

DRAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Monday 8 March 2021 **via a remote meeting platform at 7.00pm**

Present: Cllr A Mole - Chairman
Cllr M Billing
Cllr J Garnett
Cllr R Neale
Mrs J Markham – Clerk
Absent: Cllr A Turner
In attendance:
Cty Cllr R Heseltine
Public: 6

1. Apologies for Absence

Received from Cllr Turner; 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: Cllr Garnett – personal interests in planning applications 2020/22376/FUL, 2021/22498/FUL & 2019/20400/FUL as neighbouring landowner

Additional Interests disclosed: None.

3. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 8 February 2021

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 February 2021, 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 since the date of the last meeting 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 final arrangements to establish new authorised signatories were being progressed with the Bank. The residents at the Old Post Office had been asked to submit costed proposals for improvements to the kiosk. The Clerk noted that she had attended the YLCA Craven Branch meeting on 24 February. Amongst other matters, it was noted that the associations and NALC were lobbying Government to seek a continuation of regulations enabling parish council meetings to be held remotely after 7 May.

It was also proposed that detailed product options for a new bench for the village green, to replace the Jubilee bench, would be presented to the next meeting.

The following matters were discussed and noted:

- (i) Local Govt reorganisation – it was reported that full proposals for the two bids for new unitary authorities in North Yorkshire were now published for consultation, with comments due by 19 April. The consultation had been publicised locally in the village newsletter, delivered to all homes in the village. A response by the Parish Council would be discussed and agreed at the next meeting.
- (ii) The website had been checked and issues had been rectified.

6. Elections May 2021

The Timetable of Proceedings was received and noted.

It was noted that completed nomination forms were to be delivered together, by the Clerk, to the District Council offices before 8 April. Further to discussions at the last meeting concerning the encouragement of community interest, it was agreed to use the Annual Parish Meeting as an opportunity to give information on the elections locally. As convened by the Chairman, this would be held on a suitable date at the end of March.

7. Planning

- (i) The Clerk reported, for information, on planning matters. It was noted that comments had been submitted on the application for development at East Berwick House and that the planning authority's decision was awaited on proposals for building materials storage at the railway site. Cllr Heseltine offered to liaise with the Clerk in monitoring progress with the planning department, and he was asked to call the application in for consideration by the Planning Committee if a decision to approve it under delegated powers was notified.

Cllr Garnett withdrew from the discussion for the following 2 items of business

- (ii) Land at Draughton Heights (Ref 2019/20400/FUL)
It was noted that the application was due to be considered by the Planning Committee on 15 March.
After discussion, and as agreed at the last meeting, it was confirmed that Cllr Neale would speak to the Committee on behalf of the Parish Council, summarising the Council's continuing concerns.

The text of the Council's presentation to the Planning Committee would be drawn up outside the meeting and circulated to all members for comment.

- (iii) Field House Farm (Ref. 2021/22498/FUL)
The planning application was considered. After discussion, it was agreed that the proposed structure, as a new build in open countryside at this location, clearly visible from the national park, would not comply with Local Plan policies.

It was RESOLVED:

"THAT an objection be submitted to the proposals for construction of a dwelling at Field House Farm ((Ref 2021/22498/FUL) on the basis of concerns with these plans for new build in open countryside in conflict with relevant planning policies, including the Draughton 2002 Landscape Appraisal."

Cllr Garnett rejoined the business of the meeting

8. Renewable Energy Proposals

The Clerk reported that a decision was due to be taken on the church's application for grant support for the costs of a feasibility study on 19 March. A full report would be made to the next meeting.

9. Consultations, Correspondence and Members' Discussion Forum

Newsletters and emails circulated for information were noted, including a note from the District Council requesting nominations to the Standards Committee.

A proposal put forward by a village resident for a new dog waste bin at the end of the Roman road bridleway off Height Lane would be considered at the next meeting.

10. Dates of next Meetings

It was agreed that the next meeting would provisionally be held on 12 April 2021, 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 8pm.

Chairman