

# ASKHAM BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES of the meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL

held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022 starting at 6:30pm in the Recreational Area and continuing in the Village Hall

**PRESENT:**

Councillor	Andrew Steele (Chair)		
Councillors	Julie Barber	Simon Peers	Mark Walker
	Helen Dawson	Kathryn Smith	

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

**1 APOLOGIES:** None.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:** None.

### **3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public present.

### **4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL (PC) HELD ON 17<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2022.**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the PC held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022 having been circulated, be approved and that the Chair be authorised to sign, all in favour.

### **5. PLANNING**

#### **a. Planning Applications Received**

No applications had been received since the last meeting. A tree works application had been received since publication of the agenda. This would be reported at the May meeting and in the meantime, the Clerk would respond using delegated authority.

#### **b. Planning Decision Notices Received**

No decision notices had been received since the last meeting. A planning decision notice had been received since publication of the agenda and would be reported at the May meeting

### **6 TO RECEIVE THE NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE CRIME REPORT**

There were no reported crimes in March.

### **7 REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR HOOK**

Ward Cllr. Hook reported that the rescheduled meeting of the full council would be the following week. She reported that there had been lots of replies about the footpath, but she had not seen them. She noted that the people most likely to reply would be those who have strongly held views about this. She also reported that core sampling was being done, possibly as a preliminary to resurfacing works.

### **8 OTHER MATTERS**

#### **8.1 Redevelopment of the Recreational Area (on-site to consider options)**

The PC had met at 6:30pm to consider options for redevelopment of the Recreational Area, the following were discussed

- The available budget was £11,000.
- Responses to the consultation, noting that there was a broad spectrum of replies to the consultation and no overall consensus.
- Consideration of a playground in a neighbouring parish noting the name of the supplier of their equipment.
- Consideration that prices quoted by equipment suppliers did not include installation and noting the contractor who does the inspections would be willing to install.

- Suggestion of a scheme being drawn up as part of a long-term plan and that the current project be used to fulfil part one of that scheme.
- Levelling the mound as the suggested site of the new equipment.
- Suggestion of having an area for boules and a litter tray.
- Suggestion of having stone pots next to the picnic tables.
- Maintenance of equipment and a suggestion of having a volunteer day for activities such as painting the swings and a general tidy up.
- Reported strimmer damage, this had been checked with a ruler and was less than 8mm.
- The need for a sign.
- It was noted that there was no longer an infants climbing frame leading to a proposal that an infant's climbing frame with slide on the site of the mound (once cleared) be the first stage of the redevelopment. This would include a couple of benches made from recycled plastic.

It was **resolved** to purchase an infant's climbing frame with slide and also a bench, all in favour. Cllr. Smith would send the Clerk details of three equipment suppliers. Cllr. Peers would use his Microsoft Paint skills to create a drawing of the proposals. Remedial work was needed near the mound and it was suggested that matting (rather than woodchip) be used underneath and also beneath the swings. Once the mound was levelled, the cleared area would be turfed.

## 8.2 Annual Playground Inspection.

Cllrs. Peers and Steele had met on-site with the contractor who does the regular inspections of the playground, to consider the annual inspection report. They had walked round and agreed what work needed to be done. The contractor advised that best practise would be to retain the gate alongside the bollards (to prevent children running into the road) whilst retaining a chicane for inclusive access and would give a price accordingly. The report and quotation was awaited and therefore this would be an agenda item at the May meeting.

## 8.3 Grass cutting and playground inspections in 2022

It was **resolved** to accept the increased charges for grass cutting (£56 per cut) and playground inspections (£32 per visit), all in favour. The Clerk would notify the contractor and request a cut and ask him if he could provide a schedule for grass cutting.

## 8.4 Condition of the trees in the Recreation Area removal and disposal of one of the trees which had already fallen.

It was noted that a shallow rooted large tree in the Recreational Area had fallen and come to rest above the children's swing and one of the benches and that this had happened when the weather was not especially severe. This tree had not been identified as being a risk in the report carried out in 2019 leading to concerns that other trees presented a similar risk. A large branch had fallen earlier in the year. The triannual inspections were in line with the Council's risk management policy. A proposal was put forward that all the trees be felled, about forty trees in total. It was **resolved** to accept an amended proposal that all trees (within the boundary of the Recreational Area) with a stem diameter of at least 75mm, measured at 1.5m above the ground be cut down. The Clerk would get three quotations. The Natural Environment Committee would be made aware of the PC decision. Consideration was also given to trees on other PC land such as the two large trees near the pond and the trees on charity land leased by Hopwood Coaches (such trees would be within the conservation area). A professional inspection was needed and it was **resolved** that a full survey be carried out. Ward Cllr. Hook advised the PC of the name of the person who does this for City of York Council (CYC). Regarding the removal and disposal of the tree which had already fallen, Cllr. Barber's son was considered but there was uncertainty whether he would be covered by the PC insurance. It was **resolved** to accept the quotation of £55 from the contractor who does the grass cutting.

## 8.5 Entrance to the Recreation Area

A quotation for installation of a chicane access to the Recreation Area and changes to the entrance was awaited and therefore this would be an agenda item at the May meeting.

## 8.6 Events committee

It was **resolved** to set up an events committee. There would be advertisements for potential committee members in the newsletter and elsewhere. The Committee would have PC backing and insurance and meet a couple of times a year, the PC would consider terms of reference.

## 8.7 Annual Parish meeting

Plans for the Annual Parish meeting were considered. The Clerk would contact the Brownies, the Church, the Village Hall, the Natural Environment Committee and the Women's Institute with a view to obtaining reports.

## 8.8 Dog-fouling signs

It was **resolved** to purchase four dog-fouling signs the price of £30 each plus VAT, all in favour. Cllr. Peers would do the installation using existing posts.

## 9 FINANCE

### 9.1 Report of invoices to be paid

It was **resolved** that the following invoices to be paid, all in favour.

- Clerk's Salary 01/03/2022 to 31/03/2022 plus deductions payable to HMRC
- Annual subscription to the local Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (YLCA), £212

There was income of £754.50 for a Double Taxation Claim (money from City of York Council in lieu of grass cutting and playground maintenance charges – this recognises that residents of the parish pay twice for these things, through precept to the PC and through rates to CYC).

9.2 It was noted that Askham Bryan PC had been selected as one of the 5% of authorities by the external auditor for a fuller audit than would normally be the case.

9.3 It was noted that the Internal Auditor was booked to come on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

## 10 CORRESPONDENCE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

A list of correspondence received since the last meeting (items 345-367) had been circulated and the contents noted.

- 351 was from the Salvation Army regarding reports of one of their clients sleeping rough in Askham Bryan. The individual concerned had since been located and given appropriate accommodation.
- 353 was an email from someone researching his great uncle who came from Askham Bryan and who was killed on the Somme in 1918. This person wanted a copy of a photograph in "Askham Bryan remembered, volume 2", page 14 – where the author was pictured holding a framed copy of a newspaper article headed "Askham Bryan Patriots" (twenty-nine men from the village who served in World War One).
- 363 was from CYC Planning regarding Public Footpath, Askham Bryan No 9 (Part) Creation Order 2019 & Public Footpath, Askham Bryan No 9 (Part) Extinguishment Order 2019 and statement of grounds. The enquiry was due to take place on 28<sup>th</sup> June at 10am at Priory Street Centre, 15 Priory Street, York, YO1 6ET. 364 was from a resident regarding the reporting of this in the minutes of the March PC meeting.

## 11 ACTION TRACKER

An Action Tracker had been circulated with the agenda papers listing all previously agreed actions and reports on progress.

- a. Mole management. A quotation of £40 per mole had been received. It was noted that the mound would soon be removed. It was **resolved** to accept the quotation up to a maximum of £500. The contractor would be instructed to put up appropriate warning signs in the interests of public safety (although he had had previous experience of the traps being stolen).

## 12 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Natural Environment Committee – 6pm

Annual Parish Meeting – 7pm

Annual Parish Council Meeting – 8pm

The meeting of the Allotments for Stone and Gravel Charity would follow the Annual Parish Meeting if that meeting finished before 7:40pm, otherwise it would follow the Annual Parish Council Meeting

All the above meetings would be on 19 May 2022 in the Village Hall.

Other PC meetings in 2022 would be on 16<sup>th</sup> June, 21<sup>st</sup> July, 18<sup>th</sup> August, 15<sup>th</sup> September, 20<sup>th</sup> October and 17<sup>th</sup> November, all at 7pm in the Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8:15pm.

Signed

Chairman  
19 May 2021

DRAFT