

# 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 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021  
**TIME:** 7.00pm  
**LOCATION:** Reading Room, Skelton-on-Ure  
**PRESENT:** Cllrs Lawrence Paterson (Chairing), Richard Littlefair, Jane Mosley  
**CLERK:** Nick Reed (minutes)  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** 9 members of the public [MoP]

21.27	<b>Declarations of interest</b> and requests for dispensation There were none
21.28	<b>Apologies</b> and consideration of reasons for absence Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Guy Critchlow and Phil Tottie
21.29	<b>Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021</b> These were AGREED as a true record of the meeting, and signed as such by the Chair.
21.30 21.301 21.302	<b>Ongoing issues from minutes for updating</b> (not covered elsewhere on the agenda) 21.301 <b>Black Lion pub</b> – The Clerk reported back from a conversation with Admiral Taverns that there was possible interest from someone wanting to buy the freehold of the pub, and run it as a hospitality business with some form of rental accommodation to the rear. 21.302 <b>High Moor Lane</b> – The Council noted that no response had yet been received from NYCC highways to the condition report sent to them following July’s meeting. <p style="text-align: right;"><i><b>ACTION: Clerk to pursue</b></i></p>
21.31	<b>Questions and Comments</b> from members of the public / district and county councillors MoP comments covered the recent find of drug paraphernalia near the play area. The Council noted that this incident had correctly been reported to the police and that patrols were being set up.
21.32	<b>Financial Statement and approvals for payment</b> The Council was noted as having on hand £27,844.40 on 20 <sup>th</sup> September 2021, with recent receipts, both from or via Harrogate Borough Council, and £1,500 (Reading Room Covid restart grant). It was RESOLVED to approve the following payments: Wages (Clerk Jul-Sep, Cleaner Jul-Sep); Clerk’s expenses/training qtr 2 £212.95; HMRC (PAYE qtr 2) £137.80; Advance Fire Services (Reading Room equipment annual service) £42.06; and Business Stream (Crowgarth water supply) £26.59 The cash book balance after these transactions was noted as being £26,874.12
21.33	<b>Planning applications and decisions</b> There were no applications to discuss, nor decisions or enforcement issues to note.

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21.34	<p><b>Speeding</b></p> <p>The Council considered speeding issues within the parish, on Skelton-on-Ure Main Street and the B6265, and RESOLVED to commission a survey of traffic speeds at both these locations from NYCC Highways at a cost of £110+VAT per site. It was noted that finding a suitable site on the B6265 may be difficult as the tubes need to draw power from a street lamp or similar NYCC-managed power source. The meeting further discussed longer-term solutions to any speeding found by the survey, including vehicle activated signage (VAS), speed indication devices (SID) and/or community speed watch (CSW). It was noted that a CSW scheme a few years back had fallen through due to a lack of volunteers to operate it, and that feedback from neighbouring and nearby parishes regarding all these systems, but particularly SID, had been positive.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Clerk to pursue</b></p>
21.35	<p><b>New bench</b></p> <p>The Council NOTED with great pleasure the award of a bench from Your Harrogate for Skelton-on-Ure being its “village of the month” and RESOLVED to install the bench at Mulwith Lane, anchored to the ground and with bulbs planted around it. A suitable wording and design for a plaque was deferred to January’s agenda.</p>
21.36	<p><b>Damp at Reading Room</b></p> <p>The Council NOTED the independent report from Joplings and the response to this from Newby Hall Estate. Cllr Mosley confirmed that the building is regularly aired and that the worst of the damp is in the “new” kitchen and bathroom area and that therefore the stonework could not be solely or mainly to blame for the damp. NH’s offer to replaster the Reading Room was noted with thanks.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>ACTION: Clerk to liaise with Cllr Mosley and NH to progress</b></p>
21.37	<p><b>2022-23 budget</b></p> <p>The Council discussed the possible composition of the 2022-23 budget. Noting that the Council holds more than two years’ precept as reserves even allowing for earmarked Covid recovery funds for the Reading Room, the Council RESOLVED to prepare a budget for approval at January’s meeting involving the halving of the precept for 2022-23 and, absent major changes in circumstances, 2023-24.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>ACTION: Clerk to prepare draft budget and circulate to Councillors ahead of January meeting</b></p>
21.38	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p>
21.381	<p><b>NY Police:</b> Report noting eight reported incidents between 9<sup>th</sup> July and 7<sup>th</sup> October; one of anti-social behaviour, one of a threat against the person, two animal/wildlife concerns, two suspicious vehicle reports, one suspected COVID breach, and one manner of driving complaint. The Council THANKED PC Clare Mayes for producing this report even though this parish is not part of her “patch”.</p>
21.382	<p><b>NYCC:</b> update on progress towards the new unitary council to replace NYCC and the six district councils within its area. This new council will come into being on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.</p>
21.383	<p><b>PKF Littlejohn LLP:</b> notification of receipt and acceptance of certificate of exemption from external audit, thus concluding the 2020-21 audit process</p>
21.884	<p><b>Newby Hall:</b> Notification that the Estate intends to remove the remaining trees from the lime avenue, which has been storm-damaged in recent years, and re-plant the avenue in a similar style. The Council RESOLVED that it has no objection to this plan, and that it supports the Estate’s suggestion of holding an opening ceremony for the new avenue conducted by the Lady Lieutenant or a similar figure.</p>

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

SIGNED: ..... (Chair)

DATE: