

**Austwick Parish Council
Meeting 2 2019-2020 – Monday 20th May 2019
Minutes**

Present: Cllrs Peter Goold (Chairman), Barbara Tibbatts, David Dewhirst, Ian Smith, and Sarah Wiltshire

In attendance: Parish Clerk Marijke Hill and four members 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:

Mrs Elizabeth Booth thanked the Council for the work on the Feizor triangle at the junction with Brunton Road by the lengthsman. More work on Brunton Road just off the B6480 would be welcomed. The Chairman, Cllr Peter Goold, replied that the expenditure for work on the outlying areas will be monitored by the Council monthly.

Mrs Heather Jemson asked about the dog waste receptacles. This item was further discussed at 2.7a.

2.1 Apologies for absence: none.

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 dispensation in connection with items on this Agenda.

2.3 Police, District and County Councillors' and YDNPA Reports:

PCSO Stringer had sent a written police report, containing 11 incidents, for the period between 1st April and 15th May, notably the theft of two quad bikes from outbuildings in Austwick and a residential burglary in Austwick.

The Council **agreed** that the implications of installing a new CCTV camera in the centre of the village should be investigated.

There were no reports from the District Councillors, the County Councillor and the YDNPA.

2.4 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 1 2019-2020 (8th April 2019)

The Council **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on 8th April 2019 should be confirmed and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Peter Goold, as a true and accurate record.

2.5 Matters from previous meetings not otherwise included on the Agenda

No matters from previous meetings not otherwise included on the Agenda were reported.

2.6 Planning

a. Applications

The Council **agreed** that the clerk should inform YDNPA that it has no comments to make on the following planning application:

1. C/04/688A householder planning permission for erection of single storey rear extension, Mulberry Cottage, Austwick.
- b. Decisions
 1. C/04/91C full planning permission for use of garage as an annexe to main dwelling; alteration of doors; insertion of new opening and construction of stone chimney stack, Garage at Limestoneber, Austwick. **Not yet decided.**
 2. C/04/611K and 611L/LB full planning permission and listed building consent for alterations to barn/garage to incorporate garaging, store, home office, art studio and a guest bedroom suite to be used in conjunction with the main dwelling and installation of photovoltaic roof covering,

with glazed lantern roof light, installation of flue pipes and air source heat pump (Section 73 application for variation of Condition 2 of planning permission ref: C/04/611H to allow the addition of solar PV slates to the barn roof), Harden House, Holm Lane, Austwick. **Not yet decided.**

3. C/04/693 full planning permission for Swarth Moor restoration and interpretation project comprising construction of peat bunds for re-wetting of raised mire; excavation of three mitigation ponds for great crested newt; construction of viewing platform and associated boardwalk; and siting of one bench seat and two interpretation panels on the viewing platform, Swarth Moor, Helwith Bridge, Ribblesdale. **Not yet decided.**
- c. Additional planning matters
No additional or other planning matters were received.

2.7 Parish matters other than maintenance

- a. dog fouling site meeting by CDC Enforcement Officer on 15th May
Cllrs Goold and Dewhirst **reported** on the site meeting with Mr Wayne Gray, Environmental Health Officer at CDC. A request will be made for replacement of the red dog waste bin at the Flascoe Lane/Wharfe Road junction with a full size black bin. All our black waste bins are now labelled as accepting dog waste. CDC are considering offering A5 sized signs to indicate the nearest dog waste bin. The Council's support for this idea was indicated to Mr Gray. The Council **noted** that CDC had resolved to not accept any requests for new waste bins and to probably reducing the frequency of emptying existing bins, due to the cost of the bins and the cost of emptying them. Cllrs Goold and Dewhirst had requested that CDC should record in their report the parish council's view that the only real effective deterrent to dog fouling would be by patrol presence, including weekend and bank holiday patrol visits.
- b. Dry Rigg & Arcow Quarry Liaison meeting with Tarmac and Horton in Ribblesdale PC on 29th April
Cllrs Tibbatts and Whiltshire **reported** on the liaison meeting with Tarmac and Horton in Ribblesdale PC. Liaison meetings will be held regularly to discuss the Dry Rigg and Arcow Quarry workings and their effect on neighbouring parishes and the environment. Tarmac is proposing an extension to Dry Rigg Quarry within the approved boundary and extending the life of the site operations to the end of June 2039. Concerns were raised on the effects of this development, including dewatering and discharge of water on surface and groundwater and on flooding. The Council **noted** that Tarmac might consider setting up a Community Fund Agreement for the benefit of the inhabitants and communities of the area and it was **agreed** to consider raising this with Tarmac at the appropriate stage in the forthcoming planning application process.
- c. bus stop at A65/Brunton Road
Following representations from parishioners regarding the possible relocation of the 'request bus stop' at the A65/Brunton Road junction on the bus service from Kirkby Lonsdale to Skipton the Council **noted** the reply from Kirkby Lonsdale Coach Hire that NYCC is responsible for the location and upkeep of the bus stop. The Council also **noted** the reply from NYCC Public Transport Officer Mary Welch that there are no plans to move the bus stop at the present time.

2.8 Parish maintenance matters

- a. road sign 'Give Way/50 yds' on junction Clapham Road/A65
The Council had requested NYCC Highways to either remove the sign or relocate it in order to aid with cutting back the vegetation at that location. The Council **noted** that this road sign will be removed in due course by NYCC Highways. The Council **agreed** to monitor the situation and report back at the Parish Council meeting on 2nd December.

- b. water issues along Clapham Road
The Council had requested NYCC Highways to investigate the cause of water overflow on Clapham Road where spring water from Spoutcroft field is unable to flow under Clapham Road and propose remedial works. The Council **noted** that NYCC Highways has arranged some works on their drain outside Springroyd in due course. The Council **agreed** to monitor the situation and report back at the Parish Council meeting on 2nd September.
- c. other issues relating to NYCC Highways
There were no other issues relating to NYCC Highways reported.
- d. issues relating to YDNPA
Councillors reported on concerns about the protection of flora and fauna in the Oxenber and Wharfe Woods SSSI and in particular reports of dogs running loose and away from the way-marked paths. The Council **agreed** to contact the YDNPA Area Ranger to enquire concerning any regulations to control dogs or attach leads to dogs in SSSIs and to consider new and clearer signage at the access points. The Council was **informed** that the waymarker requested at the end of February has not been installed and that the substantial fallen wood at the eastern access gate is still there. The Council **agreed** that the Area Ranger should be reminded of these two outstanding maintenance issues.
- e. state of disrepair of The Weaving Shed, Graystonber Lane
The Council had **received** a letter from Mr Andrew on 17th April to its letter dated 9th April in which he informs the Council that a visit to Austwick to see to the necessary repairs to the Weaving Shed will take place in May. The Council **noted** that Mr Andrew was currently in residence at The Weaving Shed and it **decided** to monitor the situation.
- f. Graystonber Lane and Clapham Road conservation verges
Cllr Dewhirst **reported** that the lengthsman has commenced the basic maintenance on the two conservation areas. There has not been a response from Mr Mark Hewitt, the YDNPA's Parish Wildlife Project Officer regarding the earmarked grant of £400. The Council **agreed** that Cllr Dewhirst should continue to pursue to claim this grant from the YDNPA.
- g. repairs to bus shelter railings
Cllr Dewhirst **informed** the Council that the replacement of the bus shelter railings and the repairs to the wall are completed. The Council **agreed** that the lengthsman will carry out some general tidying up around the area and painting of the entrance gate and posts. The Council also **agreed** that it will inform its insurance company that improvement work to the value of £3,300 has been carried out on the bus shelter after it has received all the invoices concerned.
- h. overgrown vegetation at the junction of Townhead and Townhead Lane
The Council had **received** correspondence raising concerns that the pavement and the highway are obstructed by the overgrown vegetation at the junction of Townhead and Townhead Lane. The Council **agreed** that the lengthsman should be instructed to cut back the shrub after discussing this matter directly with the parishioner to determine the exact work in order to resolve the problem.
- i. other lengthsman duties or parish maintenance matters
Cllr Dewhirst **reported** on a couple of issues in relation to the village play area. Some coarse wood chippings, used under the large circular swing, are being scattered around the area, posing a significant problem when mowing the grass. Also, the 'suspended plank' structure has a broken off post at ground level and cannot be used as intended. The Council **agreed** to raise these issues with the Playing Fields Association in order to ensure that the play area continues to be used safely and is regularly maintained as efficiently as possible.

2.9 Finance

- a. The total balance of the HSBC current account on 30 April 2019 as £ 19,084.34 comprising £17,484.19 parish council monies and £1,600.15 AED funds was **noted**.
- b. The Council **resolved** to be exempt from external audit for the year 2018-2019 as its annual turn-over does not exceed £25,000
- c. The Council **resolved** to approve Section 1 Annual Governance Statement 2018-2019 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018-2019.
- d. The Council **resolved** to approve Explanation of Variances for finance year 2018-2019
- e. The Council **resolved** to approve Section 2 Accounting Statements 2018-2019 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018-2019.
- f. The Council **resolved** that, in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015 and the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities, it will publish the following documents on a public website:
Certificate of Exemption; Annual Internal Audit Report 2018-2019; Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2018-2019; Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2018-2019; Analysis of variances; Bank Reconciliation to 31 March 2019; Notice of the period for the exercise of public rights and other information required by Regulation 15 (2), Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.
- g. The Council **resolved** to approve expenditure above £100 for the finance year 2018-2019.
- h. The Council **noted** the VAT reclaim of £235.94 for the Finance Year 2018-2019.
- i. The Council **noted** receipt of £6,250 as first instalment of the precept.
- j. The Council **resolved** to approve payment of £30.00 to Charlotte Wilkinson for 6 weeks of bus shelter cleaning.
- k. The Council **resolved** to approve payment of £390.00 to Martin Pettiford Building & Roofing for repair to walls around the bus shelter.
- l. The Council **resolved** to approve payment to Craven Garden Care of £194.40 for grass cutting on village verges; of £243.00 for grass cutting on village greens; of £247.14 for maintenance on outlying areas; and of £29.16 for maintenance on Clapham Road conservation verge.
- m. The Council **reviewed** the Lengthsman Services Report – comparison of budget vs actual costs and **noted** an overspend of £43 on village greens grass cutting and an underspend of £105.60 on village verges grass cutting, both for April.
- n. The Council **resolved** to approve payment of £228.90 to the clerk for salary for April 2019.
- o. The Council **noted** that the revised bank mandate has been accepted by HSBC.
- p. The Council **noted** that there were no other financial issues reported.

2.10 Correspondence

- a. The Council had **received** correspondence that a parishioner would like to install two benches on a large layby on Wharfe Road. The Council had replied that consent from the owner of the layby should be sought. The Council **noted** the parishioner's reply that establishing ownership would be complicated and the benches will therefore, be installed in the parishioner's own field.
- b. The Council had **received** correspondence from the owner of the Old Post Office regarding maintenance of the road verge area in front of the property. The Council had **replied** that this area is neither common land, nor parish council land and is probably part of the public highway.

2.11 Items of information

- a. Cllrs Gould and Dewhirst **reported** on the YDNPA Spring Parish Forum meeting on 14th May. Topics discussed were notably how to attract younger people to the Dales, including a CDC presentation on Great Place: Lakes & Dales; an update on the Yorkshire Dales Local Plan to implement planning policies now that the Park has expanded; and an update on the Park's objective to obtain the prestigious International Dark Skies Status.
- b. The Council **noted** the NYCC Highways monthly update of confirmed Area maintenance programme for Craven.

- c. The Council **noted** the YLCA White Rose Newsletter April 2019.
- d. The Council **noted** the Castleberg Hospital update and the anticipated opening date for the Castleberg Hospital as the end of July or early August 2019.

2.12 Date and time of the next meeting

The Council **confirmed** the date of the next Parish Council meeting as Monday 15th July 2019 at 7.30 pm at Austwick Parish Hall.

Marijke Hill
Clerk to the Council