

Hartwith cum Winsley Parish Council

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**MINUTES OF HARTWITH cum WINSLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD Tuesday,
14th May 2024 at The Annexe, Summerbridge Methodist Church
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Present: Cllr T Watson (Chair) Cllr. B. Thornton
Cllr F Clark S. Smith, Locum Clerk
Cllr. S. Parkin 1 member of the public – Ros Evans

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| 1. | Apologies were received from Cllrs Benn, Derry and Langley. |
| 2. | No NEW Declarations of Interest not already declared under the Parish Council's code of conduct or members Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and consideration of requests for dispensation were received. |
| 3. | Cllr Clark proposed the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 24 th April 2024 be accepted as true record, seconded Cllr. Parkin, carried . (Cllr. Thornton abstained as he had not been present.) Cllr Clark proposed the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 24 th April 2024 be accepted as true record, seconded the Chair, carried . (Cllr. Thornton abstained as he had not been present.) |
| 4. | Clerk's report a. YLC was requesting agenda items for the next meeting of Harrogate branch on 10 th June. Members suggested that the introduction of a right of appeal against Standards Committee decisions should be included on the YLCA agenda. b. NALC Consultation on Accountability in Public Life – members chose to pass on this. c. The clerk reported that she had heard back from the Community Assets and Engagement Manager at NYC and no commuted sums would be forthcoming from the Poppyfields development. |
| 5. | Chair's report. <u>Highways Maintenance</u> The Chair provided an update on the potholes reported to Area 6 in March 2024. The potholes on B6165 at Low Winsley and near Birchfield have now been filled and the other potholes at The Crescent and The Whinfields are still in need of filling. Parish Council to chase up with Area 6. <u>Grass Cutting</u> Grass cutting was carried out within the 30/40 mph area by Parish Council main contractor and the Parish caretaker at Poppy Fields before the May Day bank holiday. <u>Dobson Bank Road Traffic Incident</u> The Chair queried whether anyone had any information about a road traffic collision which occurred at Dobson Bank Top week ending 3rd May, resulting in No 1 lighting column and Parish Council Christmas Tree lighting supply being damaged. <u>Footpaths at The Whinfields</u> The Chair had received a number of complaints about the condition of internal footpaths at The Crescent. These footpaths are now the responsibility of North Yorkshire Council. He said he will check these out and refer them back to the Parish Council. |

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| 6. | <p>External Reports. North Yorkshire Council (NYC) NYC Cllr. Hull not being present, this item was not covered.</p> <p>Dacre & Hartwith Playing Fields Association. No new information.</p> <p>Dacre and Hartwith Village Hall No new information.</p> |
| 7 | <p>Details of Planning Applications can be viewed on https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/planning-and-conservation/view-and-comment-planning-applications/view-and-comment-planning-applications-your-area</p> <p>The Parish Council received the following planning applications:</p> <p>i. ZC24/01401/TPO - Fell 1 no. Oak (T6) of Tree Preservation Order No. 74/2021 T6 - Site Of Birchwood Summerbridge HG3 4BN.</p> <p>Ros Evans, a Woodlands Trust volunteer, had attended the meeting to voice her strong objection to this planning application on the following grounds:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. This tree is registered as a veteran tree in the Woodland Trust's Ancient Tree Inventory (ID 187978) and should only be considered for removal in exceptional circumstances. In March 2022, a council officer confirmed its veteran status, stating its loss without a veteran assessment is unacceptable. b. Government guidelines advise against felling veteran trees unless there are exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy. The proposed plan does not meet these conditions. The developer claims T6 needs removal due to significant decline, deadwood, and decay cavities. However, these features contribute to its biodiversity value and veteran status. The tree's condition has improved since 2018 after removing an encroaching holly tree. c. The developer argues the tree's proximity to a new residential dwelling makes it unsuitable for retention, but it is not dangerously close. The desire to remove the tree for aesthetic reasons does not qualify as an exceptional circumstance. Replacing the veteran tree with a semi-mature one is inadequate compensation, as it would take 200 years for a new tree to provide the same habitat benefits. <p>Resolved: that an extension for receipt of the council's comments is sought until 19th June 2024, the day after the next meeting.</p> <p>An NYC Arboricultural expert had not yet submitted a report on this, and councillors felt that it was imperative to see this first to ensure it is able to submit well informed and carefully considered comments.</p> <p>ii. The following planning decisions by North Yorkshire Council (NYC) was noted: ZC24/00896/TPO - PROPOSAL: Fell 2 no. Ash trees of Tree Preservation Order no. 02/1950 W10 - Knox Wood Old Coach Road Low Laithe - APPROVED subject to conditions.</p> |
| 8 | <p>The Parish Council received the following updates on Council Business and correspondence:</p> <p>a) Caretaker tasks Resolved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. that the caretaker is asked to cut the grass at the Poppyfields, Hartwith Bank and Smelthouses. ii. that Hesseldens is asked to cut the grass verges short ahead of the May bank holiday weekend. <p>b) Streetlights The Chair informed members he had reported the lighting column at New York Industrial Estate again to the relevant NYC department but had still not had a response. He and the Clerk had</p> |

been to see the light tonight so the Clerk could get precise location details and report it using the parish portal in the hope of getting some action to be taken.

The Chair noted that the footway lighting at the Flying Dutchman and 1 Dobson Bank were now working.

c) Drainage issues

An estimate of £2,500 to resolve the drainage issues at the end of Whinfields, plus an additional £1,000 for traffic management during the work, was deemed too costly for the parish council to approve. In fact the responsibility for this work lies with NYC, and the issues were caused by Northern PowerGrid's activities. It was agreed to defer any decision on this for now, especially as going ahead with this would mean that the work to improve the bus shelters could not proceed.

d) Recruitment of new clerk

While 2 applications had been received, they were not suitable as they lived too far from the parish to be able to carry out the work effectively.

e) Purchase of plants for Remembrance Garden and Dobson Top

Resolved: that the Chair can proceed with the purchase of geranium plants and compost at an estimated cost of £78. These will go through the council's accounts next month.

f) D-Day 80th Anniversary

The Chair reported that a commemoration service will be held at 7.30pm at the Holy Trinity Church, Dacre Banks. This will be followed by refreshments at Summerbridge Methodist Church. A beacon will be lit at Summerbridge War Memorial at 9.15pm. He will also light the Railway lantern at Summerbridge Methodist Church and read out a remembrance piece, including the names of the people in the Dale who were at the D-day landings.

Resolved: that to honour the occasion, the council purchases a wreath from the Royal British Legion for a purchase price of up to £40.

g) Bus Shelter repairs and troughs

Members considered 2 quotes from Dalebuild as follows:

Repair work to bus shelters at Summerbridge and New York stop - £1,260

Groundwork and installation of troughs at entrance to Summerbridge car park - £985.00.

Other quotes had been requested but not received.

h) Application to North Yorkshire Councillor Locality Budget

Resolved: that the Clerk applies to the Locality Fund for £1,200 towards both the bus shelter repairs and work to install the troughs at the car park.

Beyond this, £600 will be covered by the budget and the rest will need to come from reserves. (There was an underspend of £85 on the defibrillator which can go towards it.)

i) Menwith Hill Civic Leaders Briefing Morning on Wednesday 26th June

The Chair said he would attend this event if he was feeling fit enough.

j) Parking problems in Summerbridge

Members continued to be very concerned by the parking issues caused by Yorkshire Water vans. The junction was dangerous due to lack of visibility.

It was agreed to ask a senior NYC Area 6 officer to attend to talk to councillors about this, the drainage issues, and the lack of yellow lines. It would be particularly good if they could come on a school day during pick up and drop off time.

Members raised concerns that the car park at Poppyfields was still not complete. This could help to relieve the bottleneck. Even a temporary surface would be a good idea.

k) NYC Highways – non delivery of the promised yellow lines and any other matters.

See above.

| 9 | <p>9.1 To following accounts were approved for payment:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="311 224 1484 369"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Net</th> <th>VAT</th> <th>To Pay</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>9.1.1</td> <td>Suzanne Smith – Locum Clerk</td> <td>£446.88</td> <td>-</td> <td>£446.88</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9.1.2</td> <td>Richard Langley – caretaking</td> <td>£115.00</td> <td>-</td> <td>£115.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9.1.3</td> <td>Tracey Dawson – Locum Clerk</td> <td>£306.25</td> <td>-</td> <td>£306.25</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>8.2 The following receipts were noted: 1st instalment of precept - £7,000 Dacre Parish Council - £292.35 Tracey Dawson - £45.99</p> <p>9.3 Cllr. Thornton tabled accounts and a bank reconciliation to 30th April 2024.</p> <p>9.4 Review of Financial Risk Assessment Resolved: that the Financial Risk Assessment continues to meet the council’s requirements.</p> <p>9.5 Consideration of Whether to adopt the NALC Model Financial Regulations 2024 Cllr Thornton agreed that he and Cllr. Langley would look at these ahead of the next meeting and this would come back on the next agenda for further consideration.</p> <p>9.6 Review of Bank Mandate Members agreed that Tracey Dawson needed to be removed and a new Councillor added. Cllr. Thornton said he would obtain the necessary paperwork and bring this back to the next meeting.</p> <p>9.7 Appointment of internal auditor for 2023-24 and 2024-25 Resolved: that John Dennis is appointed.</p> | | | Net | VAT | To Pay | 9.1.1 | Suzanne Smith – Locum Clerk | £446.88 | - | £446.88 | 9.1.2 | Richard Langley – caretaking | £115.00 | - | £115.00 | 9.1.3 | Tracey Dawson – Locum Clerk | £306.25 | - | £306.25 |
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| 10 | <p>The Parish Council had received the following correspondence.</p> <p>10.1. North Yorkshire Council Preparation of Local Plan – Call for sites. This stage is an opportunity for land owners, site promoters, developers or other interested parties to put sites forward for consideration in the new local plan to meet the future needs of the area. – it was agreed that this should be brought back.</p> <p>10.2. Free training on Website accessibility (updated info) – Tuesday 21st May 6.30pm-7.30pm – noted</p> <p>10.3. Home to School Travel Policy – Policy Consultation is due to take place on 11 June – Invitation to submit questions or comments by 12pm on Thursday 4th June Resolved: that the council comments as follows: Given the limited public transport in the area, transport to school and colleges should be provided free of charge or be very heavily discounted.</p> <p>10.4. Brimham Hall Farm Diversification – communication received from the applicant with regards their planning application – noted.</p> <p>10.5. Consultation on Barriers to Community Energy Projects – invitation to help inform NALC’s response by completing survey – noted.</p> <p>10.6. Engagement – Transfer of Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner roles to the York and North Yorkshire Mayor and Combined Authority – noted.</p> <p>10.7. Training Opportunities provided by YLCA – ‘Off to a Flying Start’ – Training for Councillors Part 1 (15th May 6.30pm-8.30pm), Part 2 (16th May 6.30pm-8.30pm). Also ‘Breakthrough Communications’ – Mastering Local Media (14th May 6pm-8pm) – noted. It was agreed that items such as this did not in future need to be on the agenda, just circulated by email to councillors.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| 11 | <p>Information Exchange</p> <p>The lack of double yellow lines was once again raised.</p> <p>The Chair reminded Councillors to ensure that their Register of Interests were up-to-date.</p> <p>Cllr. Thornton said that he would press ahead with getting the AGAR ready for approval at the next meeting.</p> |
| 12 | <p>New items for next meeting</p> <p>None.</p> |
| 13 | <p>Date of next Meeting</p> <p>Members agreed to hold the next meeting on 18th June.</p> |
| <p>The meeting closed at 8.39pm.</p> | |

Minutes to be confirmed at the next Parish Council meeting.