

SKELTON CUM NEWBY PARISH COUNCIL

c/o Nick Reed, Clerk, 9 Little Market Place, Masham, N. Yorks HG4 4DY

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: Thursday 10th January 2019
TIME: 7.00pm
LOCATION: The Reading Room, Skelton-on-Ure
PRESENT: Councillors Jane Mosley (Chair), Lawrence Paterson, Jim Spillings, Phil Tottie
CLERK: Nick Reed (minutes)
IN ATTENDANCE: Eleven Members of the Public [MoP]

18.42	Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation There were none
18.43	Apologies Apologies were received from, and reasons for absence accepted for, Cllr Critchlow.
18.44	Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th October 2018 These were AGREED as a true record of the meeting, and signed as such by the Chair.
18.45 18.451 18.452	Ongoing issue from the minutes for updating Commuted sums: Harrogate Bc confirm that the commuted sum due to the parish council in their September 2017 statement was spent on a bench at the recreation ground in 2017. St Helen's churchwardens are in the process of drawing down their commuted sum due, but nothing has been heard from Newby Cricket Club. Millennium Pond: The mesh is to be purchased and installed once the weather eases a little, hopefully before the end of the financial year. <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Action: Cllr Spillings to oversee</i></p>
18.46	Questions or comments A MoP asked whether the triangle of land on High Moor Road, known colloquially as "Hag Pot", was being administered by the council. Councillors noted: that NYCC continued not to confirm ownership of the land; and that the land cannot be blocked off as Newby Hall has right of access over it. Councillors re-affirmed that, while the uncertainty about ownership is frustrating, they did not wish to commit to any actions which may make the parish council responsible for the land or its upkeep. A MoP reported that the village's Community Sped Watch (CSW) kit has been collected by the CSW administrators for training sessions. The kit will be returned in the near future, but due to the number of communities now joining the scheme Skelton CSW may have to share the kit with other nearby villages in the future,
18.47	Financial Statement and approvals for payment The Council was noted as having on hand £7,223.82 on 1 st January 2019 It was RESOLVED to approve the following payments: Wages (Clerk October-December, Cleaner October-December); Clerk's expenses and training qtr 3 £50.70; Hoelants / Hardwick Garden Centre £117.02 in 3 payments for Reading Room plants (TRCF funded); EuraAudit (payroll administration) £36.00; J. Lee (black bags) £15.00. A sum of £23.24 (Yorkshire Water) was NOTED as having been taken by direct debit and these payments were approved. Receipts were noted for Reading Room hire (£216 in October, £56 in November, £176 in December), bird box donations of £30, and quiz night proceeds of £400.50. The cash book balance after these transactions was noted as being 6,560.24.
18.48	WREN Foundation FCC Community Action Fund Councillors noted with great pleasure the award of up to £21,736.93 from this fund for a project

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18.481	encompassing improvements in stonework, heating, insulation and glazing in the Reading Room. It was noted that the Clerk will be responsible for administration of the project's paperwork from hereon, with Cllr Spillings responsible for project management on site. The Clerk is to inform the council in April if this administration involves any extra hours above those contracted;
18.482	The Council considered the timing of the project, and noted a comprehensive timeline provided by Cllr Spillings, which allows for a maximum of 19 weeks from project initiation to completion. In answer to a question for a MoP, councillors noted that the Reading Room should not be closed for more than one working week, and that these timings will likely be able to fit around existing bookings;
18.483	The Council noted that Newby Hall as landlords have been supportive and enabling of this project, and provided helpful information to the Council and the funders in excellent time;
18.484	The Council RESOLVED to appoint, subject to funders' approval: C&E Ltd to do the stonemasonry; Neil Green Services to install the heating system; Dyson Energy to install the ceiling insulation; and EYG Ltd to do the glazing works. It was noted that in all these cases the bids had been both the lowest and most impressive, and therefore there should not be any issue with the funders approving them.
18.49	Highway repairs Councillors discussed various highways issues, including: Two potholes at the corner of Crowgarth and Cherry Tree Close (these have been reported to NYCC); The state of the road out from the village towards Ripon – although it was noted that potholes on this road had been spraypainted, suggesting imminent action; And, the gully outside Skelton Newby Primary School, which is blocked with tarmac run-off caused during works in the summer of 2018. A MoP noted that they had reported this issue to NYCC highways many times. <i>Action: Clerk to write to NYCC Highways on this last matter</i>
18.50	Dog fouling Councillors and several MoP noted that this is becoming a more serious issue again, and that finding appropriate action is proving difficult. If parishioners catch dog owners "in the act" of allowing fouling they should of course report this to Harrogate BC, however other options including more regular dog warden visits and CCTV were regarded as unlikely to be instituted and unlikely to make a significant difference even if instituted. The possibility of at least one more dog bin was also discussed, with the note that Harrogate BC was unlikely to either fund or empty it. Finally, the possibility of new notices reminding dog owners of their responsibilities was discussed with some positivity. <i>Action: Cllr Mosley to continue liaising with Harrogate BC regarding these possibilities</i>
18.51	Emergency Plan Cllr Mosley reported that a draft Community resilience / Emergency Plan had been drawn up by the council to a Harrogate BC template in the summer of 2018. This would be a helpful document in the unlikely event of a major incident (e.g. fire, flood, serious road accident) in or near the parish. To progress the report, parishioners would be needed to volunteer as contacts for telephone trees, staffing a place of safety, helping less mobile members of the community, and other such tasks. Many MoP present expressed approval of this as a worthwhile exercise, and the council RESOLVED to discuss the matter at the Annual Parish Meeting (on Thursday 10 th May). <i>Action: Clerk to place this on the agenda and consider draft plan against best practice</i>
18.52	Planning application and decisions Councillors considered application 18/05199/FUL for a detached garage at 2 Cherry Tree Close, and RESOLVED that they had no objection to it. The council NOTED the approval subject to conditions of application 18/04533/FUL for extension work at Smithsons Cottage.

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18.53	Correspondence
18.531	Newby Hall: Confirming that the council's name as lessee of the Reading Room has been changed to "Skelton-cum-Newby Parish Council" to reflect the Council's name change of 2018.
18.532	Malton Motor Club: Notification of a navigational rally passing through the village overnight on Saturday 19 th – Sunday 20 th January.
18.533	Harrogate BC: Notice of a consultation under the Stray Act of the use of Harrogate's Stray during the World Road Cycling Championships in September 2019.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

SIGNED: (Chair)

DATE: