

DRAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 10 April 2019 in the Village Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr M Billing (Chairman)
Cllr R Neale
Cllr A Mole
Cllr A Turner

Mrs J Markham – Clerk

In attendance:

Cllr D Pighills, Ward Representative Craven DC

Public: 3

1. Apologies for Absence

Received from Cllr Garnett; reasons for absence approved.

2. 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.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 March 2019

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 13 March 2019 were taken as read, approved as a true and correct record, and signed by the Chairman of the meeting.

4. Matters Arising

- (i) Cleaner Neighbourhoods It was noted that, following the presentation provided to the last meeting, further guidance had been provided on littering and dog fouling, and this was to be publicised in the next newsletter.
- (ii) Rat control It was reported that the situation would be monitored, and information sent to the District Council as necessary to enable them to advise further and request support from Yorkshire Water.

- (iii) Traffic safety Cllr Neale proposed that ongoing concerns with traffic safety in the village should be discussed at the next meeting, following further feedback from residents, to be invited in the next newsletter.

5. Memorial Garden

Cllr Turner gave an update, following a meeting held with volunteers on the village green on 7 April. Potential locations for the garden had been reviewed and the possibility of sourcing stone seats was being investigated. It was noted that village opinion was to be surveyed in the Spring newsletter.

6. Planning

The following planning matters were discussed:

- (i) Housing development at top of the village (Ref 2018/18883/FUL) – no further developments.
- (ii) 2 Meadowcroft (Ref 2019/20243/HH) – no comments to be made.

7. Spring Newsletter

The Clerk tabled draft copy for the Spring Newsletter. This was approved, and it was RESOLVED:

“THAT expenditure of £132 be authorised for the costs of printing the newsletter, due for distribution in Spring 2019.”

8. Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19

The Report of the Internal Auditor 2018/19 was received and noted. It was noted that the auditor had no matters to raise with the Council, following his annual audit of the Council’s financial records and procedures, that, in his view, the records and systems of internal control were adequate and effective, and that accounting information shown in the Annual Return had been correctly stated.

The Clerk presented the Statement of Receipts and Payments 2018/19.

Taking the assurances of the Internal Auditor into account, it was RESOLVED:

- (1) “THAT the Annual Governance Statement in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19 be approved for signature by the Chairman and Clerk;

- (2) THAT the Accounting Statements 2018/19, as signed by the Responsible Financial Officer, be approved for signature by the Chairman; and
- (3) THAT the Clerk be authorised to set the period for the exercise of public rights, and to publish information on the website, as required under the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015 and the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities.”

The Chairman on behalf of the Council thanked the Clerk and the Internal Auditor for their work on the accounts throughout the year.

9. External Audit 2018/19

The Clerk noted that, pursuant to s.9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015, since neither gross income nor gross expenditure for the year of account ending 31 March 2019 exceeded £25000, the Council was eligible to certify itself as exempt from limited assurance review by external auditors. It was accordingly RESOLVED:

“THAT a Certificate of Exemption be completed, notifying the external auditor that during the financial year 2018/19 the higher of the authority’s gross income for the year or gross annual expenditure for the year did not exceed £25,000.”

10. Register of Assets

The Clerk presented the updated register of the Council’s asset holdings, and this was reviewed and noted.

11. Other Financial Matters

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

B The Bank Reconciliation to 31 March 2019 was received and noted.

C A quotation received for renewal of the Council’s insurances with effect from 1 May 2019 was received and it was RESOLVED:

“THAT the Council’s insurances be renewed with Zurich Municipal with effect from 1 May 2019 for an annual premium cost, as quoted, of £206.09.”

12. Consultations, Correspondence and Members’ Discussion Forum

Newsletters and emails circulated for information were noted, including the National Audit Office's consultation on a new Code of Audit Practice.

A survey consultation on the priorities of the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service was discussed, and a response would be submitted online. Cllr Turner reported that a local resident had offered to re-site the new grit bin at the top of the Low Lane. This was welcomed. Cllr Turner also noted that she and a volunteer planned to repaint the bus shelter shortly.

13. Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting was convened by the Chairman to be held on 15 May 2019 at 7.00pm in the village hall.

14. Date of next (Annual) Council Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 15 May 2019 at **7.30pm** in the village hall (following the Annual Parish Meeting).

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Chairman