

DRAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 7 November 2018 in the Village Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr M Billing – Chairman (from Minute 2)
Cllr R Neale
Cllr A Turner

Mrs J Markham – Clerk

In attendance:

Cllr R Heseltine, North Yorkshire County Council
Ms D Johnson, Manager of the Dales (to Minute 6 only)

Public: 6

1. Election of Chairman

It was RESOLVED (Proposed by Cllr Neale; seconded by Cllr Turner):
“That the Vice-Chairman, Councillor M Billing, be and she is hereby elected as Chairman of the Council with immediate effect to serve until the date of the next annual meeting.”

The Chairman’s Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed and received.

2. Casual Vacancy

Item deferred to the next meeting.

3. Apologies for Absence

Received from Cllr Mole; reasons for absence approved.

4. Disclosure of Interests

Members were invited to disclose any interests (including any not already listed in the Register of Interests) relevant to the business of the meeting, and, in respect of a disclosable interest (previously registered or not), to request dispensation pursuant to the Council’s Code of Conduct to participate in the business under discussion and vote on the matter.

Relevant Interests disclosed: None.

Additional Interests disclosed: None.

5. Dales Care Home

The Chairman welcomed Ms Johnson, Manager of the Dales Care Home to the meeting.

Ms Johnson presented a report on the Home's activities and proposed developments and highlighted possible initiatives to improve integration within the community. It was noted that the Home's holding company was investigating options for providing parking for staff and visitors behind the Home.

The Council welcomed the establishment of closer links between the Home and local community, and thanked Ms Johnson for attending.

6. Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 October 2018

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 18 October 2018 were taken as read, approved as a true and correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

7. Matters Arising from Minutes of Meetings held on 19 September and 18 October

- (i) Rats It was noted that advice had been taken from the District Council's Pest Control officers, and this had been copied to all villagers as an insert to the village newsletter.
- (ii) Road Safety Signs The Clerk reported that no further contact had been received from the District Council as regards the position of the safety sign on the village green. It was agreed to consult with the residents of Railway Cottages as regards installation of the second sign at the bottom of the village.
- (iii) Dog Waste Bins Proposals were presented for the repair or replacement of the two metal bins and advice provided by Cllr Pighills as regards the availability of further grant funding was noted. After discussion, it was agreed to replace them and decide on the means of funding the capital costs under agenda item 12.
- (iv) Winter Gritting and Verge Cutting Cllr Neale presented a final report on the survey on winter gritting services, noting that, although the majority of villagers had supported the option of continuing current practices, a significant minority had been in favour of paying separately for a commercial gritting service. Cllr Neale reported further on proposals being finalised for expenditure of remaining grant funds for the Draughton Vergers project, as authorised at the September meeting.

- (v) Tree Maintenance The Clerk reported that planning permission to have the tree works carried out was expected shortly (see Minute 8 below). In the meantime, minor works to remove the most obstructive branches had been carried out by volunteers.

8. Planning

The following planning matters were noted:

- (i) Housing development at top of the village (Ref 2018/18883/FUL) – no further developments reported.
- (ii) Village Green – tree works (Ref 2018/19797/TCA) – decision awaited.

9. Footpath to Field House Farm

The Chairman reported that the County Council had rejected the outstanding DMMO application made in 1985 as regards the footpath through Field House Farm. The Clerk reported on the options available to the Parish Council, as original applicant, of appealing the decision or applying for the creation of a new footpath (with the consent of landowners). It was agreed that no further action would be taken.

10. Financial Matters

A The month's accounts were approved for payment, and cheques were signed as required.

B The half-year Monitoring Statement to 30 September 2018 was received and noted.

C The Bank Reconciliation to end September 2018 was received and noted.

D It was RESOLVED: "THAT Cllr A Turner be and she is hereby appointed as an authorised signatory for use of the Council's Bank Account with immediate effect."

The relevant change of mandate forms would be completed outside the meeting, and instructions provided to the Council's Bank accordingly.

E It was RESOLVED: "THAT a donation of £250 be provided to the Village Hall Trustees towards the costs of the Christmas tree and seasonal events 2018."

11. Planting near Bus Stop

Further to the discussion of preliminary expenditure proposals at the August and September Council meetings (Minutes 8(i) and 5(ii) refer respectively), additional proposals were put forward for planting out an

area of the village green near the bus stop as a memorial garden and for inviting designs from the local children. The Clerk reported on the possible costs for setting up such a garden, including the capital costs of features such as benches, planting trough and other containers and flagstones. After discussion, and taking into account the decision made to replace dog waste bins near the village green (Minute 7(iii) above refers), it was RESOLVED:

“THAT a grant application be made to Craven District Council for funds towards the costs of improving the amenity value of the village green area, by furnishing a memorial garden and by replacing two dog waste bins, and that the Clerk be authorised to complete and submit the application from accordingly.”

The Clerk was asked to publicise the project on the website and invite further ideas from villagers. It was confirmed that the original project, to renew planting inside the bus stop area itself, should continue, as agreed and as currently being progressed by a village resident.

12.Action Plan and Budget 2019/20

The draft Action Plan and Budget Statement 2019/20 were received and discussed. The documents would be revised to include a notional allowance of £500 (match-funding) for the improvement of the village green as an amenity area, and also to include reference to further initiatives to discourage traffic speeding in the village, and the Budget, with recommendations for the precept 2019/20, would be presented to the next meeting.

13.Consultations and Correspondence

Newsletters and emails circulated for information were noted.

14.Dates of next Council Meetings

Date of the next meeting – 13 December 2018 at 7pm.

Dates of meetings for the remainder of the financial year were confirmed as follows:

16 January

13 February

13 March

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Chairman