

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 October 2018
TIME: 7.00pm
LOCATION: The Reading Room, Skelton-on-Ure
PRESENT: Councillors Jane Mosley (Chair), Lawrence Paterson, Jim Spillings, Guy Critchlow
CLERK: Nick Reed (minutes)
IN ATTENDANCE: Two Members of the Public [MoP], two representatives from NY Police [NYP]

18.29	Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation There were none
18.30	Apologies Apologies were received from, and reasons for absence accepted for, Cllr Tottie.
18.31	Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th July 2018 These were AGREED as a true record of the meeting, and signed as such by the Chair.
18.33 (taken early)	Questions or comments PCSO Alison Swan [NYP] introduced herself as the police support officer for Wathvale, the area including Skelton-cum-Newby, as well as Melmerby, Ainderby Quernhow, Dishforth, Sharow and other local rural areas. She reported that the previous month had seen no burglaries or violent crime (except dog-on-dog), and two incidents of criminal damage related to poaching. This is in keeping with Wathvale having the lowest crime rate in the Ripon district. PCSO Swan also noted that: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The police are finding increasing problems concerning poaching and hare coursing, especially at and around Newby Hall, Norton-le-Clay and Dishforth. Hare coursing in particular is a difficult crime to prove, and residents are encouraged to take the registration numbers of suspicious vehicles as this can help prove involvement;• There had been a series of break-ins at Skelton Cricket Club earlier in the year. The person responsible for these is believed to no longer be in the area;• Residents are encouraged not to buy from unlicensed traders, particularly fish vans, and are encouraged to report the registration numbers of supposed street traders acting suspiciously. PCSO Swan apologised for not having brought full crime figures due to not having been able to return to the office during a busy day. She and her colleague then left the meeting, and were thanked for their attendance and report by the Chair. There were no questions or comments from members of the public.
18.32	Ongoing issue from the minutes for updating
18.321	Bank accounts: The change of signatories, address and council name have all been approved by HSBC, and the Clerk is now receiving statements in good order.
18.322	Langthorpe Road: Potholes have been filled in and resurfacing started after much lobbying.
18.323	Commuted sums: It was noted that sums due to the Recreation Ground had fallen off the commuted sums list received from Harrogate BC, despite these having the same deadlines and being for the same projects as the sums due to Skelton Cricket Club and St Helen's Churchyard. <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Action: Clerk to investigate</i></p>
18.324	Lease Rental payments: It has been confirmed in writing by the Newby Hall Estate that no money has been billed or is expected for the peppercorn rents of the Recreation Ground or Millennium Pond.
18.325	Millennium Pond: Mesh has not yet been purchased or installed. <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Action: Cllr Spillings to oversee</i></p>

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18.34	<p>Financial Statement and approvals for payment</p> <p>The Council was noted as having on hand £8,013.59 at 1st October 2018</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to approve the following payments: Wages (Clerk July-September, Cleaner August-September); Clerk's expenses and training qtr 2 £147.90; Capital items for NYCC Stronger Communities grant-funded project £799.22; Reading Room expenses £14.00; Advanced Fire Services (Reading Room annual service) £40.26; Cardiac Science (defibrillator pads) £34.74; MogoDirect (Chairs funded by TRCF grant) £51.76; Scotton {Ark Electrical (installation of hand dryers / PAT testing / telephone kiosk lighting) £601.16; J. Parker (bulbs for village beds from TRCF grant) £97.38; Cllr Spillings (repayment of bird box project expenses) £60.22; EuraAudit (payroll administration) £36.00; HMRC (PAYE qtr 2) £4.20. Sums of £61.11 (NPower) and £23.24 (Yorkshire Water) were NOTED as having been taken by direct debit and these payments were approved.</p> <p>Receipts were noted for Reading Room hire (£80 in July, £96 in August, £144 in September), bird box donations of £110, and the second part of the Harrogate BC precept £2,519.00</p> <p>The cash book balance after these transactions was noted as being 6,557.81.</p> <p>The council NOTED that the Clerk's expenses included £25, being 10% of the Certificate in Local Council Administration [CiLCA] training enrolment fee pro rata with his other employers. The council further RESOLVED to support its share of the Clerk's training programme to achieve the CiLCA qualification. This will be not more than £35 over the next nine months.</p>
18.35	<p>Noticeboard</p> <p>Councillors considered the need for and cost of replacing the council noticeboard outside the village store and/or the noticeboard outside the Reading Room. They concluded that, while neither noticeboard is in a good state, the cost of replacing either was not justifiable unless a grant or commuted sum were to become available.</p>
18.36	<p>Two Ridings Community Fund</p> <p>Councillors NOTED with pleasure the granting of £620 from TRCF, which will be spent on: bulbs and plants in the village; the "knit and natter" group; and Millennium Pond bird and bat boxes. The grant needs to be spent by February and the council RESOLVED that the breakdown of expenditure outlined by Cllr Mosley was acceptable.</p>
18.39 (taken early)	<p>WREN Foundation FCC Community Action Fund</p> <p>Councillors AGREED to proceed with an application to the WREN Foundation, who distribute community grants to organisations near Allerton Park and similar facilities. The application would be for i.r.o. £25,000 for Reading Room upgrades, including roof insulation, a new heating system, renovation of stonework, and installation of double / secondary glazing as appropriate to each window. Skelton United Charities have agreed to provide the necessary Third Party Contribution (i.r.o. £2,800) if the award were successful, and councillors THANKED them, and also Cllrs Mosley and Spillings for their hard work researching, and soliciting public support for, the application.</p>
18.37	<p>2019-20 Budget</p> <p>Councillors examined two draft budgets, one involving a 5% rise in parish precept and the other a 0.4% drop. It was noted that the council had committed to no rise in the precept following last year's rise, and accordingly councillors RESOLVED to adopt the latter of these options.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to inform Harrogate BC finance and publish the budget on the parish council website</p>
18.38	<p>Reading Room Usage</p> <p>Cllr Mosley reported that in 12 months Reading Room usage has gone from zero to 88 bookings, which is far better than anyone had dared hope. Regular bookings are coming in, including Skelton Newby</p>

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	<p>Hall Primary School who have booked two hours per week for the whole Autumn term, and parishioners are beginning to use the building for birthday parties, christenings etc. In answer to a question from a MoP, Cllr Mosley said that there was still plenty of capacity in the Reading Room Diary. Cllr Mosley further reported that she is willing to act as bookings secretary for another year, but would appreciate a volunteer from the council or community to take this straightforward over in the medium term.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Councillors to seek a volunteer bookings secretary</p>
18.40	<p>Planning application and decisions</p> <p>There were no applications or enforcements to consider.</p> <p>The council NOTED the approvals of applications 18/02902/FUL for external work at the Old School House, and 18/02368/FUL for a joint extension at 6-7 Church View Close.</p>
18.41	<p>Correspondence</p>
18.411	<p>Harrogate BC Legal and Governance: formally confirming the official name change of this body to Skelton-cum-Newby Parish Council.</p>
18.412	<p>MoP: report of anti-social behaviour in the village.</p>
18.413	<p>YLCA: In response to a request from the parish council confirming that they see no power under the 1972 Local Government Act or anywhere else by which the parish council can pay for refreshments used by Community Payback Volunteers working in the village.</p>
18.414	<p>Skelton Newby Hall Primary School Asst Head; thanking the parish council for liaising with Community Payback, and for the work done at the school over the summer. The council THANKED Cllr Spillings for co-ordinating this work.</p>

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

SIGNED: (Chair)

DATE: