

**Skipwith Parish Council Meeting Minutes on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 8.00pm**

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

Parish Clerk: Isobel Greatrex (IG)

**Guests:** District Councillor, Neil Reader (NR), Beilby Forbes Adam (BFA), Escrick Estate

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action by</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
<b>018</b>	<b>To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence</b> Apologies were received from Sharon Worrall (SW) and Trevor Britain (TB) and reasons for absence were approved.		
<b>019</b>	<b>Declarations of interest not already declared under the council's Code of Conduct or members Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest</b> None.		
<b>020</b>	<b>Public Session</b> Two members of the public were in attendance.		
<b>021</b>	<b>Minutes of the meetings held on 10<sup>th</sup> January, 24<sup>th</sup> January and 7<sup>th</sup> February</b> were approved by all members of the PC as true and accurate records. MW proposed and KB seconded.		
<b>022</b>	<b>County and District Councillor Reports</b> NR informed the PC that a full Council met and decided to delay the local plan consultation until June. CC thanked NR for the community funding contribution he had made to the PC.		

<p><b>023</b></p>	<p><b>Traffic Management in Skipwith Common</b></p> <p>JM welcomed Beilby Forbes Adam to the meeting, who went on to explain that Highways will be sending the PC a consultation letter regarding a proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). Skipwith Common had been designated a National Nature Reserve since 2009 and it is one of 250 in the UK and is ecologically important.</p> <p>Due to Covid and subsequent lockdowns there has been a significant increase in visitor numbers. Additional traffic has led to fly tipping, parking on the pathway sides, camping, parties, offroading etc. which has caused a general disturbance to wildlife. Esrcrick Estate, combined with Natural England, wish to enable access to horse riders, walkers and bicycles but not to vehicles. After consulting with Highways it has suggested to issue a Traffic Regulation Order to prevent vehicular traffic due to the issues faced. It is proposed to install barriers (likely to be wooden gates) at each entrance and to provide a little more car parking. BFA believes that this is a pragmatic solution, whilst still ensuring the public can enjoy the Common.</p> <p>CC pointed out that satnavs often direct traffic through the Common and asked if this could be prevented. BFA did not know if this was possible.</p> <p>MW asked where the no through road signage would start as he believed it should start at the junction of Common Road, in order to prevent vehicles having to turn around further down the lane. This could cause problems, especially if articulated vehicles had to do so and could be dangerous if they had to reverse out. BFA confirmed he would raise this with Highways.</p> <p>JM informed BFA that the increase in visitors had already caused increased parking within the village itself and was concerned that the lack of parking on the Common would cause even more parking problems on the village roads. BFA said that no further parking could be provided within the reserve, although there was a field which, if needed, could be used for additional parking but this would not be able to be put to use until 2023. MW thought this may be counterproductive as it could attract even more visitors. It was agreed to review the situation once the barriers had been installed.</p> <p>JM asked if the 2 speed signs (one 30mph and one 60mph) would be negated.</p> <p>BFA asked if the PC would highlight the issues raised in response to the consultation document.</p> <p>JM said he welcomed the proposal and appreciated BFA attending the meeting in order to explain the TRO in more detail.</p> <p>NR and BFA left the meeting at 8.30pm.</p>	<p>BFA</p>	<p>Asap</p>
<p><b>024</b> <b>024.1</b></p>	<p><b>Information on the following ongoing issues and to decide further action where necessary:</b></p> <p><b>Highway Safety</b></p> <p><u>Skipwith/North Duffield Junction</u></p> <p>JM provided an update in the absence of SW. Unfortunately, no progress from Highways was made in February. It has now been confirmed that all road works will be completed by the end of April.</p> <p>Highways have no further ideas regarding illuminating the chicanes, other than using the tape. SW to purchase this in order for the PC to have some in stock. (The cost was previously approved by the PC).</p> <p><u>Hedge Maintenance opposite Town End Pond</u></p> <p>The second contractor did not submit a tender, after having requested this on numerous occasions. JM will ask Yorkshire Landscapes (who did provide a tender for this task), to cut the hedge later in the year.</p>	<p>SW</p> <p>JM</p>	<p>Asap</p> <p>Asap</p>

	<u>Car Parking opposite Town End Pond</u> The request to Highways for double yellow lines on the Main Street bend has yet to be approved. SW will continue to follow this up.	SW	Asap
<b>024.2</b>	<b>Asset Register</b> This investigation is still ongoing. However, it was agreed that if no further progress is made by the next PC meeting the investigation needs to end as every channel has been pursued.		
<b>024.3</b>	<b>Scarrow Green</b> JM confirmed that work to flail the brambles around the pond has now been completed. IG confirmed that Holey Moley will charge £60 to get rid of the moles from the grass around the pond. CC proposed and KB seconded the cost. IG had also requested Escrick Estate to rid the green opposite the village pond of moles before the grass cutting season started.	IG	Asap
<b>024.4</b>	<b>Electricity Box Repair</b> The PC thanked TB for his efforts to repair the box but decided to install a new door rather than keep the repaired one. The PC agreed to ask Phil Westoby if he could assist, in the first instance.	IG	Asap
<b>024.5</b>	<b>Wildflower Meadow/Community Fund</b> It was agreed to follow up with County Councillor Richard Musgrave if he had been able to provide any monies from the Community Fund to the PC. JM informed the PC that the planning application would need to be re-submitted, although exactly the same plans submitted a few years ago had been used. It was apparent that some of the rules had changed. A discussion ensued as to the narrative required for the next submission and it was agreed that KB and JM should amalgamate the research they had carried out respectively and that KB would draft a suitable response. The working party was also producing a document, which would be circulated to the PC prior to the next meeting.  JM noted that the planning application was still named wildflower meadow as this was what was last agreed by Charlie Forbes Adam.  IG informed the PC about the insurance company's response to her request about allowing ball games etc on the land. Gallagher said the PC would need to complete a risk assessment to establish whether or not it would be safe to allow this.	IG  KB  CC	Asap  Asap  Before 16 <sup>th</sup> May
<b>024.6</b>	<b>Notice Board Backings</b> Phil Westoby has kindly volunteered to renew these. MW noted that the door on the notice board was now unable to close properly and that the PC should employ a joiner, should Phil be unable to assist.	IG	Asap

024.7	<p><b>Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations</b></p> <p>JM informed the PC he had met with some village hall committee representatives and confirmed that the event on Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June would be kept as a simple community gathering. There were two music bands available to play. After some discussion, it was agreed that the PC would contribute half the cost, £175, with the village hall contributing the remainder. It was also agreed to spend up to £250 for any other expenses for the event. KB proposed and CC seconded both costs. There would be a further meeting with the village hall representatives to finalise arrangements.</p>	JM	Asap
024.8	<p><b>Grass Verges on Main Street</b></p> <p>As there had been no further responses from either Yorvik Homes or Daniel Gath regarding the poor state they had left the grass verges, JM had spoken to Daniel Liddell from Daniel Gath, who had confirmed they would resolve the issues. The PC will confirm this conversation in writing to him.</p>	IG	Asap
024.9	<p><b>Allotment Vacancy</b></p> <p>MW reported he had received two applications so the vacancy would be shortly filled.</p>	MW	Asap
025	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>There was no update regarding The Rowans planning application.</p>		
026	<p><b>Matters Requested by Councillors</b></p> <p>None</p>		
<p>027</p> <p>027.1</p> <p>027.1.1</p> <p>027.1.2</p> <p>027.1.3</p> <p>027.2</p>	<p><b>Financial Matters</b></p> <p><u>The following accounts for payment were approved:</u></p> <p>York Landscapes Scarrow Green maintenance - £480</p> <p>Planning Application Fees – Wildfower Meadow - £259</p> <p>Parish Clerk salary</p> <p>CC proposed and KB seconded the above payments.</p> <p><u>Escrick Estate Donation – Town End Pond Maintenance</u></p> <p>The PC wished to thank Escrick Estate for its generous donation of £890 in full payment for the cost of clearing the pond last year.</p>		
028	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p><u>North Duffield &amp; Skipwith Playing Field Association</u></p> <p>A request to the PC had been received to ask if it wanted to send two representatives to the Association's monthly meetings on a Monday. The PC declined the offer.</p>		

029	<p><b>May Elections</b></p> <p>IG explained to the PC that the elections would be held on 5<sup>th</sup> May and therefore the PC's annual meeting could only be held between 10<sup>th</sup> May to 25<sup>th</sup> May. It was agreed to postpone the 6<sup>th</sup> May meeting to 16<sup>th</sup> May.</p> <p>IG informed the PC that she would update the Councillors regarding the process for standing for election once she had received the appropriate information from YLCA.</p>	IG	Asap
030	<p><b>Matters for Inclusion on the Agenda for the Next Meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highway Safety</li> <li>• Asset Register</li> <li>• Notice Board Backings/Electricity Box Repair</li> <li>• Wildflower Meadow</li> <li>• Grass Verges</li> <li>• Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations 2022</li> </ul>		
	<p>Meeting closed at 9.25pm.</p> <p><b>The Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> May at 8.00pm, followed by the usual PC meeting.</b></p>		