

# *Skelton Parish Council*

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Skelton Parish Council held virtually on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 19.30

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Present:

Councillors: Cllrs Watt (Chairman), Gossow, C Linfoot, J Linfoot, Mansell, Stead, Terrett and Watson.

Ward Councillor: Cllr Hook

Public: 2

Clerk: Karin de Vries

- 20-21/75      Chairman's welcome  
 The Chairman welcomed everyone and set out the procedure for the meeting.
- 20-21/76      To receive apologies for absence
1. To receive apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting  
 None. Cllr J Linfoot arrived just before the Open Forum.
  2. To consider the approval of reasons given for absence  
 None.
- 20-21/77      To receive declarations of interest and dispensation requests  
 Cllr Mansell declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in item 20-21/80.
- 20-21/78      To approve minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Skelton Parish Council held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020  
 It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020 as a true and correct record.
- 20-21/79      Open Forum  
 It was RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting to hold the Open Forum.
- 1 Police Report  
 No monthly police report had been received.
  - 2 Report from Ward Councillor  
 Cllr Hook had raised the mud on the A19 in front of Fairfield Croft to the relevant people. She reported that York had carried out the mechanical cutting of vegetation along the verges of the Fairfield layby. A second tranche of funding had been received for cycling for safe routes to school and along the A19 in to town. She will also request further action on hedges overhanging the footpath.
  - 3 To receive the litter picker's report  
 The litter picker's report had been circulated prior to the meeting and the content was noted.
  - 4 Village Matters and parishioners' questions.  
 A candidate for co-option spoke to explain their reasons for standing.
- The Open Forum was closed and the meeting resumed.
- 20-21/80      To consider candidates for co-option

A motion was proposed and seconded to exclude the members of the public from the discussion. The motion was carried. After some discussion, from which members of the public and Cllr Mansell were excluded, the requirements for co-option were not met. Therefore, no vote could be held. The Chairman explained to the candidate that their application had not succeeded.

- 20-21/81 It was RESOLVED to ratify the following delegated decisions made between meetings:-
- 1 To confirm attendance of Cllr Watson of the YLCA Managing people webinar for £15
  - 2 To confirm attendance of the Clerk at a Nimble training session for £15
  - 3 To confirm support for a new Street Trading Consent application for a pizza van.
- Councillors queried the subsequent refusal of the application by the City of York and it was RESOLVED that the Chairman would submit a Freedom of Information query to find out why the application had been turned down.
- 20-21/82 To receive and decide necessary action on the following village and playground matters:-
- 1 To receive an update on the provision of new play equipment  
The grant application for match funding to the Ward Committee was on hold as City-wide grant funding for play equipment was going to be made available. It was RESOLVED to form a working group consisting of Cllr Terrett, Watson and the Clerk to investigate equipment to replace the trim trail at the same time as providing a viper swing and to apply for grants for the equipment.
  - 2 To consider quotations for play equipment repairs.  
After some discussion of the quotations received for the repairs and the need to await an amended quotation, it was RESOLVED to delegate the final decision to the Clerk up to an expenditure of £1800 plus VAT.
  - 3 To note correspondence with regard to verge parking at Moorlands Nature Reserve.  
Cllr Hook had not received any information from Highways yet. Correspondence had been received from Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. The verges are not owned by the Trust and the parking area is unmade. Cllr Hook suggested that it would be good if Highways and the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust would meet to find a solution.
  - 4 To note correspondence with regard to construction debri on the A19 outside Fairfield Croft.  
It was noted that the debri is particularly at the southern end and that the sweeper misses the central reservation and the island.
  - 5 To note recent correspondence regarding the verges of the Green.  
Some wooden posts were to be installed in March to stop parking on the verges. Posts were requested at 80cm rather than 1m high.
  - 6 To consider the future of the Friends of the Pond.  
Cllr Stead and Cllr C Linfoot had carried out some maintenance to the pond and the island.
  - 7 To note an update regarding the ground maintenance works at the Fairfields layby.  
A question was raised regarding the knotweed and Himalayan balsam near the layby and Cllr Hook responded that the knotweed is on private land and therefore is the responsibility of the owner. York's investigation regarding ownership was still ongoing.
- 20-21/83 To receive and consider a report from the Cemetery Advisory Panel and decide on any necessary action
- 1 To consider options for the entrance gates to the Cemetery extension.  
Cllr Linfoot suggested for the removal of the front double gate and to add bars to the side of the Lychgate. It was RESOLVED to seek a quotation for the works required. The panel had investigate options for moving a bench at the request of a resident and the Clerk would contact the resident to discuss options.

20-21/84

## Financial Matters and Governance

- 1 To approve the bank reconciliation and budget monitoring report to 30 October 2020.  
The Council's community account balance at the end of October was £1006.84 and the premium account balance was £30,366.73 but a number of large expenses are still awaited. It was RESOLVED to approve the bank reconciliation and the budget monitoring report to 30 October 2020.
- 2 Receipts  
Council noted the following receipts:
  - a. VAT reclaim £ 2432.33
  - b. Interments and inscription £ 635
- 3 To confirm the following payments:-
 

a. Sleightholm	[BACS]	£ 1554
Incl VAT £343		
b. Abbots. Soil removal.	[BACS]	£ 60
c. HMRC. Employer's NI payment	[DD]	£ 8.35

 It was RESOLVED to confirm the above payments.
- 4 To approve the following payments:-
 

a. Salaries, office costs and expenses November	[BACS]	£ 925.51
b. HMRC. Income tax and NI Nov	[DD]	£ 86.81
c. HMRC. NI Sept and Oct	[DD]	£ 17.26
d. Sleightholm Landscapes. Removing leaves from playground	[BACS]	£ 156
Incl VAT £26		
d. YLCA. NIMBLE training	[BACS]	£ 15
e. YLCA. Webinar. Managing people	[BACS]	£ 15
f. Business Sream. Water charges	[DD]	£ 9.74

 It was RESOLVED to approve the above invoices for payment.
- 5 To receive an update regarding the new website. Some training would be held in the week after the meeting. The website would allow for more community engagement. Councillors were asked to provide some personal information and a photograph for inclusion on the website.
- 6 To submit suggestions for the Draft Annual Plan and budget for the next financial year. Councillors were invited to submit their suggestions to the clerk.
- 7 To agree a date for an ICARAP meeting.  
It was agreed to change the name of the ICARAP panel to Finance Panel. The Clerk would circulate a date for a zoom meeting.

20-21/85

## Planning

- 1 To consider a response to the following planning applications:-
  - a. 20/01964/FUL. March Cottage. 3 Church View. The Green. Single Storey rear extension. No objections.
  - b. 20/02068/FUL. Woodstock Weddings and Events. Corban Lane. Change of use of stables and storage building to guest rooms and office (use class C1) with associated external works and landscaping. No objections.
  - c. 20/02200/TCA. The Coach House. Church Lane. Fell Birch Bark Cherry tree in a Conservation Area. No objections.
- 2 Planning applications decided by City of York Council
  - a. 20/01691. Holly House. Church Lane. Skelton. Single storey rear extension following demolition of conservatory and new ground floor window to side. Approved.
  - b. 20/01934/TCA. Oakwood, The Village. Fell Silver birch tree in Conservation Area. Allowed.
- 3 To consider other matters related to planning and decide upon any necessary action to

include:-

- a. City of York Local Plan. No news.
- b. Proposals to dual the outer ring road. The consultation response compiled by Cllr Terrett had been submitted.

- 20-21/86 To consider correspondence received and decide action where necessary to include:-
- 1 To receive emails from YLCA:-
    - a. White Rose Updates to 20 November 2020 and E-training bulletins to 13 November 2020.
    - b. Code of Conduct- further consultation by the Committee for Standards in Public Life. The consultation was noted.
  - 2 All following correspondence from NALC was noted:-
    - a. Coronavirus Updates to 5 November and Rebuilding Communities to 16 November 2020.
  - 3 The emails from City of York were noted:
    - a. Covid-19 updates to 19 November 2020.
    - b. Correspondence with an update on restructure of Local Government in York and North Yorkshire dated 23 October 2020. The correspondence was noted. Cllr Mansell intervened by raising item 20-21/80. The Chairman declined to accept this intervention. Some discussion took place but the content did not relate to the current agenda item. The Chairman declined to accept a motion of no confidence as it did not meet the rules set out in the Standing Orders.
- 20-21/87 To notify the Clerk of matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting.
- 20-21/88 It was confirmed that the next meeting will be held on 28 January 2021 at 19:30.  
The Chairman wished everyone a very Merry Covid-free Christmas and thanked Councillors for their support over the year.  
The meeting closed at 21:30.

Chairman's signature:

Date of approval: