

# Brafferton & Helperby Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 26 July 2023

Held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cllr Nigel Denison (Chairman), Cllr Peter Mitchell, Cllr Pam Jackson-Vickers, Cllr Mark Darwin, Cllr Deirdre Brown, Cllr Alyson Baker (North Yorkshire Council), Roger Clements (Clerk) plus members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence
  - 1.1. Apologies were received from Cllr Boyle and Cllr Gale.
2. Declarations of Interest not already declared under the Council's Code of Conduct or members Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests
  - 2.1. No declarations were made.
3. News from North Yorkshire Council (NYC)
  - 3.1. Cllr Baker informed the meeting that:
    - 3.1.1. There are grants available from NYC, aimed at homes with a family income below £31k, in support of home energy efficiency – visit [www.northyorks.gov.uk/hug2](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/hug2) for details.
    - 3.1.2. Free library cards are available for most County libraries including Easingwold Community Library.
    - 3.1.3. Sutton Bank (the A170) will be closed 10-17 Sep 23 while the roadside rock faces are re-stabilised).
4. Public Forum
  - 4.1. Cllrs were reminded of the planned PC surgery planned for the morning of 2 Sep. Chairman will canvas availability and confirm the arrangements.
  - 4.2. Chairman reminded councillors and parishioners to consider responding to the NYC transport survey on subsidised local bus services (Bus Service 150 may be affected) by 6 Sep 23 – email [passenger.transport@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:passenger.transport@northyorks.gov.uk)
  - 4.3. News from the War Memorial Committee (WMC): police will no longer support road closures for events like our Remembrance Day service. The new procedure may involve expenditure beyond the means of the WMC – the topic is being urgently discussed with NYC and the WMC is seeking a person qualified to manage road closure signage.
  - 4.4. The Council was asked what it knew of kennels being constructed at Brafferton Manor. Clerk referred to an exchange of emails on the topic with a NYC Planning Enforcement Officer in which NYC were aware of the possible kennels construction but had so far received no formal application.
  - 4.5. A parishioner was concerned that the saplings – mostly sycamore – growing alongside the bridleway to the Swale bridge were a tree species that is too large for the location and might degrade the flood bank on which the bridleway stands. The bridleway is the responsibility of NYC (Public Rights of Way) and comments should be directed to NYC.
5. The minutes of the Council meeting held on 14 Jun 23 and the Lands & Maintenance committee meeting on 5 Jul 23 were accepted as true records and signed accordingly by the Chairman.
6. New Correspondence
  - 6.1. A letter had been received from the Helperby & Brafferton Recreation Trust (H&BRT) asking the Council to consider taking over management and maintenance of the recreation area in the event of the H&BRT ceasing to exist. The request begged a series of questions which would need resolution before the council could respond. A meeting between Council, H&BRT and the Sports Association could be the first step and will be proposed to the parties.
7. Clerk's report
  - 7.1. A new contractor had been engaged and the trees due for felling on the Raskelf Road will be taken down in November.

## Brafferton & Helperby Parish Council Meeting Minutes

7.2. The Council's selections for street names on the Boroughbridge Road development had been accepted by NYC - the roads will be named Broad Ford Drive and Pritchett Drive.

### 8. Financial matters

9. Clerk's financial report

9.1. The VAT reclaim of £3,046.52 from HMRC and the urban verges contribution of £397.33 from NYC had both been received.

9.2. The Brafferton Pinfold hedge had been given its annual cut,

10. Bank reconciliation – the Financial Working Group confirmed that the bank reconciliation at 30 June 23 was in order.

11. The following account was approved for payment:

11.1.	S Laux	RR11 building security	£75.00
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### 12. Lands & Maintenance Committee meeting 5 Jul 23 topics

12.1. Erection of a sample stretch of allotment fencing to a standard design – it was **resolved** to erect a stretch of fencing to the design recommended by the Lands & Maintenance committee at allotment plot BL2 to a maximum cost of £120 plus VAT.

12.2. Plan for improved traffic calming through village.

12.2.1. Chairman outlined the major traffic concerns from villagers – volume and speed of traffic, the proximity of traffic (including HGVs and large tractor/trailer units) and pedestrians along Main Street. The committee had developed a series of recommendations for the Council to consider. Following a discussion, it was **resolved** to produce a prioritised plan for presentation to NYC. Once complete the NYC Exec member for Highways & Transportation will be invited to attend a site meeting to view each proposal.

12.2.1.1. Renovation of existing traffic calming measures but with consideration of other measures including:

12.2.1.2. Footpath widening / highway narrowing

12.2.1.3. Removal of white line road marking

12.2.1.4. Consideration of chicanes in area of 30 mph limits

12.2.1.5. Consideration of 'gates' at 30 mph limits

12.2.1.6. Renovation of rumble strips on all access roads

12.2.1.7. Requesting police to conduct more speed checks

12.3. Purchase of speed surveys on Main Street, Raskelf and Boroughbridge Roads – Cllrs agreed that its traffic calming proposals would need additional supporting evidence. The Council **resolved** to undertake further speed surveys on the 3 roads once the Aldwark Bridge reopens and traffic flows return to normal.

12.4. Access plan for footpaths and footways for wheelchair users

12.4.1. Chairman reported that a village-wide survey of the issues met by wheelchair users had been carried out. It was clear that wheelchair users found the village streets very difficult to negotiate. Having discussed the proposals from the committee it was **resolved** to present a list of improvements to NYC. This plan to be taken to NYC prior to the traffic calming plan.

12.4.1.1. Dropped kerb in area of Manor Drive

12.4.1.2. Dropped kerb in area opposite Manor Drive allowing access to Balk Avenue

12.4.1.3. Levelling of pavement outside the Chestnuts (main drain here suspected to have collapsed)

12.4.1.4. Dropped kerb on pavement opposite Back Lane (N side)

12.4.1.5. Adjusting barriers on footpath from Back Lane to Balk Avenue.

12.4.1.6. Dropped kerb on footpath opposite old Methodist Chapel

12.4.1.7. Cobbles improvement in front of surgery

## **Brafferton & Helperby Parish Council Meeting Minutes**

12.4.1.8. Cobbles improvement in Drury Lane to form usable link between main Street and Drury Lane path.

12.5. Revised document on 'how to look after your cobbles' – Cllrs considered the new draft and decided that, although much improved, it should be given bolder headlines, less text and perhaps lightened in tone with a suitable image.

### **13. Matters for Consideration**

13.1. Communications with the public – topic withdrawn.

13.2. Cllrs considered flying the Yorkshire Flag from the war memorial flagpole from 1 August for one week annually and **resolved** to do so.

### **14. Information on the following ongoing issues and further action where necessary**

14.1. Cobbles project – drainage issues, especially during heavy rain, had been identified at The Old Shop. A contractor would be invited to assess potential options for the council to consider.

14.2. Neighbourhood plan – currently on hold.

### **15. To consider the following Planning Matters**

15.1. No new applications had been received.

### **16. To receive the following Planning Decisions/information**

16.1. Planning Application ZB23/01303/CAT, work to fell tree in a conservation area at Cross Green Villa, Helperby - awaiting decision from North Yorkshire Council

16.2. Planning Application ZB23/01266/CAT, works to ash tree in a conservation area at The Old Shop, Helperby - awaiting decision from North Yorkshire Council

16.3. Planning Application ZB23/00990/FUL, for construction of new access road to fishing lakes and holiday cabins at Brafferton Coarse Fisheries, Brafferton - awaiting decision from North Yorkshire Council

16.4. Planning Application SNN/23/00066/NEWDEV, to consider street naming at development on OS Field 0046 on Boroughbridge Road – Broad Ford Drive and Pritchett Drive selected by North Yorkshire Council

16.5. Planning Application ZB23/00771/OUT, outline planning application for 1 x dwelling with all matters reserved except access on land at Brafferton Manor, Brafferton – awaiting decision from North Yorkshire Council

16.6. Planning Application 22/02422/REM, construction of 4 dwellings adjacent to telephone exchange, Back Lane, Helperby - awaiting decision by North Yorkshire Council

16.7. Planning Application 22/01858/FUL, proposed construction of 2 x dwellings at St Peter's Close, Brafferton – awaiting decision by North Yorkshire Council

16.8. Planning Application 23/00374/FUL, construction of a SuDS Pond to serve the planned 28-dwelling development on the Boroughbridge Road – awaiting decision by North Yorkshire Council

### **17. Closing Matters**

18. Matters for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting – none were proposed.

19. The date of the next Council meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 20 Sep 23 unless urgent business required a meeting in August at a date tbd.