

Minutes of the Meeting of Skelton Parish Council held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August  
2017 at Skelton Village Hall which commenced at 7.30 p.m.

	<b>Actions</b>
<p>Present:</p> <p>Councillors: Watt (Chair), Lumley, Boulton, J Linfoot, Stead, Hayton, L Mansell</p> <p>Ward Councillors: Steward</p> <p>Public: 1</p>	
<p><b>17.038</b> Apologies for absence</p> <p>Councillors: C Linfoot, A Mansell</p> <p>It was <b>resolved</b> to accept the apologies.</p>	
<p><b>17.039</b> Declarations of interest</p> <p>None</p>	
<p><b>17.040</b> Previous Minutes</p> <p>It was <b>resolved</b> to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2017 as a true record.</p>	
<p><b>17.041</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 mentioned some recent problems caused by harvesting vehicles passing through the village and noted that the matter is also the subject of a parishioners' letter (see item 17.046.1.) The poor state of the garden of the unoccupied house in Grange Close was brought up. Ward Councillor Steward agreed to raise it with the relevant department in the City Council.</li> <li>3. Ward and City Council matters Councillor Steward confirmed that the information about the next consultation phase of the Local Plan will be sent out in September. He also informed the meeting that the poor state of the island in the A19 has been reported to Highways.</li> <li>4. The Litter Picker's Report Mr Watkins reported a couple of minor problems he had noticed in the playground; the earth around one of the manholes is eroding and there is a gap in the rubber surfacing of the infants' area along the edge of the "river".</li> </ol>	Steward
<p><b>17.042</b> Matters arising from the minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Del Monte development (standing item) There was nothing new to report. It was agreed to remove this as a standing item.</li> <li>2. Neighbourhood Plan (NP) (standing item) There will be no further activity until the City progresses the Local Plan.</li> <li>3. Local Plan (standing item) During the Open Forum (item 17.041.3) Councillor Steward confirmed that the information about the next consultation phase will be sent out in September.</li> <li>4. Seat alongside the Pasture path The clerk reported that we have not yet had any quotes for installing the</li> </ol>	

<p>seat. He had discussed it with 3 contractors but, for various reasons, none have quoted. He will offer it to other ground works contractors but noted that it is a busy time of year for them so it may be a month or two before we can get it done.</p> <p>The bench will be ordered when we have someone available to install it.</p>	Clerk
<p>5. Village Signs</p> <p>Council confirmed the decision to have a single sign board incorporating all the elements of the existing 3 signs. The clerk reported that the pillars will need some mortar and stone work doing before the new signs are attached.</p>	Clerk
<p>6. Playground</p> <p>Councillor Stead reported on his investigation of ways to deter birds from perching on the beam over the basket swing and fouling the seat. It was agreed to use a physical deterrent.</p>	Clerk
<p>7. Play field</p> <p>We have not yet received the quote for work on the hedge but the contractor has inspected it. He advised that the mature trees in the hedge should be shaped not simply cut back.</p>	Clerk
<p>8. Football field</p> <p>The clerk reported that he had fitted new clips and pegs on the nets to close the gaps and shape them.</p> <p>To reduce costs, the ground work needed had been included with installing the seat in the Pasture to make up one job. As reported under item 17.042.4, we have not yet found anyone wanting to quote.</p>	Clerk
<p><b>17.043</b> Receive and decide on necessary action resulting from verbal reports from the Clerk or Councillors on matters in hand</p>	
<p>1. Cemetery Wall – the clerk reported that the contractor has scheduled the work to start in week commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> October and that it will take around 2½ weeks.</p>	
<p><b>17.044</b> Planning</p>	
<p>1. New Applications</p> <p>a. 17/01924/TCA - Ryde House, 3 The Ryde - Fell Conifer: reduce and thin Rowan tree in a Conservation area – It was <b>resolved</b> to make no objection.</p> <p>b. 17/01702/FUL - Woodstock Lodge, Corban Lane - Extensions and alterations including single and two storey extensions to increase height of house and create a two storey dwelling, and alterations to window details – it was <b>resolved</b> to make no objection but to record a concern that the limits on development within the Green Belt are not exceeded.</p> <p>c. 17/01991/FUL – 1 Rawcliffe Landing – 1<sup>st</sup> floor side extension and 2 storey double garage to the rear with rooms in the roof with single storey link extension to the house – it was <b>resolved</b> to object on the grounds that the extension exceeded the limit on developments within the Green Belt.</p> <p>2. Updates to applications:</p> <p>a. 17/01270/FUL – 20 Fairfields Drive - Single storey front extension to existing attached garage and conversion of garage into living accommodation – approved</p> <p>b. 17/01261/FUL – Moorlands Hall - Two storey extension to southern elevation including 3no.dormers and accommodation in the basement and roof space following part demolition of existing, removal of portico on northern elevation and replacement with glazed two storey opening.</p>	

– approved with conditions.

3. Planning enforcement

The Chairman reported that work has started at Grandchester to comply with the planning conditions.

**17.045 Financial Matters**

1. It was **resolved** to receive and approve the reports on the Council's financial position as at 28<sup>th</sup> July 2017.  
The level of reserves was discussed. The Chairman noted that current guidance is to hold an amount to cover approximately one year's expenditure. It was also noted that amounts set aside for approved projects are not counted into the reserve.
2. Council noted the following receipts:
 

a. Reservations	£600.00
b. Headstone	£140.00
and payments / charges:	
c. Yorkshire Water, Cemetery supply	£8.10
inc. VAT £0.00 (5/8/17. DD)	
3. It was **resolved** to approve for payment the following: -
 

a. Litter Picker's salary for July	£89.90
b. Clerk's salary and expenses for July	£506.75
inc. VAT £0.00	
c. Tax for July	£58.20
d. Park Lane, Playground repairs	£588.00
inc. VAT £98.00 (11/8/17, 1984)	
e. Abbotts Memorials, Removing spoil	£60.00
inc. VAT £0.00 (3/8/17, 9459)	
f. TR Landscaping, Village maintenance contract	£757.60
inc. VAT £126.27 (3/8/17, 7539)	
g. Clerk, New pegs and pins for the goal nets	£23.14
inc. VAT £3.86 (14/8/17, SALE-0603271) bought by the Clerk from Newitts on behalf of the Council	
h. Came & Co., Insurance premium	£810.07
inc. VAT £0.00 (11/08/2017, 7731)	
4. Additional items circulated at the meeting:
 

a. Refund for cemetery plot no longer required	£82.00
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**17.046 New Items and correspondence for consideration or decision**

1. Requests from parishioners  
Letter from parishioners about problems with heavy farm traffic along The Village and parking on the junction of The Village and St Giles Road. Council agreed that cars parked near the corner are dangerous, for both car drivers and pedestrians. Ward Councillor Steward agreed to talk to Highways about ways to reduce the danger.  
Regarding farm traffic, Council agreed that it occasionally is a nuisance but considered that we should accept it as a small price to pay for living in a rural village.
2. Proposal to widen the path running through the Orchard and Pasture  
Now that the top of the path onto The Village has been improved to make it suitable for people with mobility aids and prams it was agreed that we should look into bringing the rest of the path up to the same standard.  
Two options were discussed:  
- relaying and widening and straightening the bend at the top end  
- straightening, refurbishing and edging.  
It was agreed to investigate the cost of both options.
3. Declarations of interest  
Council considered the rules about what involvement a Councillor should

Steward

Clerk

have in the discussion of an item in which he or she has declared an interest. Council follows the recommendations of the National Association of Local Councils and has adopted their model Code of Conduct and Standing Orders. Both of these have been amended several times and the discussion clarified the versions we currently work to.

4. Resignation of the Clerk

The clerk has informed the Chairman that he wishes to resign but will continue until a replacement has been appointed.

It was decided to set up a Panel to manage the recruitment on behalf of the Council. It was **resolved** to appoint Councillors Watt, Hayton, L Mansell and Boulton to form the Panel and to authorise the Panel so formed to conduct the recruitment of a new Clerk. Councillor Watt, as Chairman of the Council, will Chair the Panel.

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

None

**17.048** It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Council will be on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017 starting at 19:30.