

Minutes of the Meeting of Skelton Parish Council held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2017 at Skelton Village Hall which commenced at 7.30 p.m.

	Actions
<p>Present:</p> <p>Councillors: Watt (Chair), Lumley, C Linfoot, J Linfoot, Stead, Hayton, L Mansell,</p> <p>Ward Councillors Steward</p> <p>Public: 1</p>	
<p><b>17.016</b> Apologies for absence</p> <p>Councillors: A Mansell, Boulton</p> <p>It was <b>resolved</b> to accept the apologies.</p>	
<p><b>17.017</b> Declarations of interest</p> <p>None</p>	
<p><b>17.018</b> Previous Minutes</p> <p>It was <b>resolved</b> to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2017 as a true record.</p>	
<p><b>17.019</b> Open Forum</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Police Report The Chairman summarised the latest crime figures for the village. There is a link to the “crime map” on the Links page of the Council’s website.</li> <li>2. Village Matters The Chairman reviewed the outstanding planning issues which are causing concern in the village (see also item 17.022.3 below)</li> <li>3. Ward and City Council matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ward Councillor Steward briefed the meeting on the next steps in the development of the Local Plan (see item 17.020.4 below).</li> <li>• The City has launched an initiative called “YorWellbeing” which aims to improve the health of the City’s residents. It provides support for individuals, businesses and community groups. There is a dedicated website, “yorwellbeing.com”, which includes an online health checker and links to the support services and information sources that are part of the initiative.</li> <li>• A new tranche of funds is available under the Ward Funding scheme.</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. The Litter Picker’s Report Dog fouling on the playing field and along Brecks Lane continues to be a problem. The Chairman asked Ward Councillor Steward to investigate what has happened to our request for an order banning dogs from the playing field. Clerk to forward Councillor Steward the relevant information. The left-hand gate to the playing field has been damaged making it difficult to run the bolt across from the other gate.</li> </ol>	<p>Steward / Clerk</p>
<p><b>17.020</b> Matters arising from the minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cemetery: <p>Boundary Wall - We are waiting for a revised quote from one of the shortlisted contractors. It was decided to delay a decision until the next meeting.</p> <p>Rose Garden – The contractor has weeded it as requested but the work was poor and it needs weeding again. The Clerk was asked to raise our concerns with the contractor again.</p> </li> </ol>	<p>Clerk</p>

2. Del Monte development (standing item) There was nothing new to report.	Clerk
3. Neighbourhood Plan (NP) (standing item) There will be no further activity until the City progresses the Local Plan.	J Linfoot / Lumley / L Mansell
4. Local Plan (standing item) The next stages will be meetings to incorporate Poppleton's Neighbourhood Plan and review the impact on the Plan of the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan and the release of the MoD land for development which will occur during the life of the Plan. The next phase of public consultation is expected in the Autumn.	Clerk
5. Seat alongside the Pasture path It was noted that there were several requests for more seating on the Pasture and in other parts of the village in the survey responses (see item 17.024.1). It was decided to focus on the Pasture for now and consider other areas later. A variety of benches were considered. It was <b>resolved</b> to buy an "Ashwater" style bench at a cost of £440. Councillor Lumley agreed to store it, if necessary, until the ground anchors had been installed. Councillors J Linfoot, Lumley and L Mansell agreed to survey the path and decide where to site the bench.	J Linfoot / Lumley / L Mansell
6. Village Signs A quote of £866 for a replacement sign for Church Lane was considered. It was decided to ask for a quote for a second sign but wait to see a sample of the sign material before deciding whether to buy them.	Clerk
7. "Whitby Wood" Since the last meeting the organiser has applied for funding but he has asked the Council for a statement of our support and also to consider making a donation towards the cost of the project. It was <b>resolved</b> to send a statement of support and to make a once-off donation of £500.	Clerk
8. Trees overhanging the footpath alongside the A19 The City Council had replied to our report about the trees, saying that they had noted it but could not say when they would be able to cut them back. It was decided to follow up the report with a request to have the trees cut back.	Clerk
<b>17.021</b> Receive and decide on necessary action resulting from verbal reports from the Clerk or Councillors on matters in hand	Clerk / Litter Picker
1. The Clerk reported that he had inspected the playing field gate and that the top pin is bent and the weld on the bottom pin has a small crack, however the gate is still adequately supported and poses no risk. It was decided that no immediate action was required but that the condition of the gate should be regularly monitored.	Stead
2. As the Clerk will be absent from the September meeting, Councillor Stead offered to take the minutes.	Stead
<b>17.022</b> Planning	Clerk
1. New Applications a. 17/01270/FUL – 20 Fairfields - Single storey front extension to existing attached garage and conversion of garage into living accommodation. It was <b>resolved</b> to object on the grounds that the permanent loss of the garage reduces the off-road parking available at the property. b. 17/01261/FUL - Moorlands Hall, Moorlands Road - Two storey front extension following part demolition of existing, 3no. dormers to front	Clerk

roof slope, removal of rear porch entrance and replacement with glazed two storey opening.

It was **resolved** to make no objection but to seek assurances that (a) because it is an old building which has been extended over the years, the "original" footprint is clearly defined before an assessment is made of whether the proposed extension is beyond the permitted limit and (b) that adequate protection is given to trees on the site with preservation orders on them and to wildlife on the site and in the wider area both while the work is being done and in the longer term.

2. Updates to applications:

- a. 17/00605/TPO – Appletree House, St. Giles Rd. - Various tree works to Beech, Ash and Walnut tree – refused
- b. 17/00647/TPO – Elwithe House, St. Giles Rd. - Crown lift by removal of 6 to 7 branches from Beech tree protected by Tree Preservation Order No: CYC38 – refused
- c. 17/00645/TCA – Elwithe House, St. Giles Rd. - Various tree works including the felling of a Silver Birch, Norway maple and Mountain Ash in a Conservation Area – approved except for the reduction of evergreen oak which was refused
- d. 17/00725/FUL – 3 Rawcliffe Landing – Single storey rear extension – approved
- e. 17/00930/FUL – 34 Burtree Avenue – Single storey side extension - approved

3. Planning enforcement

There are several developments in the village that do not appear to have met their planning conditions. The Ward Councillor assured the meeting that they are being investigated but, because enforcement investigations are confidential, he could not go into details.

The Chairman agreed to write to the Ward Councillor about the Grantchester development.

Watt

**17.023** Financial Matters

1. It was **resolved** to receive and approve the reports on the Council's financial position as at 30<sup>th</sup> May April 2017.
2. Council noted the following receipts:
 

a. CYC, Balance of 1 <sup>st</sup> half of the precept and payments / charges:	£250.00
b. Yorkshire Water, Cemetery supply inc. VAT £0.00 (DD)	£6.54
3. It was **resolved** to approve for payment the following: -
 

a. Litter Picker's salary for May	£72.00
b. Clerk's salary and expenses for May inc. VAT £0.00	£544.05
c. Tax for May	£63.60
d. Park Lane Playgrounds, Playground repairs inc. VAT £144.00 (9/6/17, 1964)	£864.00
e. TR Landscaping, Village maintenance contract inc. VAT £126.27 (31/5/17, 7469)	£757.60
4. Additional items circulated at the meeting:  
None

**17.024** New Items and correspondence for consideration or decision

1. Survey in the Newsletter  
Out of the 600 or so households in the village we only received 11 responses.  
Each response was considered. Some were about matters which are beyond the Council's powers to deal with; those that are within the

Council's remit were discussed.

Several responses were about making the village more attractive. When setting the budget for this year the Council identified a series of projects to improve the village environment and it was felt that, over time, many of the points raised will be addressed by these projects.

Council is already working on making the entrances to the village more attractive. It was agreed that the small piece of land opposite the Blacksmith's Arms is a particular eyesore; the Chairman agreed to look into the ownership of it.

Lighting along the Pasture path came up in the survey. Council has discussed this in the past but not found a solution which is both viable and affordable. Councillors were asked to consider the topic again and pass any ideas they had to the Clerk for inclusion in the next agenda.

Two respondents asked for a litter bin by the pond. Councillor Hayton reminded the meeting that one had been installed a few years ago but within a couple of days had been vandalised and dumped in the pond. It had been decided at the time not try with another one.

2. Registration with the Information Commissioner's Office

Council noted that our registration has been renewed for the coming year.

3. Annual Return

Council noted that the un-audited Return was posted to the external auditor on 3<sup>rd</sup> June (deadline was 12<sup>th</sup> June.)

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

1. Widening the Pasture path

**17.026** It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Council will be on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2017 starting at 19:30.

Watt

All