

# ASKHAM BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES of the meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL

held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023 starting at 7:30pm in the Village Hall

**PRESENT:**

Councillor	Simon Peers (Chair)		
Councillors	Julie Barber	Helen Dawson	David Wiseman
	Jason Boakes	Mark Walker	

**In attendance:** Ward Cllrs. Anne Hook and Emily Knight, one resident and the Clerk.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**1 APOLOGIES.** Cllr. Smith.

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

### **3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was one member of the public in attendance who raised the following matters.

- Concerns about grass cutting in the Recreational Area and whether the introduction of a grass cutting rota would be beneficial and concerns that the woodland area was overgrown with brambles (see item 8.1c below)
- Concerns about the lack of progress in getting paths registered as official public rights of way This had been ongoing since 2020. In the last twenty or so years, the college had closed some of these paths using barbed wire to restrict access. He had written to the college on a number of occasions, having had no reply to his first letter. He accepted that there had been delays due to the pandemic restrictions but these were no longer valid reasons for the lack of progress. There were two paths under consideration one of which connected Askham Bryan to Askham Richard via Butteracre Lane. The application had been put in three years ago (July 2020) by Askham Richard Parish Council (PC), this submission included a volume of evidence. This had been chased three times since then (starting in 2020). The Chair advised that he had spoken to the college who were unprepared to allow access to anything other than metalled roads unless ordered to do so. The only such road was just past the park and not all of it belonged to the college. Cllr. Walker had some sympathy for the position of the college having experienced vandalism of traps. Ward Cllr. Hook explained that there had been a lot of sickness in the public rights of way department. The Chair would revisit historical communications on this subject. There was discussion about land ownership noting that the route of the application was to the north of the Park Cottage development and did not go through it.

### **4. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PC HELD ON 18<sup>th</sup> MAY 2023.**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the ANNUAL meeting of the PC held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023 be approved and that the Chair be authorised to sign, all in favour.

### **5. PLANNING**

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

There were four planning applications to consider.

- a. 23/00769/FUL - Askham Bryan College - Erection of animal enclosure barns with associated field shelters, access and boundary treatments (site area 0.99ha).
- 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%.

Regarding 23/00769/FUL, it was noted that the animal enclosures were infilling existing structures and would be visible from the A64 and would be part of the wildlife park. Regarding 23/01053/TCA, it was noted that the tree was having an adverse effect on the wall and the PC considered whether the moving the wall had been considered by the applicant. It was noted that the applicant had proposed to replace the tree. It was resolved to raise **no objections** to any of the above four applications.

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

22/02471/FUL - Askham View 19 Main Street - Single storey side, rear and front extensions following demolition of existing conservatory, and loft conversion with 2no. dormers and 1no. to front, and 4no. rooflights to rear. It was noted that this application had been approved

### **6 CRIME REPORT**

A copy of the crime report for May 2023 had been circulated showing one reported crime, being the theft of a caravan from the car park at Askham Bryan College on 17<sup>th</sup> May. It had been taken through back gate so no Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) footage was available.

### **7 REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLORS HOOK AND KNIGHT**

Ward Cllr. Hook was in attendance along with the new Ward Cllr. (Emily Knight). An email regarding resurfacing had been circulated (see item 10 below). A road repair by the school house had collapsed. There were ongoing issues regarding fly-tipping and grass verges not getting cut. Ward Cllr. Hook suggested a Freedom of Information request for data regarding fly-tipping.

### **8 OTHER MATTERS.**

#### **8.1 Redevelopment of the Recreational Area**

##### **a. New equipment.**

Following the extraordinary meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023, the equipment had been ordered and delivery was expected on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. Cllr. Dawson had met their representative that day. Installation would take two to three days and a supply of water would be needed for the concrete. The equipment would be fenced off whilst the installation work was being carried out pending formal inspection had been carried out. There was a concern that this could attract those with anti-social behaviour. The Clerk would notify the insurers.

The work would leave a ton of topsoil. The contractor would be instructed to leave this inside the fence and it would be used to fill in the holes in the mound. There was concrete in the mound where the slide used to be.

It was agreed that there should be an official opening ceremony which it was hoped would trigger donations towards the next phase of the project. People would be invited to bring their own picnic. The proposed date was 15<sup>th</sup> July. Cllr. Wiseman agreed to use his contacts to publicise this.

##### **b. Picnic Bench.**

The Chair had begun researching options for a picnic bench and had received an acknowledgement e-mail in reply. It was agreed that the picnic table be considered as part of phase two.

##### **c. Grass Cutting.**

Two residents including the one who had spoken earlier (see public participation above) had cut the grass (the PC lawnmower was in his garage). The Clerk would chase the grass cutting contractor as it did not look like he had been. Another contractor had contacted the PC via social media requesting an opportunity to provide a quotation for this grass cutting. There was discussion about using volunteers to cut the grass, any such volunteers would need to be trained and appropriate risk

assessments would need to be carried out and the terms of the PC insurance would need to be checked. The opening ceremony 15<sup>th</sup> July (see above) provided opportunity to ask for volunteers. The use of volunteers raised questions about whether the resident was happy to continue to store the lawnmower, who was qualified to maintain it and who was qualified to deliver training on its usage. It was therefore felt that the grass cutting should continue to be done professionally. The Clerk would respond to the enquiry on social media and suggest that he also quote for grass cutting in the church as this might work out cheaper than each organisation making separate enquiries.

## 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 01/05/2023 to 31/05/2023 plus deductions payable to HMRC

The Clerk would ask the supplier of the new playground equipment for an invoice so that Value Added Tax (VAT) could be recovered.

## 10 CORRESPONDENCE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

A email had been received regarding the resurfacing of the roads (see item 7). Ward Cllr. Hook advised that City of York Council (CYC) had written to everyone in the village, however Councillors expressed some doubt about this, Ward Cllr. Hook agreed to make further enquiries and advised the PC to expect direct communication. Cllr. Wiseman would use a local WhatsApp group to raise awareness of this. Work was due to start on 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> July. There would be a summary on Facebook.

## 11 ACTION TRACKER

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

- The item regarding obtaining quotes for play equipment and Cllr. Smith emailing the Clerk details of three suppliers of playground equipment had now been completed.
- Cllr. Wiseman had spoken to the mole man.

## 12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7:30pm.

The calendar of other meetings for 2023 was 17<sup>th</sup> August, 21<sup>st</sup> September, 19<sup>th</sup> October and 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023. All to be held at the Village Hall at 7:30pm.

The meeting closed at 8:45pm.

Signed

Chairman  
20 July 2023