

Austwick Parish Council
Meeting 2 2017-2018 - Monday 15th May 2017
Minutes

Present: Cllrs Peter Goold (Chairman), Kate Smith (Vice-Chairman), David Dewhirst and Barbara Tibbatts.

In attendance: Marijke Hill (Parish Clerk) and one member of the public

The Parish Council allocated a reasonable period of time at the start of the meeting to allow registered electors the opportunity to ask questions and / or make statements that relate to the work of the Council.

Public Participation: no issue was raised

2.1 Apologies for absence Cllr Ian Smith

2.2 Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interests

- a. Councillors did not record any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) or other interests in relation to items on this Agenda.
- b. No requests were made for dispensations in connection with items on this Agenda.

2.3 Police, District and County Councillors' Reports: none received

2.4 Minutes of Meeting 1 2017-2018 (3rd April 2017)

The Council **resolved** that the minutes of the Austwick Parish Council meeting held on 3rd April 2017 should be confirmed and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Peter Goold, as a true and accurate record.

2.5 Matters from previous meetings minutes not otherwise included on the Agenda

- a. Cllr Kate Smith **reported** that Robert Ashford has been appointed Area Ranger (Southern Dales) and contact details have been exchanged.

2.6 Village matters other than maintenance

- a. To receive an update on objection to proposed removal of payphone
The Council has **not received** further information on this matter and the Chairman will contact Tom Harland at YDNPA to make further inquiries concerning the proposal for Historic England to list the kiosk.
- b. To receive parishioners' comments and decide possible action in relation to parking issues in the centre of the village
The Council discussed various options in relation to parking issues in the centre of the village and the traffic issue at the junction of Wharfe Road and Townhead Lane and it was **agreed** that an adjustment of the white line as well as repainting the 'keep clear' letters on the narrow part of Main Street is needed to stop cars from parking in those areas. The clerk was asked to contact NYCC Area 5 Highways.
- c. To receive report re YDNPA Spring Parish Forum Meeting 19 April 2017
Cllr Kate Smith **reported** on the five items on the agenda at the Spring Parish Forum Meeting.
 - the YDNPA's aim is to become more proactive in enforcement and parish councils have an important role to play;
 - the purpose of the National Park Management Plan is to identify the special qualities and the issues faced in the Park area, putting national and regional policy into the local context and setting out the objectives and a first stage public consultation period is to commence soon;
 - the Housing Bill is moving towards a national allocation of calculated housing need of 55 dwellings for this year;
 - the YDNPA has set up an internal 'Farming & Land Managers Forum' with the aim of retaining the numbers of farmers in the Park;
 - the 'ashtag' project's aim is to track the welfare of all ash trees and monitor the ash dieback disease by fixing an AshTag. The Council noted that tags are available from YDNPA for

anyone wishing to volunteer to register and monitor an ash tree.

2.7 Parish maintenance matters

- a. dog fouling on footpaths
Cllr Dewhirst **reported** that he has met with Neil Meakins of CDC in relation to the replacement of the existing two dog bins and the provision of a new bin for the centre of the village. It was verbally agreed that CDC would replace the existing two bins and that the Council would purchase the new bin and Cllr Dewhirst is awaiting written confirmation. The Chairman reiterated NYC Cllr David Ireton's comments at the Annual Parish Meeting on 3rd April, that funding for an additional dog bin is available and an application for funding will be made once the cost is known. The Chairman also reiterated that any further initiatives should await the outcome from these discussions.
- b. improvements to Graystonber Lane lay-by
Cllr. Goold **reported** that no further report had been received but that a response from NYCC's Estates Department is expected in due course.
- c. repairs to bus shelter railings
The council was **informed** that these repairs will be carried out by Cllr. Dewhirst at his soonest convenience.
- d. potholes on the Austwick to Helwith Bridge road
The Council had **sent** the letter to Mr Richard Pennell of NYCC Legal and Democratic Services Department in which it reiterates the Council's concern for all users of the highway as there is no footway and it is the basic duty of NYCC to decide the most appropriate means of repair and to manage risks to user safety in the interim, irrespective of whether the area is metalled/part of the carriageway or is the verge/footway.
The Council was **informed** that Mr Pennell would discuss the matter with the Highways Office. The clerk was asked to contact Mr Pennell to request an urgent reply.
- e. volunteers litter picking events
Cllr Kate Smith **reported** that two litter picking events have been organised, one to collect three bags of litter on the road from Swarthmoor to Wharfe Brow and one to collect two bags of litter on Graystonber Lane. The events will continue and volunteers are welcome.
- f. other issues relating to NYCC Highways
The Council has **not received** a further update on the sycamore saplings on the road bridge near Wharfe at the junction with White Stone Lane which are programmed in to be removed. The Council **agreed** that it should review the situation with other saplings in the parish in the Autumn when actual costs incurred can be compared with the budget for this year for this sort of work.
The Chairman **reported** that he had held a discussion with the parishioner who reported at the Annual Parish Meeting the persistent highway flooding problem when water from the beck at Slaindale overtops the culverts and floods onto Wharfe Road. The Council **agreed** that the matter should be reported to NYCC Area5 Highways whereas at the same time the Council will keep the situation under review.
- g. issues relating to YDNPA
The Council was **informed** that Mr Robert Ashford has been appointed as the new Area Ranger. The Council **agreed** that a list of the various PROW matters that have previously been reported to YDNPA should be compiled and sent to the new Area Ranger.
- h. other lengthsman duties or parish maintenance matters
The Council **agreed** that some saplings on Austwick Bridge should be cut back and Cllr Dewhirst will contact the lengthsman to carry out this work. Cllr Dewhirst **reported** some overhanging branches encroaching over the wall onto Low Street and the Council **agreed** that

the lengthsman should ask property owners to cut off the offending branches but if necessary should carry out the work himself.

2.8 Finance

- a. The total balance of the HSBC current account on 31st March 2017 as £6,511.87 comprising £4,841.87 parish council monies and £1,670.00 AED funds was **noted**
- b. **Resolved:** to approve Summary of Receipts and Payments 2016-2017
- c. **Resolved:** to approve Section 2 – Annual Accounting Statement 2016/17 of the Annual Return for the Year ended 31 March 2017
- d. The bank reconciliation for Q4 was verified by Cllr Kate Smith and no issues were found.
- e. The total balance of the HSBC current account on 30th April 2017 as £10,853.69 comprising £9,183.69 parish council monies and £1,670.00 AED funds was **noted**
- f. Receipt of £5,000.00, the first instalment of the precept, on 27th April 2017, was **noted**
- g. **Resolved:** to approve payment of £24.00 to Bob Evans for 6 weeks of bus shelter cleaning
- h. The Council **received** hire rates for Austwick Parish Hall from 1st January 2017 and **resolved** to approve payment to Austwick Parish Hall of £11.00 for hall hire on 28th November 2016 and of £30.00 for hall hire on 9th January and 20th February 2017
- i. **Resolved:** to approve payment to Craven Garden Care of £315.00 for verges grass cutting and strimming; of £229.50 for greens grass cutting and strimming and of £47.16 for miscellaneous grounds work, all for March and April 2017
- j. The Council **reviewed** expenditure for grass cutting and lengthsman duties and noted a slight overspending for work carried out over March and April.
- k. **Resolved:** to approve payment to clerk of £201.98 for salary April 2017
- l. There were no other financial issues to consider.

2.9 Planning

a. Applications

1. C/04/122D/LB variation of Conditions 2 and 8 of C/04/122B/LB listed building consent for soft and hard landscaping to front and rear gardens, Battle Hill, Main Street, Austwick. The Council had informed YDNPA that it had no comments to make.

b. Decisions

- The Council **noted** that the following applications have **not** yet been **decided**:
1. C/44/101F full planning permission for resumption of mineral extraction at Arcow Quarry; retention of the existing processing plant until progressively replaced by a new mobile processing plant; retention of the railhead and the completion of site restoration in accordance with an amended nature conservation and landscaping scheme during the following 12 months, Arcow Quarry, Helwith Bridge, Horton-in-Ribblesdale.
 2. C/04/615A Full planning permission for creation of 16 hardstanding areas for touring caravans, motorhomes, campervans or tents in a designated area with permission for 9 pitches (retrospective) Wood End Farm, Austwick.
 3. C/04/685 amended description of development: full planning permission for conversion of barn to form one local occupancy dwelling or holiday let; change of use of agricultural land to form domestic curtilage; works to the vehicular access and provision of a new mini sewage treatment plant, White Sike Barn, Far End Farm, Wharfe.

c. Additional planning matters

No additional planning matters were received.

2.10 Correspondence: no items of correspondence were received.

2.11 Items of information

- a. The Council **noted** receipt of NALC briefing (L02-17): code of recommended practice on Local Authority Publicity (England)

- b. The Council **noted** receipt of NYCC information re vacancies for co-opted Members to the Craven Area Committee
- c. The Council **expressed** great concern in relation to the closure of Castleberg Hospital in Giggleswick and it agreed it would participate in future consultation with the Clinical Commissioning Group in conjunction with Townhead Surgery.
- d. Cllr Dewhirst **reported** that wood had broken off the log swing in the play area exposing bolts that could cause injury and he will contact the Playing Fields Association.
- e. Cllr Dewhirst **informed** the Council about the new Malham Tarn Shuttle Bus time table which he will put on the Parish Notice Board.
- f. Cllr Kate Smith **informed** the Council about the potential impact of the General Data Protection Regulations and the clerk was asked to contact NALC and YLCA to inquire if this matter is on the agenda of both bodies.

2.12 Date and time of the next meeting

RESOLVED: the date of the next Parish Council meeting was **confirmed** as Monday 3rd July 2017, 8pm at Austwick Parish Hall.

Marijke Hill
Clerk to the Council