registration of the pub as an Asset of Community Value. Cllr Winning reported that he had submitted an application for this to happen and RDC had responded that a decision would be forthcoming by 12 November.

Shop canopy. Cllr Winning reported that following discussion with the owner, Sam Gill, and RDC, informal permission had been agreed whilst the pandemic persists, but noting any permanent rather than the proposed temporary structure would require planning permission. Cllr Winning has written to Sam to this effect.

New Road sign replacement. Cllr Winning reported that he had contacted NYCC Highways and that a replacement sign has now been erected.

Plump safety notice. Cllr Stockdale has investigated and obtained three indicative quotations. The most competitive quotation was from Croft Cast Signs for £105 plus VAT for an A4 size sign in cast iron. (Alternative quotations were for £173 and £570). Meeting agreed to progress negotiations with Croft for a firm quote for a specified sign.

4. Finance

Financial Statement and Bank reconciliation. Cllr Barnett (RFO) had previously circulated Councillors with a Financial Statement showing income and expenditure compared to budget as at 26.10.20 together with a Bank Reconciliation at the same date (copies appended). These showed the Council as being £414 inside budget at end October. The Financial Statement and Bank Reconciliation were accepted by the meeting as correct and record copies were signed by Cllr Winning. Proposed – Cllr Watson, seconded - Cllr Lewis.

Expenditure. Cllr Barnett drew the meetings attention to an expenditure item approved by an earlier caucus meeting between himself and Cllr Winning - an invoice for £2,220 (£1,850 plus VAT) for the main village grass cutting contract. This invoice is in line with the three-year contract agreed by Council.

Cllr Barnett requested meeting approve an invoice from Terrington Village Hall for £10.80 in respect of the hire fee for 15 September meeting. This was approved – proposed Cllr Lewis, seconded – Cllr Winning.

5. Precept for 2021/22

Cllr Barnett presented an outline budget and proposed precept for 2021/22 together with an analysis showing income and expenditure trends from 2016 to 2019 (actual) 2020 (projected) and 2021 (proposed). This shows that over the years 2016 to 2020 the Council has run at an average deficit of £430 pa. In view of this Cllr Barnett suggested that it is important to increase the precept at least in line with inflation. This said given the economic situation Cllr Barnett recommended an increase of only 1.6% broadly in line with inflation from £3,131 to £3,180. Meeting agreed this proposed increase in precept. Proposed – Cllr Barnett, seconded Cllr Winning.

6. Road Centre / Warning Line at Little Terrington

Cllr Winning had previously outlined how following the recent road re-surfacing a resident had drawn his attention to the absence of the centre white line at the blind rise in the road at Little Terrington. A number of minor accidents have occurred here and also some more serious ones, including a fatal accident many years ago. Cllrs all felt that a white centre line or other warning signage is urgently needed.

To this end Cllr Winning has been in touch with NYCC who are reluctant to re-paint the line as current policy is only to do so when a road is 5.5 metres wide which they do not think the road is at the hilltop. Cllr Winning has measured the road through the hamlet at over 5.5m width and circulated Cllrs with a draft letter to NYCC pressing our case for a line. Cllrs supported Cllr Winning's case and Cllr Winning will send a letter to NYCC requesting action.

Cllr Goodrick (NYCC) said she was fully supportive of the need for a line or other signage and offered to both lobby NYCC Highways Dept on the Council's behalf and to assist with funding if needed. Cllr Winning thanked her for her support.

7. North Back Lane traffic

Prior to the meeting Cllr Winning had circulated Cllrs with a proposed flyer to be passed to all residents of North Back Lane noting that the west end of NBL has a NO ENTRY sign and the importance (and legal necessity) of all users complying with this. The flyer also asks for resident's views on traffic management in North Back Lane - specifically should it be made one way?

Ali Wilson, a resident of NBL, attended the meeting and was asked for her views. Ali felt that traffic in NBL was potentially dangerous, in particular as there is a primary / junior school exiting onto NBL with no footpath or protective barriers. Ali said that she and her husband had discussed the issue and felt that a one-way system coupled with a 20mph speed restriction is desirable.

Cllr Barnett suggested that speed bumps might be helpful. Cllr Goodrick (NYCC) advised against speed bumps commenting that in at least one case where they had recently been installed, they had subsequently been removed at the request

of residents due to the noise and vibration generated. After discussion Cllrs agreed to distribute the flyer and to survey the views of residents, the school and the surgery before proceeding further.

8. Cemetery & Burial fees

Cllr Stockdale reported that he had obtained details of fees charged by other local cemeteries and it was apparent that our charges were significantly below other cemeteries. Meeting agreed that Cllr Stockdale and Cllr Barnett will review our charges and others in detail and come back to Council at the next meeting with proposed changes.

9. Proposed road closure 2021 by Yorkshire Water

Cllr Winning informed the meeting that NYCC recently advised us they had become aware of a proposed road closure by Yorkshire Water to replace a main. The proposal is to close the road from Coneysthorpe crossroads to Terrington for 40 weeks in 2021 together with some other associated closures locally. James Holliday (Castle Howard) told the meeting he was very concerned about the impact that such a closure would have on Castle Howard's business, which has already suffered substantial loss of revenue due to the pandemic.

Meeting wholeheartedly agreed that the current proposal was likely to have a severe impact on both residents and Castle Howard, and that there may well be ways to undertake the works with much less drastic impact – for instance by carrying the work out in stages during quiet periods and/or by laying the main following local footpaths rather than the road. James stated that he felt following footpaths may well be viable and that Castle Howard would likely be receptive to any wayleave requests.

Cllr Goodrick stated that in her experience road closure requests were often made for a duration well in excess of that likely to be needed in order to allow for inclement weather and operatives / plant availability. Meeting agreed to liaise closely with both Castle Howard and Cllr Goodrick and to seek an early meeting with YWB.

10. North Yorkshire local government – proposed reorganisation

Cllr Goodrick (NYCC) gave the meeting an update on the situation. National government and NYCC both feel substantial savings and efficiencies can be gained by re-organising local government. Differing proposals on how this may be done have been presented by NYCC and District Councils for the government to consider.

York is a unitary authority and York Cllrs have voted overwhelmingly that they would like York to remain as an independent unitary authority. The District Councils are proposing merging into Eastern and Western groupings.

Cllr Goodrick understands that both proposals have been submitted to government and that there is a window of opportunity to make amendments or additions to these proposals, but that these must be submitted by the 9th December.

All the documents are available on both the North Yorkshire Website and the Ryedale District Website and Cllr Goodrick said she encourages everyone to have a read and to get in touch with her if they have any queries.

Cllr Goodrick is in favour of the North Yorkshire single unitary authority proposal – having read all the information she believes this presents the best option for our residents.

Cllr Goodrick re-iterated that if anyone feels they want to discuss this issue with her she will be happy to do so.

11. Village services audit

Cllr Winning noted that we had recently been requested to complete a village audit form noting what facilities we have and circulated a response he had prepared. This was agreed and Cllr Winning will forward to RDC.

12. Matters for inclusion on next agenda

Cllr Watson expressed concerns about two bits of road near Ganthorpe.

There is an AONB sign at the end of Broats Lane. If a vehicle has to take evasive action – for instance if faced with an oncoming lorry – then this sign limits the space for such action. This area would be safer in Cllr Watson's view if the sign is moved.

Secondly the bridlepath around Cum Hag wood crosses the Terrington / Coneysthorpe road at a rather dangerous spot where traffic tends to speed up coming down the hill round a corner. A warning sign in both directions would alert drivers that riders & also walkers might be crossing the road.

Cllr Winning informed the meeting that dates for meetings in 2021 had been set on the second Monday of the month as follows:

January 11, March 8, May 10, July 12, September 13, November 8.

Next meeting (by Zoom unless otherwise advised) at 7:30, Monday January 11.

I M Barnett

Acting Clerk