

ASKHAM BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL

held on Thursday 17th August 2023 starting at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

PRESENT: Councillor Simon Peers (Chair)
Councillors Julie Barber Kathryn Smith David Wiseman
Jason Boakes

In attendance: Ward Cllr. Anne Hook and the Clerk.

1 APOLOGIES. Cllrs. Dawson and Walker.

2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST: None.

3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public in attendance.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PC HELD ON 15th JUNE 2023.

Item 8.2 said "Cllr. Wiseman agreed to sort out maintenance", in fact it was a resident (with the same Christian name) who had volunteered to do this. Subject to this correction, it was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the PC held on 20th July 2023 be approved and that the Chair be authorised to sign, all in favour. There was a query whether there was a cap on mole expenses, it was confirmed that there was no cap as a reputable contractor doing this.

5. PLANNING

a. Planning Applications Received

There was one planning application to consider.

- a. 23/01332/TCA - Cherry Tree House, 68 Main Street - Fell 1 no. Plum tree in rear garden - Tree in Conservation Area. The Parish Council (PC) looked at this application and noted that the reason given for felling this tree was that it was leaning. It was agreed to raise **no objection** to this proposal.

b. Planning Decision Notices Received

The following applications had been determined;

- a. 22/02387/FUL - Tuevais, 101 Main Street - Erection of two storey 4no. bedroom dwelling following demolition of existing dwelling. Revised design, alterations to roof pitch, porch to front and window layout.
- b. 23/01053/TCA - Manor House, 70 Main Street - Fell 1no. Macrocarpa tree (Monterey Cypress) in a Conservation Area.
- c. 23/01128/TCA - Orchard House, 56 Main Street – Crown reduction of 4 no. trees in a Conservation Area.
- d. 23/01073/TCA - Askham House, 129 Main Street - Remove 1 no. Spruce tree and reduce 8 no. Leylandii by 50%.

It was noted that City of York Council Planning Department had raised no objections to any of the above three tree works applications and that the planning application for 101 Main Street had finally been approved (with conditions).

6 CRIME REPORT

A copy of the crime report for July 2023 had been circulated showing one reported crime. A vehicle had been stopped on 17th July on the A1237 as the vehicle wasn't taxed and two people had been arrested for possession of cannabis. There had been reports on a village WhatsApp group of a hooded person behaving suspiciously and the Police had been notified. Closed circuit television and doorbell cameras would be checked.

7 REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR HOOK

Ward Cllr. Hook reported that antisocial behaviour in the Ward was on the rise. She also reported on the situation regarding Ward Committee funding (see correspondence item 579 below). A proposed new development in Knapton would have an adverse effect on the local woodland. Resurfacing of roads in the Ward was ongoing. There were still a lot of potholes on Askham Fields Lane. New speed limits were being introduced which would become effective in September.

8 OTHER MATTERS.

8.1 Natural Environment Committee Membership

It was **resolved** to approve the addition of Steve Bassford to the Natural Environment Committee.

8.2 Recreational Area.

The resident who attended the last meeting had started recruiting volunteers for the grass cutting and there was positive feedback regarding the quality of the cut which had been done the previous weekend. An inspection of the playground equipment had been carried out at the same time. There were now sufficient volunteers and it was agreed that the grass cutting contractor could now be notified that he was no longer needed. Checks would be done to ensure that the volunteers were adequately covered by the PC insurance. Cllr. Wiseman had looked at the fence. The gate at the opposite end of the Recreational Area had still not been fixed, the name of someone who could undertake this work was suggested. It was agreed that an appeal would be made on the Facebook page for anyone to put forward suggested names of good handymen. Consideration was also given to Parish Councillors undertaking this work themselves subject to appropriate risk assessments being carried out. It was noted that the annual playground inspection had been booked. Cllrs. Dawson and Wiseman would look at the costings of phase two of the playground development.

8.3 Plans for an event at Christmas

The Village Hall had been booked, there would be no hire charge. The Village Hall Committee had agreed to contribute half the cost of a Christmas tree up to a maximum of £100. Ward Cllr. Hook put forward the name of a suggested supplier of Christmas trees. Cllr. Peers agreed to write a piece for the newsletter.

8.4 Insurance.

It was noted that the Clerk had used his delegated authority to change the insurer to Zurich as the renewal had been due on 1st August and the quotation from Zurich was very competitive.

9 FINANCE

9.1 Report of invoices to be paid

It was noted that the new piece of playground equipment had been repaired. It was **resolved** that the following invoices to be paid, all in favour.

- Clerk's Salary 01/07/2023 to 31/07/2023 plus deductions payable to HMRC taking into account the overall credit with HMRC
- Creative Play - Bespoke three tower jigsaw system (£12,437), site security & welfare (£795) and independent post installation inspection (£471) less 2.9% discount (£403) = £13,300 + VAT.
- McAfee Anti-Virus Protection – renewal date 31st August 2023 - £99.99
- Microsoft Office 365 Annual Renewal - £59.99
- Renewal of annual insurance – switched to Zurich - £464
- Mole control - £90 plus £15 per mole
- Bedding Plants – twelve trays of geraniums at £2.60 per tray (£31.20) and two and a half bags of compost at £6 a bag (£15). Total £46.20

9.2 It was noted that the Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Unaudited Annual Governance & Accountability Return for The Year Ended 31 March 2023 had been published and that these documents were available for inspection from 16th June to 27th July 2023 in the notice boards and on the website.

10 CORRESPONDENCE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Most of the correspondence was from the Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA). Item 589 was from Ward Cllr. Hook saying that Ward Committee funding for Rural West for this year had been cut by 77% from the original budget set in March. Item 579 was from the 20's Plenty campaign and was an invitation to remote access meetings on 25th July 7:30pm or 5th September 8pm and encouraging parishes wanting 20mph restrictions for their roads to write to the cabinet member for transport. Councillors were unavailable to attend this event.

11 ACTION TRACKER

An Action Tracker had been circulated with the agenda papers listing all previously agreed actions and reports on progress. Cllr. Wiseman had reviewed the tracker and identified seven items which could be considered as completed, regarding setting up an events committee, a grass cutting rotor, mole management and other matters relating to the Recreational Area.

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be 21st September 2023 at 7:30pm.

The calendar of other meetings for 2023 was 19th October and 16th November 2023. All to be held at the Village Hall at 7:30pm.

The meeting closed at 8:25pm.

Signed

Chairman
21 September 2023