

DRAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Monday 9 November 2020 via a remote meeting platform at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr A Mole - Chairman
Cllr M Billing
Cllr J Garnett
Cllr R Neale
Cllr A Turner
Mrs J Markham – Clerk

In attendance:
Public - 3

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 7 September 2020

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 September 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 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. It was noted that the village defibrillator had been serviced and accessories replaced as necessary, and the noticeboard at the top of the village had been repaired.

The following matters were discussed and noted as follows:

- (i) District Council Ward Representative: although Ward Representative David Pighills had lost his seat on the Council, following 6 months' non-attendance at meetings because of the coronavirus pandemic restrictions, it had been agreed that he would continue to represent local electors on an informal basis.
- (ii) Local Government reorganisation: Cllr Neale's report on proposals being put forward by District Councils for two authority areas in North Yorkshire, and the County Council's alternative proposals for one unitary authority, were noted. Although the consultation process had not included provision for specific comments to be submitted by parishes, it was nonetheless agreed to write to the District Council, expressing support for their proposal.
- (iii) Memorial Seat on Village Green: further work on the area would be resumed in the Spring.
- (iv) Clerk's Pay Award 2020/21: further information relating to local council clerks' pay and conditions had been circulated and was discussed.

6. Planning

The Clerk reported, for information, on planning matters, and it was noted that a decision was still awaited on the following application:

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

Members of the public, present at the meeting, expressed comments in support of the application.

7. Action Plan and Budget 2021/22

The first (discussion) draft of the Action Plan and Budget 2021/22 was received. After consideration, the Clerk was asked to draw up an amended version, incorporating proposals for capital expenditure on village improvements. The draft Budget, as amended, would be presented to the next meeting for consideration of the Precept for the next financial year.

8. Consultations, Correspondence and Members' Discussion Forum

Newsletters and emails circulated for information were noted. It was reported that a new Facebook page had been set up by a village resident to help with communications during the second lockdown and beyond, if found useful within the community. This was welcomed.

Members discussed funding a Christmas tree for the village, and Cllr Turner offered to look into a possible local provider. The possible need for a replacement dog waste bin at the top of Donkey Neddy was also discussed.

9. Dates of next Meetings

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Monday 14 December 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 7.55pm.

Chairman