

Austwick Parish Council
Meeting 8 2019-2020 – Monday 24th February 2020
Minutes

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

In attendance: Parish Clerk Marijke Hill 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:

Mr Graham Cleverly participated at items 8.8e and 8.8f.

8.1 Apologies for absence:

8.2 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.

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

PCSO Jayne Grace had sent a written police report, containing five incidents for the period between 13th January and 20th February, notably one report of a house burglary in the near area and two reports from Rural Watch patrol regarding a suspect vehicle in the area. There were no reports from the District Councillors, the County Councillor and the YDNPA.

8.4 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 7 2019-2020 (13th January 2020)

The Council **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th January 2020 should be confirmed and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Goold, as a true and accurate record.

8.5 Matters from previous meetings not otherwise included on the Agenda

- a. Settle Half Marathon 23rd February
The Council had **received** correspondence from NYCC Highways Officer David Cairns asking for feedback regarding the Settle Half Marathon, held on 23rd February. The Council **agreed** to reply that there are no adverse comments except for the issue that, whilst residents immediately on the highway were notified, residents just off the highway, still needing access on the running route to get to and from their properties, were not notified. This was a particular problem for residents just off the Helwith Bridge Road to Wharfe and Austwick.

8.6 Planning

- a. Applications
 1. The Council had not received any planning applications to consider.
- 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. CL339 proposal to erect temporary fencing on The Allotment (West Riding), Austwick: Section 38 of the Commons Act 2006. **not yet decided.**
 3. CL247 proposal for installation of peat bunds for restoration of the raised bog; installation of viewing platform and boardwalk; and construction of 3 mitigation ponds for great crested newts on Swarth Moor Common: Section 38 of the Commons Act 2006. **Consent granted.**
 4. Planning Appeal - APP/C9499/W/19/3224518 C/04/643C and Planning Appeal: APP/C9499/Y/19/3224505 - C/04/643D/LB full planning permission and listed building consent for alterations to, and extension of single storey wing, Harden House, Austwick. **Appeal dismissed.**
 5. C/04/148M full planning permission for erection of 8 No. dwellings and creation of new vehicular access to site at Land off Pant Lane, Austwick. **Not yet decided.**
 6. C/04/696 householder planning permission for erection of single storey rear extension and replacement of corrugated roof with blue slate roof, Sunny Dene, The Green, Austwick. **Approved conditionally.**
 7. C/04/47A householder planning permission for extension of existing living accommodation into garage/workshop; installation of 4 No. rooflights and alterations to windows and doors, The Weaving Shed, Greystonber Lane, Austwick. **Not yet decided.**
The Council **noted** the reply from the YDNPA Planning Assistant that the points the Parish Council has raised have been considered and some further information from the applicants has been requested which will be passed on to the Council in due course for its comments.
- c. Additional and other planning matters
No additional or other planning matters were received.

8.7 Parish matters other than maintenance

- a. plans for the Annual Parish Meeting on 6th April
The Council **agreed** that the Chairman, Cllr Goold, will contact District Cllr Carl Lis to discuss with him his willingness to include a presentation regarding CDC's Climate Emergency Action Plan as well as present practices and policy on waste and recycling in his District Councillor's Annual Report to the meeting. The Council also **agreed** the list of the local groups and organisation invitees. Publicity will commence and invitations will be sent on 16th March.
- b. improvement of evening train service to Settle
The Council had **received** correspondence from a parishioner raising the issue of a later train back to Settle from Leeds than the current timetable shows. The Council **agreed** to write a letter to the MP for Skipton and Ripon and ask for an improvement of the evening train service to Settle, now that Central Government has proposed improvement of infrastructure in the north as well as taking Northern Rail Service into public ownership, which provides a good opportunity to ask for such an improvement to the service.
- c. Community First Responders – purchase of new equipment kits
The Chairman, Cllr Goold, had **informed** the Council that three local people have recently completed their training as Community First Responders in the area, therefore, four CFRs are now operational in the wider area of the parish, creating a logistical issue as there is only one CFR equipment kit. The Council had **agreed** that Cllr Goold would ask Craven District Cllr Carl Lis and North Yorkshire County and Craven District Cllr David Ireton for grant funding for the purchase of equipment kits, as the Yorkshire Ambulance Service are unable to provide additional kits, consisting of a defibrillator, oxygen equipment and other items to treat medical emergencies, and costing £1,100 per kit exclusive of VAT.
The Council was further **informed** that NYCC and CDC Cllr Ireton had agreed to award £1,000 and CDC Cllr Lis had agreed to award £700, both sums being the entirety of their respective available Ward Member Grants for the current financial year. The Grant application form was submitted and £1,700 has been approved. At this meeting the Council **resolved** to endorse these steps taken as the deadline date to submit the Grant application form was on 20th February.
The Council **resolved** to accept the Grant offer and **authorised** Cllr Goold to sign the

acceptance form. Councillors unanimously expressed their grateful thanks to Cllrs Lis and Ireton for making their Ward Member Grant available for the benefit of the Austwick parish. The Council **resolved** to purchase two sets of equipment kits for a total of £2,638.54, inclusive of recoverable VAT and it also **resolved** to pay the balance of the funds needed for the purchase of £500 from the precept and donate the equipment kits to the Austwick and Clapham Community First Responders Team under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

The Council **agreed** that Cllr Goold would liaise with Mr Alec Deary with a view to the purchase and installation of an additional defibrillator, possibly located at the Tearoom in Feizor, to be paid from the AED funds that the Council holds.

8.8 Parish maintenance matters

a. blocked drains between Helwith Bridge and Dry Rigg Quarry

The Council had not received notification if NYCC Highways had returned to complete the clearing of the blocked drains and it **agreed** to ask for an update in order that this work should be completed before the next bird nesting season.

b. other issues relating to NYCC Highways

No other issues regarding NYCC Highways were reported.

c. resurfacing of the Austwick to Clapham bridleway

The Council had not received notification from the YDNPA Area Ranger if a site visit had been conducted and if any further actions to resurface this Bridleway this financial year will be carried out. The Council **agreed** to ask for an update and include that there has been further significant deterioration of the surface after the recent heavy rainfall.

d. other issues relating to YDNPA

The Chairman, Cllr Goold, **reported** that, after receiving a parishioner report, he has alerted the YDNPA Area Ranger that the clapper bridge at Little Bridges has lost its footing and, consequently, crossing Austwick Beck could be dangerous. Cllr Goold **informed** the Council that an immediate inspection by the Area Ranger had been promised and that a temporary closure of this footpath is being considered by the YDNPA.

The Council was **informed** that Hale Lane was washed away in places and that water is now undermining the remaining structure of this Bridleway between Feizor and Austwick. The Council **agreed** to ask the Area Ranger for an early inspection and assessment of the situation.

e. Graystonber Lane and Clapham Road conservation verges

Mr Cleverly informed the Council that he has spent £112.80 on seed mixture and other miscellaneous seeds and has supplied primrose plug plants to the value of £90, all now spread on and planted in the conservation verges. It was **agreed** that the balance of the compensation fund, established with Mr and Mrs Cleverly in January 2018, should be reduced by a total value of £202.80, leaving an outstanding balance of £80.40.

Cllr Dewhirst **informed** the Council that Mr Mark Hewitt of the YDNPA has confirmed the continuing support for general maintenance of both verges. The Council **agreed** to ask for a grant of £500 and to invite Mr Hewitt for a site visit in the spring to discuss the progress made on both verges and further proposed maintenance. The Council also **agreed** to continue to spend any grant monies on conservation verge development and maintenance and not on signage.

Mr Cleverly reported that the bird boxes assessment has been carried out on the two verges and that a number of them show water damage, temporarily repaired by Mr Cleverly. The Council **agreed** to consider spending some of the grant money, once received, on additional bird boxes.

f. extending the parish wildlife project

Cllr Wiltshire **proposed** to explore the possibility of extending the wildlife sites in the parish

with a view to supporting additional wildlife habitats. The Council **agreed** to seek the views of Mr Mark Hewitt in this regard, as well as contact an independent expert regarding potential areas. It was further **agreed** that Cllrs Wiltshire and Dewhirst and Mr Graham Cleverly would look into the recently received grant funding 'call for projects' invitation from the Yorkshire Water Biodiversity Enhancement programme 2020 and that a grant application to fund a preliminary study into opportunities in the parish may be submitted before the deadline date of 20th April.

- g. installation of warning dog fouling signs in the parish
Cllr Dewhirst **informed** the Council that the installation of the warning dog fouling signs is on the lengthsman's programme of work.
- h. other lengthsman duties or parish maintenance matters
There were no other lengthsman duties or parish maintenance matters reported.

8.9 Finance

- a. The total balance of the HSBC current account on 31 January 2020 as £11,468.18 comprising £9,868.03 parish council monies and £1,600.15 AED funds was **noted**.
- b. The Council **considered** the appointment of the Internal Auditor for the Finance Year 2019-2020 and **resolved** to approve the appointment of Mr J Bownass for a fee of £100.00.
- c. The Council **resolved** to approve payment of £30.00 to Charlotte Wilkinson for 6 weeks of bus shelter cleaning.
- d. The Council **resolved** to approve payment of £30.00 to Austwick Parish Hall Council for hall hire on 13th January and 24th February.
- e. The Council **resolved** to approve payment of £228.90 per month to the clerk for salary for January and February 2020 as well as £69.84 for annual web site hosting.
- f. The Council **reviewed** the parish clerk salary and resolved to increase it to NJC scale SCP 14 to £233.40 per month with effect from 1st April 2020.
- g. The Council **considered** a donation to Austwick Parochial Church Council and it **resolved** to approve payment of £200.00 to support the production of the parish newsletter as a donation under the Local Government Act 1972, Section 142.
- h. The Council **considered** one other financial issue: it **resolved** to reimburse payment of £14.39 by Cllr Smith for the annual website domain renewal.

- 8.10 The Council **considered** the Financial Risk Assessment and Management document and **resolved** to approve this.

8.11 Correspondence

The Council had not **received** items of correspondence.

8.12 Items of information

- a. YDNPA: Spring Parish Forum meeting on 19th May in Ingleton
The Council **noted** the invitation to the YDNPA Spring Parish Forum meeting on 19th May in Ingleton and **agreed** that Cllrs Gould and Dewhirst should attend. The Council also **noted** the issues highlighted as particularly pertinent for the Park Authority as Climate Change; Nature recovery; the future of upland farming and land use; and National Parks for All and the Council **agreed** it would forward any additional issues to be included on the agenda for this meeting before the 24th April.
- b. The Council **noted** the response it had submitted since the last meeting, to the YDNPA consultation on the new Local Plan regarding the provision of affordable housing.
- c. The Council had **received** a notification regarding two parish representative vacancies on CDC's Standards Committee.
- d. The Council **noted** the North Yorkshire Police 'keeping safe from fraud' event on the 9th

- March in Northallerton.
- e. The Council noted the YLCA: White Rose Update dated 17th, 24th and 31st January and 10th, 17th and 21st February 2020.
 - f. The Council **noted** that there are no proposed changes to the Renewal of Subsidised Local Bus Services in the Area of Craven.
 - g. The Council had commented on the Yorkshire Water Biodiversity Enhancement programme 2020, call for projects at item 8.8f.
 - h. The Council **noted** the NYCC consultation on a new policy on developer contributions for education (parishes).

8.13 Date and time of the next meeting

The Council **confirmed** the date of the next Parish Council meeting as Monday 6th April 2020 at 6.30 pm at Austwick Parish Hall, immediately followed by the **Annual Parish Meeting** at 7.30 pm.

Marijke Hill
Clerk to the Council