

Long Preston Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 4th December 2014

Minutes

Prior to the start of the meeting there was a demonstration of the new website currently under development.

Present: Cllrs John Goodall (Chairman), Andy Kay, Paul Morley and John Sturgess

In Attendance: Gillian Muir (Parish Clerk), Cllr Moorby and 8 members of the public

1. Opening and Public Participation

The Chairman opened the meeting and highlighted that it was being filmed by a member of the public. During public participation various matters were discussed including: progress of works and fundraising for the Baptist Burial Site gravestones; confirmation from LPHG that the new village boundary stone at Kayley Hill is a parish council asset; concerns about the cost of maintaining the Baptist Burial Ground and a plea to reduce the financial burden; concerns about management of council finances since 2006 and a request for a forensic audit, the employment of a lengthsman and the relationship between the parish council and the PFA. Cllr Moorby praised the work carried out by Cllr Kay on the new website and the willingness of the council to be transparent.

2. Apologies and reasons for absence: Cllr Tyrer due to a prior commitment and Cllr Mason due to resignation

3. Members Interests and Dispensation Requests

Cllr Sturgess recorded his interest as a council representative with the Hartley Trust.

4. Confidential Agenda Items: no requests were made.

5. Minutes of the previous meeting

Council RESOLVED that the minutes of the Long Preston Parish Council meeting held on 13th November 2014 should be approved and signed by Cllr Goodall, Chairman, as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

2 members of the public left the meeting.

6. Finance

6.1 Council RESOLVED to pay the invoice for the installation of the Long Preston curlew sign on behalf of LPHG. LPHG will reimburse the council for the net amount.

6.2 Council RESOLVED to donate £68.50 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

6.3 Horton Landscaping Grass cutting costs - the Clerk explained that the discrepancy between the contracted figure and total amount charged for this year was due to costs associated with the Baptist Burial Ground.

RESOLVED to pay the outstanding amount owed to Horton Landscaping Ltd

6.4 RESOLVED to make the payments detailed in the financial statement dated 4th December 2014. These include:

Royal British Legion	Poppy appeal	£	68.50
Harrison and Cross Ltd	Installation of street light columns	£	1,620.00
Harrison and Cross Ltd	Street light repairs	£	192.12

Horton Landscaping Ltd	Remaining grass cutting cost for March, July, August, September, October	£ 1,488.96
Gillian Muir	Expenses, November	£ 122.32
Gillian Muir	Additional Hours, November	£ 186.88
Long Preston Village Hall	Room hire	£ 60.00
Craven District Council	Election expenses	£ 711.00
Total		£ 4,449.78

6.5 The financial statement dated 4th December 2014 was reviewed and approved.

6.6 Current and future arrangements for lengthsman's duties were considered.
RESOLVED: to allocate £1500 to lengthsman's duties in 2015-16.

6.7 After much detailed discussion, it was RESOLVED that:

- the budget for 2015-16 was discussed in detail and outlined in appendix 1.
 - an asset audit should be conducted
 - the annual depreciation value of each asset should be calculated
- A member of the public and Cllr Moorby left the meeting

6.8 A preliminary strategy for 2015-16 was debated during the budget discussions. It focussed on street lighting improvements, ground maintenance, the installation of village green benches, and a funding pot for local community groups.

6.9 Other financial matters

Council RESOLVED the following:

- to approve an £85 donation to the PFA for the construction of a stile at the northern end of the playing field.
- to approve additional hours for the Clerk to complete the file audit in December

It was noted that the Precept for 2015-16 must be agreed at the January meeting.

7. Updates and further action regarding on-going issues

7.1 Registration of Village Greens and 7.2 The Easement for Back Green Barn

In Cllr Tyrer's absence the Clerk reported that Savage Crangle has responded to the council's request to view its title deeds. A draft deed of easement has also been drawn up.

7.3 Street Lighting

The Chairman reported that all street lights outages have been repaired. There has been no negative feedback to the LED light trial.

Council RESOLVED to replace 5 street lights with LEDs and 2/3 brackets.

The status of the electrical connection to the light at Grosvenor House, Main Street had been checked following information received. The fitting had been transferred from a pole in the front of the house to a bracket mounted on the south corner of the building. Its electrical connection is compliant with the requirements of both the Council and the power company Electricity North West and cannot be separately controlled.

No instances of failure to operate normally have been received by this council since it took office in May 2014.

8. Long Preston Playing Field

8.1 Council noted the PFA's decision to decline a 10 year lease for the playing field.

8.2 A progress report for the tree planting scheme was not given.

A member of the public left the meeting.

9. The code of conduct

This item was held over to the January meeting.

10. Meet your councillor event

The Chairman outlined plans to run a joint event with the Water Trust in the spring. The details of this event will be worked up in the New Year.

A member of the public left the meeting.

11. Current planning applications and issues

11.1 Applications:

a. C/52/672G variation of condition 2 of planning permission C/52/672F in respect of window positions and rooflights. This application is to extend the time limit available to implement the existing planning permission. Council had no objections.

11.2 Decisions:

a. 52/2014/15100 Refurbishment and extension of barn to provide new stabling and accommodation, Barn off Mill lane, Long Preston. Approved.

12. Issues relating to Craven District, North Yorkshire County Councils, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, the Police and Council representatives

Prior to leaving the meeting, Cllr Moorby reported that CDC is now carrying out their rubbish collections on the correct allocated day.

13. Correspondence

a. Cllr Mason's resignation letter was noted.

b. Cllr Sturgess reported that he is in correspondence with NYCC Highways on how sub-contractors could optimise the use of temporary traffic lights to minimise traffic disruption during road works.

c. CDC funding for community groups - the poster advertising available grants is on display on the notice board.

d. NYCC Craven Area Committee Meeting – the date of the next meeting was noted.

Two members of the public left the meeting.

14. Publications – none received.

15. Items of information & proposals for the agenda of future meetings

a. The Clerk explained the need for proper decision making so that councillors and staff can proceed with work that has been authorised by the parish council.

b. The development of the website and a community emergency plan will be considered in January.

c. PC David Ridler has been invited to a meeting in the New Year to discuss road safety issues.

d. One expression of interest has been received regarding the councillor vacancy.

16. Date of Next Meeting

It was RESOLVED that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 8th January 2015, 7.30pm at Long Preston Village Hall

Appendix 1

Draft Budget 2015-16

Item	Budget 2014/2015	Budget 2015/2016
ADMINISTRATION		
Audit	£ 600.00	£ 600.00
Insurance	£ 1,336.00	£ 750.00
Room hire	£ 174.00	£ 180.00
Subscriptions	£ 502.00	£ 505.00
Website	£ 55.00	£ 55.00
Election Expenses	£ 1,097.00	£ -
Legal costs	£ 500.00	£ 200.00
Loan Repayment	£ 1,782.00	£ 1,782.00
Advertising	£ 444.00	£ 100.00
STAFF AND OTHER COSTS		
Clerk's salary	£ 4,500.00	£ 4,500.00
Clerk's expenses (inc. travel and office expenses)	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,500.00
Clerk's pension	£ -	£ 410.00
Training	£ -	£ 250.00
Lengthsman services	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,500.00
ASSETS		
Street lighting - repairs	£ 5,000.00	£ 2,000.00
Street lighting - electricity	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,250.00
Bus shelters	£ 1,000.00	£ -
Grass cutting (inc Burial Ground)	£ 4,000.00	£ 4,500.00
Tree Maintenance	£ 3,000.00	£ 400.00
Burial Ground	£ 1,100.00	£ -
Benches	£ -	£ 1,000.00
DONATIONS		
S137 e.g. local groups	£ 68.50	£ 1,000.00
Totals	£ 29,658.50	£ 22,482.00