

DRAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Monday 7 September 2020 via a remote meeting platform at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr A Mole - Chairman
Cllr M Billing (from Minute 4)
Cllr J Garnett (from Minute 4)
Cllr R Neale
Cllr A Turner
Mrs J Markham – Clerk

In attendance:
Cllr R Heseltine – NYCC Ward
Representative

1. Apologies for Absence

None

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 Council Meeting held on 13 July 2020

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 July 2020, together with the Clerk's report, for information, on matters arising, were taken as read, and the Minutes were approved as a true and correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

4. Scheme of Delegation

It was RESOLVED:

- (1) "THAT decisions taken by the Clerk under the Scheme of Delegation dated 16 March 2020, as reported to Council and published on the Council's website, be ratified."

- (2) “THAT the decision taken by the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Cllr Neale, as regards setting up arrangements with the Council’s Bank to facilitate online payment of bills be specifically ratified, and that, wherever possible, future invoices received by the Council be paid by BACS.”
- (3) “THAT the Scheme of Delegation dated 16 March 2020 remain in force until such time as the Council should determine otherwise.”

5. Clerk’s Report

The Clerk’s Report on ongoing items of business was presented to the meeting, and it was noted that the residents at the Old Post Office were still intending to move the phone kiosk to the side of the wall by the noticeboard as soon as preparatory work had been completed.

The following matters were discussed and action agreed as follows:

- (i) White Paper – “Planning for the Future”: the Government’s proposals for reform of the planning regime were noted and the Clerk was asked to liaise with clerks of neighbouring councils to monitor consultation responses and progress of the new legislation as further details became available.
- (ii) Local Government reorganisation: proposals for creating a new unitary authority in North Yorkshire were noted and Cllr Heseltine confirmed that access to the new authority for smaller councils and the public would be maintained by means of area offices. Cllr Neale offered to represent the Council at an online seminar being organised by Craven District Council on 16 September.
- (iii) Memorial Seat on Village Green: progress being made in re-establishing the area following weed clearance was noted, and the Clerk was asked to pass on the Council’s thanks to the volunteer who had stepped in to plan and carry out new planting and seeding on the Green in front of the Memorial Bench. Members also noted the maintenance of the attractive planting area around the stone trough opposite the church, and passed on thanks to the residents involved.

6. Planning

The Clerk reported, for information, on planning matters, and it was noted that planning consent had been refused as regards the following applications for development:

- (i) Housing development at top of the village

(Ref 2018/18883/FUL)

(ii) East Berwick Farm (Ref 2020/21594/FUL)

It was noted that a decision was still awaited on the following application:

(iii) Land at Draughton Heights (Ref 2019/20400/FUL)

7. Consultations, Correspondence and Members' Discussion Forum

Newsletters and emails circulated for information were noted. It was reported that the new 784 bus service, replacement for the old X84, was to be reviewed in October. The Clerk reported that revised Salary Scales for local council clerks had been received and would need to be taken into account when the budget 2021/22 was considered.

A letter from the Village Hall Trustees thanking the Council for their annual donation towards upkeep of the facility was noted. Cllr Billing also reported that small business grant funding, made available by the Government for businesses closed during the pandemic, had been received from the District Council.

8. Dates of next Meetings

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Monday 9 November at 7pm, convened as necessary subject to further and ongoing guidance from the Government and the principal authority on public meetings during the pandemic crisis.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Chairman