

Minutes of the Meeting of Skelton Parish Council held on Thursday 23rd February
at Skelton Village Hall which commenced at 7.30 p.m.

Actions

16.103 Present:

Councillors: Watt (Chair), Lumley, Hayton, C Linfoot, J Linfoot, L Mansell, A Mansell, Stead

Ward Councillors

Public: 0

16.104 Apologies for absence

Councillors: Boulton

It was **resolved** to accept the apologies.

Ward Councillors: Gillies, Steward

16.105 Declarations of interest

None

16.106 Previous Minutes

It was **resolved** to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 26th January 2017 as a true record.

16.107 Open Forum

1. Village Matters

- It was noted that the new litter bin for the bus shelter promised the City has not yet appeared. The Clerk was asked to send a reminder.
- The problem of dog fouling was discussed. An example was given where the City had taken action with an individual following a complaint backed by photographic evidence.

Paul Morrison from the City Council gave an update on our application for an order banning dogs from the playing field. He explained that before they can issue an order the City needs a body of complaints to provide evidence that dog fouling is a problem and also that there is support within the community for a ban. At the moment they do not have sufficient to warrant a ban.

He noted that incidents of dog fouling can be reported by phone to 01904 551550 or on the website ("eForms" on the "Contact Us" link.) Reports can be made anonymously.

The Chairman encouraged everyone to report every incident of fouling that they come across.

2. Ward and City Council matters

There were no matters to report.

3. The Litter Picker's Report

He noted that the area outside the shop has been tidied.

The City has written to residents whose properties back onto the footpath running alongside the A19 between St Giles Rd. and Fairfields reminding them that their hedges must not encroach onto the footpath.

4. Matters raised by the public and Councillors:

Councillor Lumley mentioned the "Big Spring Clean", a campaign to encourage communities to have a litter pick at the beginning of March. It was agreed to put up notices about it.

16.108 Matters arising from the minutes

1. Cemetery:

The Clerk reported that the latch has been put back on the gates to the old cemetery. Also that, though there has been heavy rain over the last 24

Clerk

Clerk

- hours, water had only pooled in the bumps and hollows.
2. Del Monte development (standing item)
There was nothing new to report.
 3. Neighbourhood Plan (NP) (standing item)
There will be no further activity until the City progresses the Local Plan.
 4. Local Plan (standing item)
There was nothing new to report.
 5. Playground
The Clerk gave a summary of the recent safety report: no serious issues had been identified; several pieces of equipment are showing signs of wear, as is to be expected after 6 years, and should be monitored; the bin by the infants' area is in a poor state.
The Clerk reported that most of the repairs identified in the last safety reports have been completed. We need the ground to be drier before we can tackle the remaining pieces of work.
 6. Brecks Lane
Councillor Stead circulated a map showing the areas where the School has identified the need for tree works. None of them cover Breck's Lane so it was agreed to close this item.
 7. Tree work by the Pond
The Friends of Skelton Pond have obtained a second quote for tree works on the island. At £1,100 it is more than the first one discussed at the last meeting but does include the removal of the cuttings. It was **resolved** to fund the work.
 8. Newsletter
The Chairman reminded the meeting that we still want ideas for the next edition.
 9. 2 Grange Close
The Chairman reported that the City have issued an order to the owners, requiring them to bring the garden back to an acceptable state.
 10. Village Maintenance Contract
The Clerk presented a summary report on the tenders we have received. In all we have had 7 submitted, 4 from large companies with a regional or national compass and 3 local companies. As there are 3 tenders which are very close in overall cost it was decided to postpone a decision to the next meeting to give time to get references from the companies we have not had work from before.
- 16.109** Receive and decide on necessary action resulting from the monthly report of the Clerk
Vehicles behind Sycamore Close
The Clerk reported on his contacts with Ward Councillor Steward and the City Council about two vehicles which are blocking private parking bays behind Sycamore Close. They have been the subject of complaints from local residents and a request for assistance from one of them.
It was noted that, because the vehicles are on private land, it is the City Parking Department which has powers in the matter, the Parish Council has none. After discussion, it was agreed that the Council could not take any useful action. The Clerk was asked to reply to the resident who had contacted us.
"Dog" Sign for the Playground
The Clerk has obtained 4 quotes for a new sign. As they were well within the budget agreed at the last meeting, it was **resolved** to authorise him to

Hayton /
C Linfoot

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

purchase and install one.

The Clerk reported that he has looked through all the paper records and separated them into three sets: one to send to archive, one to keep and one to dispose of. He asked for one or more Councillors to review what has been done. The Chairman agreed to go through the records with the Clerk at time to be arranged.

Clerk /
Watt

16.110 Planning

1. New Applications

- a. 17/00262/FUL – Glen Cottage, Stripe Lane – First floor side extension including dormers to front and rear
It was **resolved** to support the application.

2. Updates to applications:

- a. 16/02832/FUL – 12 The Village - Two storey and single storey side and rear extensions, amendments to the original proposal
It was **resolved** to confirm the response of “no objection” agreed by email
- b. 16/02819/FUL – 6 The Dell - Single storey side and rear extensions (retrospective) – approved

3. Infringements

Concerns were raised about developments at “Grandchester”, Stripe Lane and 3 The Dell which appear to be in contravention of the conditions in the planning approvals. Councillor A Mansell agreed to summarise the points of concern for the Chairman who agreed to then raise them with the Planning department.

A Mansell
Watt

16.111 Financial Matters

1. It was **resolved** to receive and approve the reports on the Council’s financial position as at 30th January 2017.
2. Council noted the following receipts:

a. CYC, Double Taxation payment	£4,523.50
b. Burial	£290.00
and payments / charges:	
None	
3. It was **resolved** to approve for payment the following: -

a. Litter Picker’s salary for January	£69.20
b. Clerk’s salary and expenses for January inc. VAT £0.75	£563.33
c. Tax for January	£55.20
d. Park Lane Playground, Playground repairs inc. VAT £210.00 (6/2/17, 1918)	£1,260.00
e. Park Lane Playgrounds, Playground inspection inc. VAT £7.00 (7/2/17, 1919)	£42.00
f. Abbots, Removing spoil from the cemetery inc. VAT £0.00 (27/1/17, 9168)	£60.00
4. Additional items circulated at the meeting - None

16.112 New Items and correspondence for consideration or decision

1. Email from “Frack Free York”
It was agreed that Council could not give a view on the topic until there was a specific application for consideration.
2. Discussion with City Council officer about banning dogs from the playing field
This was covered earlier in the meeting in the Open Forum (see 16.107.1 above).

Clerk

16.113 Minor Matters delegated to the Clerk and items for the next agenda.

None

16.114 It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Council will be on Thursday 23rd March starting at 19:30.