

DRAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Monday 18 March 2024 in the Village Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr R Binks - Chairman
Cllr B Davies
Cllr J Markham
Cllr R Neale (withdrew at item 11)
Cllr S Petty
Cllr A Turner (left the meeting at item 11)
Mrs A Crewe – Clerk

In attendance: Ward Representative, North Yorkshire
Council, Cllr R Foster

Public: 18

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr J 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 (to be 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: *noted at item 11.*

Additional Interests disclosed: None

3. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15 January 2024

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 January 2024 were taken as read, and the Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

4. Matters arising

The Clerk's report, for information, on matters arising from the meeting held on 15 January was received.

- Footway lights - upgrade works are still to be carried out. Cty Cllr Foster to follow up with NYC.

5. Clerk's Report

The Clerk's Report on ongoing items of business was discussed and noted.

The Clerk received a request to access the parish council archive for the History Project to allow completion on a chapter on Chelker Reservoir and will make arrangements in due course.

Road safety has been raised with the clerk relating to aggressive driving up Donkey Neddy and through the lower part of the village. Cty Cllr Foster will speak to NYC regarding improved signage at the bottom of the village.

The Clerk and Cllr Turner have both been approached regarding the hedgerows in the lower part of the village. These have since been cut privately, and a contribution towards costs was requested from both the Council and the railway. Cty Cllr Foster requested the location details and will speak to NYC first.

Cty Cllr Foster confirmed that Draughton would not be part of the quickline rural broadband scheme but would obtain more information from NYC.

The proposed schedule of meetings for 2024/25 was received and noted.

6. Draughton Action to Zero (Climate Change Projects)

Cllrs Neale and Markham provided updates on progress being made on the village's climate change projects, supported by the Parish Council. Cllr Neal reported that Locogen were to proceed with a feasibility assessment for a 2MW turbine limited to 949kW export.

Cllr Markham has been keeping an eye on sector development through webinars including a climate emergency session held by NALC and reported that she has helped the village hall trustees to apply for funds for fabric enhancements to the village hall.

A village event is to be scheduled for late April.

7. 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."

The council noted a further two payments which have been made since the most recent circulation of the scheme of delegation, as reported by the clerk.

8. Finance Matters - Annual Accounts 2023/24

To be deferred to the next meeting of the Council.

9. Consultations, Correspondence and Members' Discussion Forum

Newsletters and emails circulated for information were noted.

Arrangements for D Day 80 in June 2024 are to be taken forward by the village hall trustees.

The Clerk received an email received detailing a consultation NYC commenced on proposed changes to their Home to School Travel Policy with a link to a survey [*The local school has already advised parents of this development*].

A summary of changes to local bus services confirms that a new timetable with an increased number of journeys for the 64 service between Ilkley and Skipton will take effect from April 2024.

The Terrorism Protection of Premises Bill, also known as 'Martyn's Law', expected to become law in 2024, will require consideration over the coming months in relation to the village hall.

10. Clerk to the Council

The resignation of the Clerk, with effect from 2 April 2024 had been presented to the Chairman on behalf of the Council and was accepted.

It was accordingly RESOLVED:

1. "THAT recruitment for the position of Clerk to the Council should take place in the form of advertisements on the parish council noticeboards, the parish council website and on the NALC website.
2. Mr Ian Orton be and he is hereby appointed as temporary Clerk to the Council with effect from 2 April 2024."

11. Planning

The Clerk's report on ongoing planning business was presented and noted.

- Railway site – Following communication difficulties, the enforcement officer visited the site in March. The building materials are to be cleared over the coming weeks and months.

- East Berwick Farm - Application for variation of Condition no 2 to allow changes on building usability, sustainability and aesthetics – no comments.
- Matchless Cottage - Removal of one diseased tree – no comments.
- Devonshire Estate – proposed spa extension - full permission granted.
- 11 Meadowcroft - removal of silver birch tree – no comments.
- Land At Draughton Heights - to amend the position of three of the approved camping pods – full permission granted.
- Long Causeway, Halton East - installation of a new sludge holding tank, 2.4m high compound fencing, MCC kiosk and a new tanker turning area and passing place on land at Sewage Works – no comments.
- Leardene – proposed garden office - no further updates to report.
- Housing development at Field House Farm – no further updates to report
- Housing development at top of village – no further updates to report
- Barn To North, Draughton Hall - Part demolition and rebuilding of redundant barn, with extension to form a C3 residential dwelling, laying out of access, car parking and landscaping.

At this point, due to relevant interests, Cllr Turner left the meeting and Cllr Neale withdrew to make a statement as a member of the public.

The council noted some strong views regarding the proposed barn development both in opposition and support of the plans. The Parish Council does not wish to object to the development as such but makes a number of comments and observations *[The council's detailed response is available to view on the village website]*.

12. Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Annual and Parish meeting of the Council would be held in the Village Hall on 13 May 2024 at 7pm.

Possible agenda item: parking in the village

The meeting closed at 8.03pm.

Chairman