

Skipwith Parish Council Meeting Minutes on Monday, 5th September 2022 at 8.00pm

Present: Councillors Jonathon Morgan (JM) Chairman, Mike Ward (MW) Vice-Chairman, Kate Baxter (KB)

Parish Clerk: Isobel Greatrex (IG)

Apologies: Councillor Sharon Worrall (SW) Jeremy Gerken (JG)

Guest: Apologies from Neil Reader, District Councillor

Item No.	Discussion	Action by	Due Date
041	To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence Apologies were received from Sharon Worrall (SW) and Jeremy Gerken (JK). Reasons for absence were approved.		
042	Declarations of interest not already declared under the council's Code of Conduct or members Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests None. MW said he would mention any conflict of interest, if required, as the meeting progressed.		
043	Public Session Five members of the public were present. Before the public session began JM reminded everyone of the Rules of Debate, within the Standing Orders. One member of the public only should speak on behalf of others if the subject matter was the same. Only new information should be raised; not a repetition of information which had previously been raised. He reminded the group that the public should show respect to allow Councillors to respond. He said the PC welcomed the public and valued their contributions, although some Councils only allow participation at Annual Meetings. <u>Recreation Area</u> A member of the public commented that, whilst the idea of a questionnaire was good, it needed to be accurate and he did not believe the recent questionnaire (circulated by Deborah Barton) had reflected the correct details. It should have ensured that the residents were aware of all aspects. He would like the PC to conduct their own survey and to provide proper details. KB explained that the PC had always planned to do a survey but to fence the land off first. JM said that the last meeting minutes stated that the survey had not been initiated by the PC. Another member of the public replied by saying that he was involved in it with the intention to make people aware of the options available and there was an opportunity in the questionnaire to write whatever people wanted. It was done with good intentions. JM said that the PC was not even aware the survey was being issued or was made aware of the results before they were published. KB gained confirmation that the survey was parish wide; not just issued to the village.		

044	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 4th July 2022 were approved by all members of the PC as true and accurate record. JM proposed and KB seconded.</p>		
045	<p>County and District Councillor Reports</p> <p>Unfortunately, neither Councillors were in attendance but sent their respective apologies. JM explained that the new County Councillor John Cattanach, would not be able to attend future meetings due to personal reasons, although the PC could email him on any issues where they needed his advice or support.</p> <p>JM informed the PC that he had had a meeting with John Cattanach who had asked him to inform the PC that there was to be a meeting in Escrick on Friday regarding the Local Plan and the proposed development, Heronby. The other two proposed sites at Burn and Church Fenton had certain issues so it looked like Heronby was the forerunner. The public consultation regarding the Local Plan ends on 7th October and details can be found on the PC noticeboard.</p>		
046 046.1	<p>Information on the following ongoing issues and to decide further action where necessary:</p> <p>Highway Safety <u>Skipwith/North Duffield Junction</u></p> <p>The ongoing issues regarding lack of action from Highways had been escalated and it has now been confirmed that the remaining works will be carried out w/c 3rd October. Once the work has been completed, speed rods will be installed.</p>		
046.2	<p>Recreation Area</p> <p>Following advice from the Planning Officer, the PC had met with Charlie Forbes Adam, the landowner, to resolve his objection to the application. It was agreed with him that the content of the application would remain the same, whilst the title would change from wildflower meadow to recreation area. The landowner has since formally withdrawn his objection. He has also offered to contribute to the cost of the fencing, which he hoped would be livestock proof and child friendly.</p> <p>KB thought that if the fencing didn't meet the landowner's expectations and he wanted to contribute the PC may need to re-apply to Planning. JM believed it was fit for purpose and in keeping with the rural environment.</p> <p>KB reminded the PC that it needed to spend the grant provided a few months ago from Neil Reader. JM informed the PC that John Cattanach had a fund available also.</p> <p>JM suggested that once the planning application had been approved, the PC needed to provide a cost estimation as it needed to be mindful that it could amount to 50% of the PC's current reserves, although there may be some funding available. It was agreed to place this on the next meeting agenda, including additional costs from Highways and insurance premiums. SW to provide estimation of costs from Highways and IG to provide costs from the insurance company.</p> <p>JM went on to inform the PC that a resident had provided a document which was a 1901 statute which had designated Little Common to be a play area and that a committee had been set up at that time, which included a PC member, Riccall PC and Escrick Estate and six private properties within the parish. As the PC was previously unaware of this it was agreed to investigate the statute's validity. It was agreed to write to Charlie Forbes Adam to investigate further. KB proposed and MW seconded.</p>	SW/IG	Before 7 th November

	The resident who brought this to the PC's attention believed that the land was Escrick Estate's potential responsibility and no financial support was required from the PC to maintain it.	IG/JM	Asap
046.3	Scarrow Green Pond York Landscapes had provided a quote to remove the saplings from the island in the pond and to flail the brambles surrounding the pond. It was £200 for the saplings and £400 for the brambles. It was agreed for the work to progress. JM proposed and MW seconded.	IG	Asap
046.4	Town End Pond JM wished to remind everyone that the clearing of the pond was Saturday, 2 nd October and that it had been advertised in Round Up. KB had drafted a risk assessment, which would be carried out prior to the event. The public would also be advised of safety measures on the day. She reiterated that wetsuits and waders would be required for getting into the pond and to wear long sleeved clothing and gloves. JM and KB agreed to arrange a plan before the start. KB would remind Mark Headley of his agreed support too. JM would ask Mavis Dixon if she would be able to provide coffee and cake for the workers.	JM/KB	Prior to 2 nd October
046.5	Grass Verges on Main Street JM confirmed that he had met with Daniel Gath in Skipwith and gained agreement they would make the appropriate repairs in September.		
046.6	Planning Non-Compliance IG had followed up but there were no further updates regarding either Mulberry Vale or North House Farm.		
046.7	Christmas Lights MW had switched on the Christmas lights prior to the meeting and it was agreed they were not fit for purpose and needed replacing. A member of the public recommended Lights4fun as a supplier. It was also agreed that the current lights needed removing and to contact John Wright to obtain a quote and to obtain advice as to the number of lights to be purchased and a quote for the installation. IG to arrange a meeting with the contractor and MW. It was agreed to install the lights on just the two large trees. JM reminded the PC that John Cattanach may be able to provide some funding. An extraordinary meeting prior to the November PC meeting would need to be called to agree costs.	IG/MW	Asap
046.8	Allotment Trees and Water Supply MW had obtained two quotes from tree surgeons: Huw Forrestry - £1,600 for removal of trees, £980 for removing some branches and Tapparalls had only provided a verbal quote so far of £500 for branch removal. IG had been unable to contact Paul Clifton for a further quote. Further to enquiries to Yorkshire Water, it had been confirmed there was only a hydrant at the location and no water measuring system. For a surveyor to visit the site before a quote could be provided a cost of £201.50 would be charged. As it was believed that a water		

	<p>supply to the allotments was the preferred option of allotment holders it was agreed that the PC should request the attendance of a surveyor to ascertain further costs so a final decision could be made. KB proposed and JM seconded.</p> <p>MW volunteered to contact an ex-Yorkshire Water employee, in the first instance, for advice before a surveyor was requested.</p> <p>MW informed the PC that he was awaiting a response from the insurance company regarding various questions he had posed about the allotment insurance.</p>	MW	Asap
046.9	<p>Round Up Editorial</p> <p>It was agreed that in the next Round Up issue a Highways update could be provided, along with the recreation area planning application, and a thank you to Town End Pond volunteers.</p>		
047	<p>Planning</p> <p>Nothing to report, except to confirm there were no objections to a planning application for a single storey extension to Orchard House, Mulberry Vale.</p>		
048	<p>Matters Requested by Councillors</p> <p>None</p>		
049	<p>Financial Matters</p> <p><u>The following account for payment was approved:</u></p>		
049.1	<p>York Landscapes – grass cutting for July and August - £528</p>		
049.1.1	<p>KB proposed and MW seconded the above payment.</p>		
049.1.2	<p>Npower contract</p> <p>IG informed the PC that Npower had now explained that due to the small usage a fixed rate was not available now.</p>		
050	<p>Correspondence</p>		
050.1	<p>Grant Request from Skipwith PCC</p> <p>It was agreed to donate £550 to the PCC to assist with churchyard maintenance and Round Up publication. JM proposed and KB seconded.</p>		
050.2	<p>Defibrillator</p> <p>A request to check the software version of the defibrillator had been received in case it had to be recalled. This had been done and the software version was found not to be one of those which needed to be returned.</p> <p>Since a previous Councillor had resigned there was a need for someone else to deputise as another Guardian. It was agreed that all the PC should be aware of what was required. It was also agreed that Yorkshire Ambulance Service should be contacted to ask if they would hold a training session to demonstrate the use of the defibrillator. A suggestion was also made that a demonstration could be found on YouTube.</p>	IG	Asap

	For information, should the defibrillator be required, a 999 call should be made and then a code would be provided to enable the door to be opened and to await further instructions. The machine is logged in to a UK wide system called The Circuit, which retains the location of the defibrillator and other details.		
051	Matters for Inclusion on the Agenda for the Next Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Highway Safety• Recreation Area• Grass Verges• Scarrow Green/Town End Pond• Allotments• Christmas Lights• Civility and Respect		
	Meeting closed at 9.36pm. The next PC meeting will be held on Monday, 7th November at 8.00pm.		