

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 11th April 2024
TIME: 7.00pm
LOCATION: Reading Room, Skelton-on-Ure
PRESENT: Cllrs Guy Critchlow (Chair), Chris Delf, Emma Gerrard, Jane Mosley, Jim Spillings
CLERK: Nick Reed (minutes)
IN ATTENDANCE: 15 members of the public [MoP]

24.01	Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation There were none.
24.02	Apologies and consideration of reasons for absence There were none, all Councillors being present.
24.03	Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th January 2024 These were AGREED as a true record of the meeting, and signed as such by the Chair.
24.04 24.041 24.042	Ongoing issues from the minutes for updating (not covered elsewhere on the agenda) School site: The Council heard the Baldersby Park Montessori Nursery is planning to move into the former school building, and commended Newby Hall Estate for taking BDPN on rather than alternative, more potentially lucrative, offers. Planning permission will be needed for change of use from school to pre-school, and the Council indicated that it would support such an application when it is received. Highways issues: The Council heard that North Yorkshire Council Highways is to send an officer to meet on site at High Moor Road and discuss the state of it. Concern had been raised that a recent NYC visit had only attended to every other gully on Skelton Main Street, but the Council heard that this had been a survey to inform the next 12 months' activity and that in 2024-25 all gullies would be cleared on a street by street basis. NYC officers also have a patching list for potholes, and it was noted for information that temporary potholes to prevent imminent danger are circular, while longer-term repairs are rectangular. The Council noted recent issues with blocked drains at the end of the village near the school, and it was agreed to ask NYC and Newby Hall to liaise about the scale and cleanliness of agricultural vehicles using that stretch of road.
24.043	NYC joint parishes meeting: Cllr Critchlow reported that this had again been a useful gathering. Many nearby parishes are experiencing problems with Yorkshire Water infrastructure and service, which fortunately have not yet been a problem in Skelton-cum-Newby
24.044	Tree at Moor End Farm: The Council heard that Newby Hall has no plans to remove the lime tree, and is willing to provide a cherry picker to install Christmas lights, and the Council therefore RESOLVED to purchase two sets of Christmas lights. It was noted that it would be helpful if any parishioner with electrical experience could make themselves available to install the lights.
24.05	Questions and Comments from members of the public / district and county councillors / NY Police PC Connor Coulthurst introduced himself as the relatively new officer responsible for this parish among others. He reported that there had been 12 reported incidents in the previous quarter with only one robbery regarded as "serious" and the parish regarded as safe compared to others locally. He recommended that parishioners sign up to North Yorkshire Community Messaging (www.nycm.uk) to keep up to date with news, appeals, alerts and events from North Yorkshire Police. In response to questions from MoP, PC Coulthurst said: that the NY county lines team had been disbanded as it was deemed no longer necessary; that speeding could be reported via the community speed watch website, with areas reporting more incidents more likely to see speed patrols; and that a

SKELTON CUM NEWBY PARISH COUNCIL

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

	<p>long-term plan is being developed regarding the racing of horses and traps, but that this is a difficult offence to catch / prove.</p> <p>The Council THANKED PC Coulthurst and his colleague for attending.</p>
24.06	<p>Financial Statement and approvals for payment</p> <p>The Council was noted as having on hand £16,690.97 at the end of the 2023-24 financial year on 31st March, with recent receipts of £270 (pop-up pub takings), £500 (NYC members grant) and £240 (Reading Room hire fees).</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to approve the following payments: Wages (Clerk Jan-Mar, Cleaner Jan-Mar); Clerk's expenses/training qtr 4 (inc NYC Licensing £63 for pop-up pub temporary event notices) £224.00; Wild Garlic (web hosting and management) £231.00; Yorkshire Local Councils Association (annual membership) £141.00; and Scotton Park Electrical (Reading Room fire alarm and emergency light testing) £90+VAT.</p> <p>The Council further RESOLVED to formally approve payments necessarily agreed between meetings of £85.42+VAT to Rudgate Brewery for pop-up refreshments, and NOTED direct debit payments to Scottish Water (£49.82, Reading Room supply, and £13.84, allotment supply), E.On Next (£151.46+VAT, electricity for Reading Room), and Unity Trust Bank (£36, bank charges).</p> <p>The cash book balance after these transactions was noted as being £14,916.28.</p>
24.07	<p>Planning applications and decisions</p> <p>There were no applications to consider, but the Council RESOLVED to confirm its decision necessarily arrived at between meetings that it has no objection to ZC24/00374/FUL, for an agricultural building at "Sunny Lea", Ripon Road. The Council then NOTED the granting of this application by NYC.</p>
24.08	<p>Black Lion pub</p> <p>The Council heard with great approval that the community purchase of the Black Lion has been completed, with a lengthy programme of works being embarked on in order to bring the neglected building back to life and two successful volunteer renovation days already undertaken. Noting that the traffic blocks and security grilles have been removed, parishioners were asked to "keep 'em peeled" to ensure no vandalism or anti-social behaviour was taking place on the general site.</p> <p>Noting a possible opening date for the pub of September, the Council RESOLVED to continue running pop-up pubs in the Reading Room on the last Friday of the month until the Black Lion's re-opening renders them unnecessary.</p>
24.09	<p>Christ the Consoler Church</p> <p>The Council heard that fundraising events continue to raise money towards improvements to the heating system, windows, and organ, with increasing levels of interest and support from the Newby Hall Estate and Churches Conservation Trust. Forthcoming events include a concert of French music on 25th April, a jazz event at the end of June, and a classical concert in July.</p>
24.10	<p>Commuted sum for Newby Hall Cricket Club</p> <p>The Council noted a request from Newby Hall CC for the £776.47 available in NYC (former Harrogate BC) commuted sums for that site to be allocated towards the purchase of a new water boiler for the clubhouse, and RESOLVED that this was a suitable use of the commuted sums.</p>
24.11	<p>Parish Caretaker</p> <p>The Council considered progressing the appointment of an individual or organisation to this role, and RESOLVED to put an advertisement out in the parish and on social media. Cllr Gerrard volunteered to send a draft to the Clerk.</p>

SKELTON CUM NEWBY PARISH COUNCIL

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

	Concerning the potential purchase and installation of flagstones to ease access to the new bench at Mulwith, the Council heard that there may be flagstones going spare at Newby Hall, and therefore AGREED to pursue this avenue before considering the purchase of new stones.
24.12	Correspondence
24.121	North Yorkshire Council: Noting the 2 nd May date for the election of a Mayor for the new York and North Yorkshire Mayoral Authority.
24.122	NYC Finance: Noting the receipt in good order of the 20-24-25 precept requirement.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 9th May (after the Annual Parish Council Meeting which starts at 7.00pm)

SIGNED: (Chair)

DATE: