

Austwick Parish Council
Meeting 8 2017-2018 - Monday 19th February 2018
Minutes

Present: Cllrs Peter Gould (Chairman), Kate Smith, David Dewhirst, Ian Smith and Barbara Tibbatts.
In attendance: Marijke Hill (Parish Clerk) and two 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: Ms Sarah Wiltshire reported that a camper van has been seen parked on the playing fields. The Chairman responded that this matter should be reported to the Playing Fields Association.

8.1 Apologies for absence: District Cllr Lis

8.2 Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interests

- a. Cllr Gould **recorded** a Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) in relation to item 8.7e: state of disrepair of The Weaving Shed, Graystonber Lane.
- b. Cllr Gould had made a request for dispensation in connection with item 8.7e: state of disrepair of The Weaving Shed, Graystonber Lane. The Council **resolved** to grant dispensation for a period of four years.

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

PCSO Preston had sent a written police report for the period of mid January to mid February 2018 and reported four incidents. One report of sheep on the A65 near Austwick and they were returned back to the field; two incidents of an abandoned call, when phones were in a pocket and one incident of a false house alarm.

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

8.4 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 7 2017-2018 (15th January 2018)

The Council **resolved** that the minutes of the Austwick Parish Council Meeting held on 15th January 2018 should be confirmed and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Peter Gould, as a true and accurate record.

8.5 Matters from previous meetings not otherwise included on the Agenda

Cllr Kate Smith **reported** that the Litter Picking Group has carried out a litter pick at which nine sacks of litter had been collected on Graystonber Lane and Holm Lane. The group found large items of rubbish at the junction of the A65 and Holm Lane. The Council **decided** to report this to CDC as fly tipping.

8.6 Parish matters other than maintenance

- a. new donated bench for the village
Cllr Dewhirst **reported** that the new bench is ready to be installed apart from the possible last finish. The Council **decided** that the bench should be left in untreated condition. Cllr Dewhirst also **reported** that Timberworks has taken the Jubilee bench back to their workshop because they are discontent with the applied finish. The Council **agreed** that the Jubilee bench should be sandblasted to bring it back to its natural colour. Both benches should benefit from low maintenance costs.
- b. confirmation of Craven DC's offer to appoint Data Protection Officer for Austwick Parish Council
The Council **noted** the confirmation of Craven District Council's offer to appoint a Data Protection Officer for an annual fee of £150.00. The clerk will keep the Council informed of any more information.

- c. parish council elections on 3rd May 2018
The Council has **received** the nomination forms, timetable of proceedings, expenses declaration and information sheets for prospective candidates in relation to the parish council elections on 3rd May 2018. The Council **agreed** that it would be highly efficient for one person to hand in any nomination forms at CDC a few days before the deadline of 6th April 2018.
- d. possible meeting with Police Crime Commissioner
The Council had **received** correspondence from Ingleton Parish Council who would like to set up a group meeting with the Police Crime Commissioner at which the Parish Council could raise any concerns it may have. The Council **agreed** that it would attend such a meeting and it will await further information about venue, date and time.

8.7 Parish maintenance matters

- a. potholes on the Helwith Bridge Road
The Council had **received** a reply from NYCC Highways that the five reported potholes should be repaired by now. Cllrs Kate Smith and Barbara Tibbatts **reported** that several unfilled potholes remained. The Council **agreed** that Cllr Kate Smith will undertake a fresh assessment, matched with photographs to report to NYCC Highways.
- b. blocked drains between Helwith Bridge and Dry Rig Quarry
The Council has not received a reply from NYCC Highways and the clerk was asked to send a further request for a reply.
- c. Sycamore saplings on the road bridge near Wharfe
Despite Mr Atkinson's promise that the saplings should be removed by now the Council has not received a confirmation of this and the clerk was asked to send a further request for a reply.
- d. other issues relating to NYCC Highways
There were no other issues presented related to NYCC Highways
- e. state of disrepair of The Weaving Shed, Graystonber Lane
The Council had **received** serious concerns from some parishioners in connection with the state of disrepair of The Weaving Shed on Graystonber Lane as well as some formal requests that the Council should consider taking action to ensure that the property is restored into a good state of repair and made safe. The Council **decided** to write to the owner of The Weaving Shed in the first instance, before considering further action, to give him the opportunity to inform the Council of any plans for repair and timescale to have these repairs carried out. The matter will be reviewed at the next Parish Council meeting.
- f. Oxenber and Wharfe Woods: review of matters recorded as item 5.7d in minutes of meeting 5 on 16 October 2017
Item 5.7d in the Minutes of meeting 5, held on 16th October 2017 summarised the outstanding works that Councillors and the YDNPA Area Ranger, Rob Ashford had agreed during their site meeting earlier at the Oxenber and Wharfe Woods. The Council **agreed** to contact Mr Ashford to provide an update on any plans for work in this SSSI area in particular the proposed blackthorn hedge to block off the path to Jop Ridding, along with a temporary sign there to prevent people using 'the path' down the hill as well as the resiting and replacing of waymarkers.
In connection with the floral habitats and the creation of a baseline the Council further **agreed** to pursue a suggestion made by the previous Area Ranger and to contact the current Area Ranger, Rob Ashford for any contact details of local conservation groups or charities that may undertake this as a study.
- g. Clapham Road Conservation Verge
Cllr Dewhirst **informed** the Council that a site meeting had been held with Mr Mark Hewitt, Ms Tanya St Pierre and Mr Graham Cleverly to consider the potential for repair and improvement

of this neglected verge from opposite the burial ground to the YDNPA sign. Mr Hewitt confirmed that funding is available and that work on this project in 2018 would be paid for by the YDNPA up to the value of £1,000. The Council **agreed** that the lengthsman should now proceed with the preliminary work on the verge. The Council further **agreed** that Mr Cleverly should look into the possibility of buying some seeds now so that they could be planted in September.

Cllr Goold would redesign the review report for lengthsman services in order to show clearly the differentiation between all works carried out by the lengthsman and make clear that work on conservation areas is grant aided.

- h. maintenance on Austwick to Clapham bridleway
Cllr Dewhirst **reported** on the poor surface condition of the Austwick to Clapham bridleway adjacent to the A65, used by walkers, cyclists and horse riders to travel safely between the two villages. The Council **decided** to contact the Area Ranger at YDNPA to request that he inspect this bridleway and suggest some appropriate remedial action to improve its condition. A site meeting with Cllr Dewhirst could be arranged.
- i. other issues relating to YDNPA
The Council was **informed** that the dry stone boundary wall at the Wash Dub has been repaired. The clerk was asked to thank the southern volunteer wall building team from the YDNPA.
- j. other lengthsman duties or parish maintenance matters
The Council was **informed** that the missing litter bin near the Chapel on the Green has been returned and has been repositioned a little further away from the bench and fixed onto a paving slab.

8.8 Finance

- a. The total balance of the HSBC current account on 31st January 2018 as £ 8,977.00 comprising £7,307.00 parish council monies and £1,670.00 AED funds was **noted**.
- b. The Council **resolved** to approve payment of £25.00 to Charlotte Wilkinson for 5 weeks of bus shelter cleaning.
- c. The Council **resolved** to approve payment of £150.00 to Austwick Parochial Church Council to support the production of the parish newsletter as a donation under the Local Government Act 1972, Section 142.
- d. The Council **resolved** to approve payment of £201.98 to the clerk for salary for January 2018
- e. The Council **resolved** to approve payment of £73.70 to the clerk for parish council annual web site hosting.
- f. The Council **resolved** to approve payment of £11.99 to Cllr Ian Smith for annual web site domain name renewal.
- g. The Council **resolved** to appoint Mr John Bownass to act as its Internal Auditor for the Finance Year 2017-2018 for a fee of £95.00.
- h. To consider other financial issues
- The Council **resolved** to approve payment of £83.82 to WEL Medical Limited for two sets of multifunctional defibrillator pads to be paid from the AED funds.

8.9 Planning

- a. Applications
 - 1. C/04/65H full planning permission for erection of single storey rear extension to provide office and ground floor toilet facility, Greystonber Barn, Pant Lane, Austwick.
The Council **agreed** that the clerk should inform YDNPA that it had **no comments** to make.
- b. Decisions
 - 1. The Council **noted** that the following application has **not** yet been **decided**:
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.

The Council also **noted** that the following applications have been decided:

2. C/04/664C: full planning permission for erection of garden store lean-to, in position of former lean-to, Townhead Barn, Austwick. **Approved conditionally.**
 3. TPO1: 3m crown reduction of two Maples (pruning the tree back to a suitable branch union and rebalancing) and the removal of one Whitebeam, 1 Hall Close, Austwick. **Given consent.**
- c. Additional planning matters
No additional planning matters were received.

8.10 Correspondence:

- a. Julian Smith MP constituency surgeries February to June
The Council had **received** a poster with the dates and venues of Julian Smith MP constituency surgeries between February and June 2018.

8.11 Items of information

- a. YDNPA: Review of Parish Forum Initiative
Cllr Kate Smith **informed** the Council that she has responded to the survey positively in that the forum provides a valuable link between the YDNPA and local representatives, providing direct access to senior officers and members, enabling parish Councillors to interrogate and understand more about YDNPA issues as well as spot common issues with other parishes. The Council had further **received** an invitation to the YDNPA Spring Parish Forum Meeting on 25th April 2018 in Grassington and it **agreed** that Cllrs Kate Smith and David Dewhirst should attend and that it would not put forward any topics for the agenda.
- b. invitation to the Licensing and Installation Service for John Davies, Saint James' Church, Clapham on 19th April
The Chairman **informed** the Council that he would attend the Licensing and Installation Service for John Davies at Saint James' Church in Clapham on 19th April and represent the Parish Council.
- c. Parish Briefing Note from YDNPA
The Council **noted** the Parish Briefing Note from YDNPA in which the YDNPA's specific proposal on second homes and council tax is explained. The exact proposal is for: The local authorities within the Yorkshire Dales National Park, and the National Park Authority itself, to hold discussions with Government on the options available for increasing Council Tax for second homes within the boundary of the National Park, with the overall aim being: To halt and then reverse the decline in the number of younger people (18-44 year olds) in the National Park.

8.12 Date and time of the next meeting

The Council **confirmed** the date of the next Parish Council meeting as Monday 9th April 2018, 8pm at Austwick Parish Hall.

Marijke Hill
Clerk to the Council