

**Skipwith Parish Council Meeting Minutes on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 8.30pm**

**Present:** Councillors Jonathon Morgan (JM) Chairman, Mike Ward (MW) Vice-Chairman, Sharon Worrall (SW)

Parish Clerk: Isobel Greatrex (IG)

**Apologies:** Councillor Kate Baxter (KB)

**Guest:** Neil Reader, District Councillor

<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 Kate Baxter (KB) 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 Interests</b> None.		
<b>020</b>	<b>Public Session</b> <u>Wildflower Meadow</u> Five members of the public were in attendance. A member of the public wished to raise the reason for the planning application still being called a wildflower meadow as she had believed that the application was just for change of access and wanted to know who had made that decision. MW explained that the PC had to name and describe the land as part of the planning application and the land was currently a wildflower meadow. The application included the fencing of the land and change of access in order to speed up the process. JM reminded the public that when parishioners were canvassed the majority did not want a play area and preferred a wildflower meadow for the use of the community. The member of public said this was in 2006, which was refuted by the PC who confirmed it was 6 years ago. The member of public stated that the PC had a planning obligation to provide recreational amenities which specified a play area. MW explained that the PC had referred to Selby District Council (SDC), who confirmed that the S106 legal obligation was between SDC and the landowner which has been fulfilled. He went on to explain that there was then a separate document between the landowner and the PC. The landowner agreed to the PC's initial proposal to change the land to a wildflower meadow and had recently agreed to it again in February, prior to the recent planning application. Another member of the public asked if the play area was not agreed because of the cost of equipment. JM said he was unable to answer this as he couldn't answer for all residents. She asked if the population could be re-canvassed.		

	<p>Another member of public who was present at the time of the S106 being discharged confirmed that the PC was correct in its explanation. The questionnaire issued at the time allowed feedback and was collated by a previous Chairman and published. The outcome was that residents wanted a more natural setting in the village. He said the planning application reflected that view. Another member of public supported this summary and said she was sorry that people who have recently moved in wanted a play area but she did not believe it was a suitable location and thought that ball games should not be allowed.</p> <p>One member of the public did advise the meeting that in a recent discussion the landowner was very supportive of a play area indicating the possibility, not only of financial support, but also provision of an alternative area of land. In response to a suggestion from MW that direct contact with the PC from the landowner as a step to formalising such suggestion would be welcome the member of the public agreed to refer the matter back to the landowner. MW explained there had been no choice as to the location when there were initial discussions.</p> <p>SW commented that whilst a number of objections had been made about the planning application it would appear there was a lot of apathy about it as only two members of the public were present to discuss it.</p> <p>The member of public stated that the lease for a play area was granted with the S106 attached to it.</p> <p>JM responded by saying that the lease of the land was a private transaction between the PC and the landowner who had agreed to the change. He continued by explaining that, due to the objections, the planning application had now been delayed from 23<sup>rd</sup> May determination date as the Planning Committee does not meet until 6<sup>th</sup> July. The PC will work hard to present the further requested information to the Case Officer by 31<sup>st</sup> May. (NR arrived at 8.52pm).</p> <p>One of the members of public asked about the type of fencing. JM confirmed the fencing was more aesthetically in keeping in its rural setting and to prevent sheep entering the area.</p> <p>Another member of the public thanked the PC, on behalf of the village, for all the work they do.</p> <p><u>Highway Safety</u></p> <p>The meeting went on to discuss highway safety and the question was asked about the continued delays from Highways to carry out the works on the North Duffield/Skipwith junction, as promised and what else could be done to resolve this. She also believed that the chicanes have exacerbated speeding at said junction.</p> <p>SW explained that she had been following it up but there were ongoing resource issues in Highways. She agreed to raise it with the new County Councillor, John Cattanach.</p>		
021	<p><b>Minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022</b> were approved by all members of the PC as true and accurate record.</p>		
022	<p><b>County and District Councillor Reports</b></p> <p>NR said there was nothing to report, although Community funding and other fundings were open again for applications but suggested the PC should be quick, if they were interested. He confirmed that County Councillor Richard Musgrave was no longer supporting the Escrick ward and had been replaced by John Cattanach.</p> <p>NR left at 9.05pm.</p>		

<p><b>023</b> <b>023.1</b></p>	<p><b>Information on the following ongoing issues and to decide further action where necessary:</b>  <b>Highway Safety</b>  <u>Skipwith/North Duffield Junction</u>  See item 020.  <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.</p>	<p>SW</p>	<p>Asap</p>
<p><b>023.2</b></p>	<p><b>Asset Register</b>  This investigation is still ongoing. Deborah Barton will contact IG to update her.</p>	<p>DB</p>	<p>Asap</p>
<p><b>023.3</b></p>	<p><b>Electricity Box Repair/Notice Board Backings and Door</b>  Phil Westoby has kindly offered to volunteer his services to carry out these repairs.</p>		
<p><b>023.4</b></p>	<p><b>Wildflower Meadow/Community Fund/Correspondence</b>  JM explained that Emma Howson, Case Officer, had written to the PC requesting further information, including style and positioning of benches. He discussed wheelchair access and hard standing at the entrance. He asked SW to contact Highways to inform them about what the PC was proposing regarding the access from the pavement. JM had asked if the application could be conditioned but had been informed that the PC needed to be specific with the details because it was now going to the Planning Committee. JM said that if the PC wasn't able to meet the response date it would need to ask for more time.  JM then addressed the correspondence from Deborah Barton, who believed the minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> February extraordinary meeting were not accurate. JM felt that the PC had already covered all her points in the public session. She had challenged the minutes did not state she had suggested the area be called the Platinum Jubilee Recreation Ground; they stated she suggested Platinum Jubilee Garden. The Parish Clerk had checked her contemporaneous notes and had written the latter.</p>	<p>JM/MW</p>	<p>Asap</p>
<p><b>023.5</b></p>	<p><b>Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations</b>  JM said that the Village Hall Committee and Parish Council had come together to arrange the event on the Green on Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June. Fliers had already been posted through residents' doors and posters will also be placed on notice boards. The week leading up to the event bunting will go up, which will also act as a reminder to the public. Balloons will need to be blown up and tables brought out. MW requested anyone wishing to volunteer from 10.00am to meet on the green and generally set up for the day.  York Landscapes had confirmed it would be able to do an additional grass cut on the Green in preparation for the event but it would be an additional cost of £132 maximum. This was agreed; JM proposed and SW seconded.  MW explained that the bands needed to be paid in cash and as the PC does not hold any cash he suggested that the allotment money he was due to receive could be used to pay the bands. This was agreed.  JM confirmed that the PC was within the set budget it had previously agreed for the event.</p>		

<b>023.6</b>	<b>Grass Verges on Main Street</b> JM confirmed that IG had written to Daniel Gath to confirm the telephone conversation with one of their Directors. He said that the verges will be repaired when they come to finish off the works in the developments. JM had observed they had recently returned to do so and was hoping that they would then repair the damage. He noted that the grass verge outside Fallow Way houses which back on to Main Street was also in need of their repair as the grass would be difficult to mow in its present state due to all the undulations. JM thanked the residents who live in these houses for their forthcoming assistance in the upkeep of the said grass verge.		
<b>023.7</b>	<b>Allotment Vacancy</b> MW explained that two plots had become vacant due to ill health and relocation. One of the plots has now been split up so income is now £60 rather than just £40.		
<b>024</b> <b>024.1</b> <b>024.2</b>	<b>Planning</b> There was no update regarding The Rowans planning application as it was still in progress. Wildflower Meadow previously discussed in items 20 and 23.4.		
<b>025</b> <b>025.1</b>  <b>025.2</b>	<b>Matters Requested by Councillors</b> Planning Non-Compliance (MW) MW raised the fact that the PC had not received any further updates regarding the non-compliance issues in Mulberry Vale development from Selby Planning department for a long time, equally regarding North House Farm boundary from Area 7, Highways. It was agreed to follow these up and if the process had been exhausted to ask what other options could be considered. Christmas Lights (MW) MW wished to flag this issue as there had been an unexpected amount of wear and tear last Christmas just in 12 months since purchase and the PC should not leave it too late to take any remedial action. MW intended to ask Claire Colthirst to help with switching on the lights for the Platinum Jubilee event, which would provide a useful assessment.	IG   MW	Asap   Before 3 <sup>rd</sup> June
<b>026</b> <b>026.1</b> <b>026.1.1</b> <b>026.1.2</b> <b>026.1.3</b> <b>026.1.4</b> <b>026.1.5</b>  <b>026.2</b>  <b>026.3</b>	<b>Financial Matters</b> <u>The following accounts for payment were approved:</u> York Landscapes – grass cutting for march and April - £396 YLCA membership fee - £133 City of York Council – No.18 evening bus service - £175,90 Npower – street lighting- £897.20. Npower had recently offered the PC a favourable fixed rate for the next 12 months. Gallagher insurance premium - £760.50 SW proposed and MW seconded the above payments and new fixed npower rate. <u>No.18 Evening Bus Service</u> The PC agreed to continue their support to contribute £175.90 towards the evening bus service for 2022/23. <u>VAT Claim</u>		

	IG confirmed she had claimed for a VAT refund for 2021/22.		
<b>027</b>	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>Correspondence received from Deborah Barton regarding the minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> February extraordinary meeting regarding the wildflower meadow. JM believed the points had already been covered in item 023.4.</p>		
<b>028</b>	<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> </ul>		
	<p>Meeting closed at 9.45pm.</p> <p><b>The next PC meeting will be held on Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> July at 8.00pm.</b></p>		