

Brafferton & Helperby Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 16 October 2024

Held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Nigel Denison (Chairman), Cllr Peter Mitchell, Cllr Mark Darwin, Cllr Deirdre Brown and Roger Clements (Clerk).

1. Apologies for Absence
 - 1.1. Apologies were received from Cllrs Matt Boyle, Angela Horner and Andy 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. Public Participation – Cllrs reported subjects that had been brought to their attention:
 - 3.1. Surgery staff often found it difficult to deliver medical supplies to the surgery due to parked vehicles – Clerk will discuss issue with Church Lane.
 - 3.2. Dog fouling seemed to have worsened on Back Lane and Raskelf Road. Additional notices will be displayed and an appeal for more care will be posted on Facebook.
 - 3.3. Cars parked on Bridge Street were occasionally blocking delivery and other vehicles. This was an issue which had no obvious solution and relied upon good neighbourliness.
4. Chairman's report
 - 4.1. Chairman summarised a forum held by the Easingwold & Villages Community Partnership at The Hawkhill which he and the Clerk had attended on 7 Oct. Useful discussions included an encouragement for parish councils to consider drafting plans for reacting to extreme events, taking collective action to press NYC to consider additional public transport to hubs like Boroughbridge and Easingwold and to consider some funding opportunities for joint ventures.
 - 4.2. He still awaited details of any Community Benefit which may be forthcoming from the solar farm approved at Pilmoor Grange.
 - 4.3. Remembrance Sunday plans were in hand and the Council continued to undertake the road closure arrangements. The business arranging the closure had offered to train one or two individuals to assist in the closure and this was likely to reduce the cost to the Council – he was hoping to identify volunteers.
 - 4.4. Efforts continue to trace the Christian Faith Society in order to identify ownership of 'manorial waste' like the triangle of land at the lych gate approach, so several small land areas can be bought into parish council ownership. This proves to be a slow process.
 - 4.5. A further Council surgery was mooted and cllrs Darwin and Brown volunteered to be present at the village hall on Saturday 2 Nov while the pop-up Coffee Shop was open.
5. News from North Yorkshire Council (NYC) – no news was available.
6. The minutes of the Council meeting held on 18 September 24 were accepted as a true record and signed accordingly by the Chairman.
7. Clerk's report
 - 7.1. Traffic speed data was now available from the Boroughbridge Road with/without the Vehicle Activated Sign in place. It will be an agenda item for the L&M committee on 6 Nov 24.

Financial Matters

8. Clerk's financial report
 - 8.1. The Council's 3 accounts held a healthy total balance of £21,269.66 at 30 September 24. This places the Council's on target to hold £10k reserves at the end of this Financial Year.
9. Projects for Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds
 - 9.1. Council agreed a 'shopping list' of CIL projects which would be prioritised and undertaken when practical: Drury Lane improvement; St Peter's lych gate track; cobbling work around area of Council noticeboards; a village history board; a second VAS and white gates at village entrances.

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10. Payment Card Purchases (PCP) and note or approve accounts received:
 - 10.1. Routine payments to HMRC, Lloyd's payment card account, lych gate gardening, website hosting and National Allotment Society subscription had been made.

Matters for Consideration

11. Christmas tree on Main Street
 - 11.1. An 18ft tree will be purchased by the Council and erected and decorated by the Community Association in time for a 'Switch On' ceremony on Sunday 1 Dec with mince pies, drinks and carols. Timing and other details tbc.
12. Building on allotment RR11
 - 12.1. In a recent downpour the building roof collapsed bringing down the back wall. The building is currently in need of making safe, the site being cleared of debris and the Heras fencing reinstated. Chairman proposed having the work undertaken asap with up to £1,000 committed to the work – **resolved**.
13. Street lighting on School Terrace
 - 13.1. The poorly lit portion of School Terrace was caused by the streetlamp being obscured among tree foliage. Clerk to investigate removal of offending branches.
14. Grass cutting of Swale Green in 2025
 - 14.1. The Council was grateful to Revely Groundworks for cutting the Green for a number of years as a service to the community. As this was no longer possible it would seek other ways to have the grass cut for events like the Feast and Bonfire and hoped to be able to achieve this on an expenses basis. Chairman to continue enquiries.

Ongoing Issues

15. Drury Lane Cobbles project
 - 15.1. Arrangements were close to being agreed with all Drury Lane householders but other permissions needed addressing. Chairman sought approval to discuss a contract with the Council's approved contractor – **resolved**. It was thought that the work was most likely to take place in Spring 25.

Planning matters

Planning Decisions/information

16. Planning application ZB24/01778/FUL, single storey Orangery & two storey extension at Pheasants Walk, Stinton Lane, Helperby - awaiting decision by North Yorkshire Council
17. Planning Application ZB24/00913/FUL, proposed residential scheme for 8 units on land to the south of Raskelf Road, adjacent to Balk Avenue, Helperby - awaiting decision by North Yorkshire Council
18. Planning Application ZB24/00065/FUL, construction of 2 dwellings on land at St Peter's Close, Brafferton - awaiting decision by North Yorkshire Council
19. Planning Application ZB23/02384/FUL, proposed creation of a locally equipped play area at the Sports Ground, Back Lane, Helperby - awaiting decision by North Yorkshire Council
20. 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

Closing Matters

21. Matters for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting
 - 21.1. The future of the Golden Lion.
22. The date of the next meeting of the Council was confirmed as Wednesday 20 Nov 24 and the next Lands & Maintenance committee meeting as Wednesday 6 Nov 24.