

Skelton Parish Council

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Draft minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Skelton Parish Council held on Thursday 24 February 2022 at Skelton Village Hall at 19:30.

Present:

Councillors: Cllrs Watt, Gossow, C Linfoot, J Linfoot and Stead

Ward Councillor: Cllr Hook

Members of the public: 3

Clerk : Karin de Vries

21/105 Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He also referred to the invasion in Ukraine that had started this same day.

21/106 To receive apologies for absence and to approve reasons for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllrs A Mansell, L Mansell and Cllr Watson.

21/107 To receive any declarations of interests and any requests for dispensation

Cllr Stead declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in item 21/114.1.a.

21/108 To confirm and sign the minutes of the previous meeting

It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Skelton Parish Council held on 27 January 2022 as a true and correct record. The Chairman signed the minutes.

21/109 To resolve to adjourn the meeting in order to hold the Open Forum to include:

1. To receive a police report for January 2022

A police report for January 2022 had not been received.

2. To receive a report from the Ward Councillors

Cllr Hook mentioned that Hurn's Dyke footbridge was planned to be craned into place in late Spring but the works were delayed due to recent flooding. She also reported that she had requested additional road signage for Brecksfield.

3. To receive the litter picker's report

The litter picker mentioned that the end panel of the barriers near the school was missing.

Moreover, he had tried to report exposed electrics for an illuminated bollard near the Blacksmith Arms but the City of York system had not allowed him to do this. Cllr Hook offered to report the barrier near the school.

4. To receive parishioners' questions

Cllr Stead reported that nesting birds would benefit from a screen between the pond and the footpath. Members agreed to the works being carried out. Cllr Gossow said that she had reported that a blocked drain had caused standing water on Moorlands Road. A member of the public expressed an interest in joining the council and explained why they wished to join.

21/110 To consider the co-option of eligible candidates to a vacancy on Skelton Parish Council

It was RESOLVED to co-opt Nicola Lansell onto Skelton Parish Council. She joined the meeting after having signed the Acceptance of Office Form, witnessed by the clerk.

21/111 To receive information and decide necessary action on village and playground matters to include:-

1. To consider quotation to remedy damage to the Green

The Chairman and the clerk had met the contractor to discuss the required works to remedy

the damage caused by vehicle tyres. It was RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Sleightholm Landscapes for £90 plus VAT.

2. To receive correspondence regarding damage to the bus shelter

Despite several reminders to the City of York, no answer was received to clarify who owns the bus shelter and whether the principal authority would provide the specification for the bus shelter to enable the replacement of the broken pane of glass. Cllr C Linfoot had cleared up the worst of the glass. Cllr Hook promised to chase the relevant officer.

3. To consider an update from the working group for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations

Cllr L Mansell would take the lead together with two representatives for the church and a nominee for the Skelton Village Trust and the Chairman of the Women's Institute but was not at the meeting to give a report. The Chairman reported that for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee a local resident had compiled a leaflet, 'Royal Memories of Sixty Years ago', in which personal recollections were gathered by Skelton residents of the day the King died and the Coronation of the Queen. The local resident had plans to reprint the booklet with the addition of photographs of the event and a letter from the Queen. Options for grants for the printing costs were discussed.

4. To consider quotations for the planting of a commemorative tree with a plaque for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Cllr C Linfoot reported that he had difficulty sourcing a Quercus Rubra. He therefore proposed that the Council purchases a Liquidamber tree instead.

5. To consider an update regarding a Community Speed Watch initiative

Cllr A Mansell was not present to report.

6. To receive an update regarding the Footbridge Hurn's Dyke/Gutter

Councillor Hook had already reported under the ward councillor report.

7. To note the emergency tree works carried out near the pond

The Chairman thanked Cllr Stead who had carried out tree trimming works to make safe a storm-damaged birch near the pond.

8. To consider the purchase of a new battery for the Council's defibrillator

Cllr C Linfoot had been informed by the guardian of the defibrillator, Mr Sutherland, that the battery was nearing the end of its life. It was RESOLVED to purchase a new replacement battery for up to £300 plus VAT.

21/112 To receive a report from the Cemetery Advisory Panel and decide on any necessary action:-

1. To receive a report of a meeting held on 17 February 2022

Cllr C Linfoot reported that the Panel wanted to increase the size of the memorial garden area. A site visit would be held on 18 March 2022.

2. To consider the cemetery fees for 2022/23

The Panel recommended the introduction of half fees for children under 12 and quarter fees for reservations for infants. Most other fees would remain the same with the exception of interment fees for cremated remains and plaque and inscription fees. It was RESOLVED to set the fees in line with the recommendations of the Cemetery Advisory Panel.

21/113 Financial Matters and Governance

1. To receive the bank reconciliation and budget monitoring report as at 31 January 2022

It was RESOLVED to approve the financial reports as at 31 January 2022.

2. The following receipts were noted:-

None

3. To approve the following payments:-

a. Salaries, oncosts and mileage February	[BP]	£ 1273.27
b. Home working allowance clerk	[BP]	£ 26.00
c. Giffgaff monthly charges	[BP]	£ 6.00

It was RESOLVED to approve the above invoices for payment.

4. To receive an update regarding a Skelton Parish Council Facebook page

The clerk had received some advice on the recommended way to set up a Facebook page for the Council. She would seek further advice from other Councils.

21/114 Planning

1. To consider a response to the following planning applications:-

- a. 22/00166/FUL - Grange Farm Bungalow Orchard View. Single storey rear extension and alterations to existing fenestration. Councillor Stead left the meeting at this point. No objections.
- b. 22/00197/FUL -15 Burtree Avenue. Two storey extension to side and single storey extensions to front and rear. No objections.

2. To note details of planning applications decided by City of York Council and decide upon any necessary action:-

None.

3. To consider other matters related to planning and decide upon any necessary action to include:-

a. Two communication poles to be erected adjacent to Crookhill Cottage The Village and 59 Brecksfield

The Chairman had circulated an email about his communications with Quickline communications. Cllr Hook had put him in touch with the relevant officer within the City of York. Two planning notices outside Crookhill Cottage The Village and 59 Brecksfield appeared to have been swapped. Due to the Chairman pointing out the detrimental impact on a property at The Village, its location had been changed. The height of the wooden poles had been amended from 11 to 9 meters. On 3 March the poles were envisaged to be installed.

21/115 To consider correspondence received and decide action where necessary to include:-

1. The following emails from YLCA were noted:-
 - a. White Rose Updates, Law and Governance Bulletins and E-training bulletins.
 - b. Parish Charter. CoYC and local town and parish councils.
 - c. Civility and Respect Project
 - c. YLCA Remote Conference 25 March 2022.
2. The emails from NALC were noted.
3. Emails from the City of York Council were noted.

21/116 To confirm the date and time for the next meeting.

The next Ordinary meeting would be held on Thursday 24th March 2022 at 19:30 at the Skelton Village Hall.

The Chairman closes the meeting at 20:52.