

Minutes of the Meeting of Skelton Parish Council held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July 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, Ward Councillors Steward</p> <p>Public: 0</p>	
<p><b>17.027</b> Apologies for absence</p> <p>Councillors: L Mansell, A Mansell, Boulton</p> <p>It was <b>resolved</b> to accept the apologies.</p>	
<p><b>17.028</b> Declarations of interest</p> <p>None</p>	
<p><b>17.029</b> Previous Minutes</p> <p>It was <b>resolved</b> to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2017 as a true record.</p>	
<p><b>17.030</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 brought up two issues which individual residents had raised with him: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- traffic speeds on Moorlands Road: this is, unfortunately, a perennial problem which has been raised with the City on several occasions; later in the year Highways will be making some changes at the boundary where the speed limit changes which will emphasise the 30mph limit</li> <li>- lights along the Pasture: any changes to the lighting would be costly and not something that the Council considers it could justify adding to the current budget.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Ward and City Council matters The Council's application for an order banning dogs from the playing field was discussed. Ward Councillor Steward has contacted the relevant officer who re-iterated that we need more evidence of the need for a ban. It was felt that we are stuck in a bind, because it is grassland the City won't clear any fouling so there is no incentive for people to report any. It was decided to ask the Litter Picker to log any incidents he sees and these will be reported each month.</li> <li>4. The Litter Picker's Report The area round the pond is a problem at the moment. Removing abandoned tackle and litter thrown into the pond is adding to the time spent clearing the area.</li> </ol>	Litter Picker
<p><b>17.031</b> Matters arising from the minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cemetery: <p>Boundary Wall – as we have not had the revised quote we had been waiting for it was <b>resolved</b> to accept the quote from the second contractor on the shortlist.</p> <p>Rose Garden – Councillor C Linfoot told the meeting that, frustrated by the lack of response from the contractor, he had weeded the garden himself. The Clerk reported his conversation with the contractor who has agreed to spot spray the weeds as well as cutting them down.</p> </li> </ol>	Clerk

Refunding plot reservations – it was <b>resolved</b> to set the principle that refunds would be at the cost of the plot at the time it was reserved.	
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) Councillor Steward reported that his understanding is that every household in the village will be written to in the next consultation phase.	
5. Seat alongside the Pasture path The Clerk reported that the delivery cost of the seat selected at the last meeting was significantly higher than expected. Council reviewed the selection and it was resolved to buy a similar bench from a different supplier which charged half the amount for delivery. The total delivered cost for the alternative bench will be £546 The Clerk will obtain the cost for installing it on a paved base. Councillors J Linfoot, Lumley and L Mansell had, as agreed at the last meeting, selected a site for the bench.	Clerk
6. Village Signs The Clerk reported that he had been in touch with another council which is replacing signs and they confirmed that their researches had led them to the same supplier. The delivered cost for 2 signs is £1,530. It was <b>resolved</b> to buy two signs subject to approval of the final design.	Clerk
7. Playground The latest condition report was reviewed and it was resolved to carry out the repairs recommended at a total cost of £490. Councillor Stead agreed to investigate options for deterring birds from perching on the beam over the basket swing and fouling the seat.	Clerk Stead
8. Insurance The long term agreement with our current insurer ends at the next renewal date and quotes for a new agreement were reviewed. Our current insurer had provided a quote and we had also got an alternative quote from a broker which specialises in Local Authority insurance. The alternative quote was 3% more than from our current insurer but the extent of the cover is greater and was felt to be more appropriate for our risks. It was <b>resolved</b> to enter into a 3 year agreement with Hiscox at a cost of £810 for the first year.	Clerk
<b>17.032</b> Receive and decide on necessary action resulting from verbal reports from the Clerk or Councillors on matters in hand	
1. Orchard hedge – the Clerk reported that the contractor had agreed to weed under the hedge at the next cut as well as spraying.	
<b>17.033</b> Planning	
1. New Applications a. 17/01501/TCA - The Gate House 12 Orchard View Skelton York YO30 1YQ - Notification to crown reduce 1 x Yew and 1 x Holly in a Conservation Area – the response of “no objection” was confirmed – the City have since approved the application b. 17/01428/FUL – The Stables, Woodside Farm, Moorlands Farm and Hospital – Conversion of garage to habitable rooms – it was <b>resolved</b> that Council had no objection.	Clerk

- c. c. 17/01699/TPO – Appletree House, St. Giles Rd. - Remove 1 x Ash and 1x Walnut; and crown thin 1 x Beech subject to Tree Preservation Order CYC38 – it was **resolved** not to object but to request that the City confirm that the trees are diseased.
2. Updates to applications:
- 17/00262/FUL – Glen Cottage, Stripe Lane - appeal dismissed
  - 17/01102/FUL – Skelton Manor, Church Lane – Change of use from dwelling to guest house with associated residential training courses – approved, with conditions including that “*Courses undertaken in the guest house hereby approved or within the guest house garden shall be restricted to residents and guests using the accommodation only. The courses shall not be made available to non-residents. Reason: It is considered that larger numbers of visitors has the potential to impact on parking provision, residential amenity and character of the area.*”
  - 17/01063/TPO - Blue Bell Wood, 15 The Vale - Pollard Beech and Sycamore trees; prune 2no. Sycamores protected by Tree Preservation Order No.:1973/107 - approved
3. Planning enforcement
- The Chairman reported on exchanges he had had with the Head of Planning about how the conditions in the permission for the development at Grandchester were being met. The City were not aware that the conditions have not yet been met. It was agreed that Council will continue to monitor the development.

Watt

**17.034 Financial Matters**

- It was **resolved** to receive and approve the reports on the Council’s financial position as at 29<sup>th</sup> June 2017.
- Council noted the following receipts:  
None  
and payments / charges:
 

a. CYC, NNDR for cemetery for 1 <sup>st</sup> half year (DD)	£71.00
b. Information Commissioner, annual registration (DD)	£35.00
- It was **resolved** to approve for payment the following: -
 

a. Litter Picker’s salary for June	£71.00
b. Clerk’s salary and expenses for June inc. VAT £9.47	£601.29
c. Tax for June	£63.80
d. TR Landscaping, Village maintenance contract inc. VAT £126.27 (5/7/17, 7508)	£757.60
e. Park Lane Playgrounds, inspection inc. VAT £7.00 (5/7/17, 1970)	£42.00
f. CYC, Cemetery waste collection inc. VAT £0.00 (1/7/17, 9001617671)	£33.54
- Additional items circulated at the meeting:  
None

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

- Requests from parishioners
  - Playing field: For repairs to be made to the goal nets and levelling of the near goal mouth  
The Clerk reported that the nets are serviceable but that many of the pegs and clips which hold them in shape are missing, he also reported that there are brambles immediately behind the far goalposts  
It was noted that we have an amount of set aside in the budget for

improvements to the field

It was agreed to buy the necessary pegs etc to keep the nets in shape, to cut back the brambles and to have the goal mouth levelled. The Clerk will obtain costs from the village maintenance contractor.

Clerk

- b. Play field hedge - The owners of 90 Brecksfield have asked for the hedge, which runs alongside their garden, to be reduced and cut back. It was agreed to do the work; the Clerk will get quotes.
  - c. Litter Picking – to extend it along the full length of Moorlands Road. The Litter Picker pointed out that he cleans along it as far as the footpath runs. It was agreed that manual cleaning where there was no footpath would not be safe so we could not take the cleaning any further.
  - d. Action to stop speeding along Moorlands – this was discussed in the Forum, see 17.030.2 above.
2. The following consultations were noted:
- a. Police and Fire Service – “Working Better Together: Options to improve collaboration between Fire and Police services in North Yorkshire” – the consultation runs until 22<sup>nd</sup> September, details at [www.telljulia.com](http://www.telljulia.com)
  - b. NHS Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group – Patient and public engagement events during July and August – details are on the village noticeboards and the Council’s website
  - c. Minerals and Waste Joint Plan – consultation on proposed changes to the draft plan – the consultation runs until 6<sup>th</sup> September, details are at [www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwconsult](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwconsult) .

Clerk

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

1. Widening the Pasture path
2. Procedure when discussing an item in which a Member has declared an interest

**17.037** It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Council will be on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2017 starting at 19:30.