

Brafferton & Helperby Annual Meeting for Parishioners Minutes

Wednesday 8 May 24

Held at 7.30pm in Helperby Village Hall

Present: Cllr Nigel Denison (Chairman), Cllr Peter Mitchell, Cllr Deirdre Brown, Cllr Mark Darwin, Cllr Matt Boyle, Cllr Pam Jackson-Vickers, Cllr Andy Gale, Cllr Alyson Baker (North Yorkshire Council), Roger Clements (Clerk) and 4 parishioners.

Chairman welcomed all present to the Annual meeting for Parishioners.

1. Chairman's report of the year to 31 March 2024

- 1.1. Chairman presented his report for the year. The report may be read by visiting the Council's website at <https://braffertonhelperby-pc.gov.uk/news/>

2. **Public Forum**

2.1. Parishioners raised several topics:

- 2.1.1. Sycamore trees beside the bridleway to the Swale bridge. Some of the 26 saplings are becoming large. It was believed that these trees will spoil the view to the river from Bridge Street; the trees are in the wrong place and should be removed and replaced by indigenous smaller trees – rowan for example. The Council is aware of these trees and opposition to them from several other parishioners who hold the trees to be too large for the location and with the potential to 'grow like weeds'. Chairman pointed out that the bridleway was not parish council land and the Council was seeking guidance on the matter from North Yorkshire Council (NYC). (afternote: site meeting arranged with NYC Public Right of Way (PROW) Officer to assess the trees and agree action).
- 2.1.2. Gates to the Swale bridge would be improved by being self-closing to provide control of children and dogs across the river. (afternote: works to improve the bridge crossing for pedestrian and riders had already been agreed with the NYC PROW team but self-closing gates were not part of the agreed work – the subject will be raised).
- 2.1.3. Provision (and use of) Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money arising from village developments. It was suggested that some might be used on the Boroughbridge Road; crossing this road from Manor Gardens to St Peter's Close is dangerous for pedestrian as traffic frequently approaches at speed - perhaps a Zebra crossing should be considered. Chairman explained that only 10% of CIL money was paid to the parish council with the balance being retained by NYC for use where it deemed necessary. He was soon expecting to carry out a walk round inspection, with an Officer from NYC Area 2, Highways, of all areas where traffic issues are identified by the council - this topic will be added to the discussion. Cllr Gale summarised how the 90% portion of CIL money was allocated by NYC through the Annual Implementation Plan (AIP). If the Council wished to have some of this money spent on infrastructure in the village, then it should consider bidding for support from the AIP in next year's allocations.
- 2.1.4. Horse chestnut tree outside The Old Brewery. The tree needs pruning. Clerk advised that the next tree survey of all Council trees was due this month and the surveyor had been asked to comment on potential pruning of trees in Main Street.