

DRAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Monday 12 July 2021 in the Village Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr A Mole - Chairman
Cllr R Binks
Cllr T Coupe
Cllr B Davies
Cllr R Neale
Cllr A Turner
Mrs J Markham – Clerk
In attendance: Cty Cllr R Heseltine
Public: 4

1. Apologies for Absence
Received from Cllr Garnett

2. Disclosure of Interests
Members were invited to disclose any interests (including any not already registered in the Register of Interests) relevant to the business of the meeting, and, in respect of a disclosable pecuniary interest (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 June 2021
The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 June 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 7 June 2021, as reported to Council and published on the Council's website, be ratified."

- (2) “THAT the Scheme of Delegation dated 7 June 2021 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 taken as read. It was noted that updates were not yet available as regards the planning complaint and the church’s renewable energy project, where consultants were shortly to produce a feasibility report.

The following matters were discussed and agreed as follows:

- (i) Village Benches – it was reported that a new bench had now been delivered, but, as it had been damaged in transit, was to be replaced by the supplier. Provided the damaged seat could be repaired, there would effectively be 2 new benches available for installation. It was agreed to install both of them by the church gate, and to leave the existing Jubilee bench in its current position on the village green. The 1977 Jubilee bench would be removed as no longer required; “Syd’s” bench was to be refurbished, and quotes had been requested from the lengthsman to undertake this work.
Arrangements for a long-term rolling programme of maintenance for all of the village benches would be considered at a future date.
- (ii) Bus Stop – the Clerk reported on a resident’s suggestion to have the bus stop re-treated with preservative and to cut back overhanging tree growth. Cllr Turner agreed to look into working with volunteers on these improvements.
- (iii) Telephone Kiosk – it was reported that the kiosk, now in its new location, had been repainted by the nearby resident and he had suggested that replacement top window panels be procured, possibly to display the village name. After discussion, it was agreed to retain the original panels for heritage reasons. Cllr Neale and the Clerk would liaise with the resident as regards installation of a new lighting system.
- (iv) Village Green – it was noted that the lengthsman had been asked to treat areas of weed and nettle growth encroaching near the memorial bench.

6. Verges

Cllr Neale gave an update on proposals for maintenance of the village verges. It had been suggested that wildflower seed could be sown after

strimming and scarifying, and it was proposed to trial this approach on two areas of verge on the Eastern stretch of the old A65. After discussion, it was RESOLVED:

“THAT expenditure of up to £250 be approved for the purpose of treating and seeding verge areas for wildflower growth, and that the Clerk be authorised to reimburse the expenses of Cllr Neale and other volunteers in sourcing and procuring suitable products and materials to carry out the work.”

7. Planning

The Clerk’s report on ongoing planning business was noted. The following planning decisions were noted:

- East Berwick Farm (2020/22376/FUL) – variation of planning condition 2 (to move dwelling 4m) approved
- Draughton Heights Fishing Lakes (2019/20400/FUL) – planning consent notice issued

The following proposal was discussed and matters agreed as follows:

- East Berwick Farm – route of footpath – the owners of the property had invited feedback from the Council on the proposed route for the footpath, which had been finalised in consultation with North Yorkshire Public Rights of Way officers. It was agreed to confirm support for the diversion route and the Clerk was asked to advise the residents accordingly.

8. Road Safety

In response to members’ request to review road safety issues in light of continuing concerns from residents, reports and surveys commissioned during investigations carried out in 2015-17 had been circulated and re-published.

The reports and results of consultations were noted, and possible further action was discussed. The Clerk was asked to contact Highways to investigate the possibility of installing warning signage for single track access at the top and bottom of Donkey Neddy.

In the meantime, road traffic safety issues would continue to be reviewed on an ongoing basis.

9. Consultations, Correspondence and Members’ Discussion Forum

Newsletters and emails circulated for information were noted, including an emailed notice as regards vacancies on the North Yorkshire Police Fire and Crime Panel, and preliminary sector information on proposals for

celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on 2 June 2022, including the lighting of beacons nationwide.

The Clerk noted that the annual meeting of YLCA was to be held on 17 July at 2pm (remotely) and also reported that a place had been booked to attend a (remote) YLCA training event on community climate change projects on 29 July. A local resident, present at the meeting, reported on minor changes to the bus timetable to be published shortly.

10. Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held in the Village Hall on 13 September 2021.

11. Exclusion of Press and Public

It was RESOLVED:

“THAT the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the next item on the agenda (Minute 12 below) on the grounds that it relates to confidential commercial negotiations and associated contractual information for which publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest.”

Members of the public present at the meeting withdrew at the request of the Chairman.

12. Village Amenities

The Clerk reported orally on possible developments in the village and noted the costs involved in appointing specialist advisers to take matters forward. After discussion, it was agreed to continue monitoring events in the short term, while further research was carried out.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Chairman