

# 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 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
**TIME:** 7.00pm  
**LOCATION:** Reading Room, Skelton-on-Ure  
**PRESENT:** Cllrs Guy Critchlow (Chair), Chris Delf, Emma Gerrard (after item 23.23),  
Jane Mosley, Jim Spillings  
**CLERK:** Nick Reed (minutes)  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** 6 members of the public [MoP]

23.20	<b>Declarations of interest</b> and requests for dispensation There were none.
22.21	<b>Apologies</b> and consideration of reasons for absence There were none, all Councillors being present.
22.22	<b>Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 13<sup>th</sup> April and 11<sup>th</sup> May, and the Annual Parish Council Meeting also held on 13<sup>th</sup> May</b> These were AGREED as a true record of the meetings, and signed as such by the Chair.
22.23	<b>Vacancy</b> The Council RESOLVED to co-opt Emma Gerrard to the vacant seat, then Cllr Gerrard duly signed the acceptance of office and took her place on the Council for the rest of the meeting.
22.24 22.241	<b>Ongoing issues from the minutes for updating</b> (not covered elsewhere on the agenda) <b>Skelton Newby Hall Primary School:</b> The Council heard that North Yorkshire Council had formally agreed the closure of the school to take place on 31 <sup>st</sup> August. There are no further options to appeal the decision, but the Parish Council has raised a formal complaint about the consultation process and the way in which the school's governing body had arrived at the decision to request closure. With the support of Newby Hall as landlords, ideas are being sought for the continuation of nursery/primary age education on this excellent site, one problem being that the Church of England does not wish to pursue this, but changing a school site from church to secular is not straightforward.
22.242	<b>Christ the Consoler Church:</b> The Council heard that the church, redundant since 1991, has increasing issues arising from the lack of heating, notably stained glass paintings becoming delaminated. A new body called Friends of Christ the Consoler is co-ordinating fundraising efforts between parishioners, Newby Hall Estate, and the Churches Conservation Trust. NYC Cllr Nick Brown has agreed to contribute £1,500 to this campaign via his members discretionary grant budget. A string quartet concert on 15 <sup>th</sup> July will raise both money and awareness for this campaign, and the Council thanked Newby Hall for their help organising the concert's logistics, and for the offer of paying for heating oil once the boiler is up and running again.
22.25	<b>Questions and Comments from members of the public / district and county councillors</b> There were none, NYC Cllr Nick Brown having sent his apologies regarding the latter.
22.26	<b>Financial Statement and approvals for payment</b> The Council was noted as having on hand £21,706.00 at the end of June, with recent receipts of £400 (pop-up pub takings); and £60 (Reading Room hires). It was RESOLVED to approve the following payments: Wages (Clerk Apr-Jun, Cleaner Ape-Jun); Clerk's expenses/training qtr 4 £215.00; HMRC (PAYE qtr 1); NYC Licensing £84 (4x temporary event notices

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	<p>for pop-ups); Yorkshire Accountants Ripon (payroll admin qtr 1) £30+VAT; and Cllr Mosley (expenses re planting</p> <p>It was further RESOLVED to formally approve payments of £170.83+VAT to Rudgate Brewery for pop-up refreshments, £150 to Ripon Business Services for Black Lion campaign printing, and £194.52 to Cllr Critchlow for pop-up pub stock, necessarily agreed between meetings.</p> <p>The cash book balance after these transactions was noted as being £20,306.93.</p>
<b>23.27</b>	<p><b>Planning applications and decisions</b></p> <p>There were no new applications to consider.</p> <p>The Council noted the granting subject to standard conditions of 23/01034/FUL, a small solar array at Newby Hall Estate, and 23/01056/FUL, demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with a two storey detached building at "Sunny Lea", Ripon Road.</p>
<b>23.28</b>	<p><b>Black Lion pub</b></p> <p>The Council heard that a public meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> July had been well attended, and that a bank account was open for pledges to be converted into cash. Pledges are going well, with much of the £260k needed already pledged, but with a deadline of 24<sup>th</sup> July ahead of a potential exchange date of 1<sup>st</sup> August there is no time to waste and parishioners were urged to make their pledges real and/or buy shares having not previously pledged. The Council thanked the pub working group for their hard work over several months and urged parishioners not to assume that the pub was safe even though the direction of campaigning is positive.</p>
<b>23.29</b>	<p><b>Risk management</b></p> <p>The Council noted the risk assessment and Reading Room fire risk assessment circulated, and RESOLVED to approve them as part of its policy and practice portfolio.</p>
<b>23.30</b>	<p><b>Pop-up pubs</b></p> <p>The council heard that April's and June's events had been very successful, with a less busy event in May, possibly linked to leisure fatigue after May's many bank holidays including the coronation. The events have made a decent profit but more importantly have contributed towards community cohesion and good cheer in the parish.</p>
<b>23.12</b> 22.611 22.612	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>North Yorkshire Council: Confirming the receipt in good order of the 2023-24 precept requirement.</p> <p>North Yorkshire Council: Various documents and briefing papers concerning the transition to the new unitary authority.</p>

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

SIGNED: ..... (Chair)

DATE: