

ASKHAM BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL (PC)

held on Thursday 28th November 2024 starting at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

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

In attendance: Ward Cllr. Hook and the Clerk.

- 1. APOLOGIES. Cllr. Smith.
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST: None.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
No members of the public were in attendance.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PC HELD ON 17th OCTOBER 2024.
It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the PC held on 17th October 2024 be approved subject to removal of the words “Cllr. Dawson would sort out” under item 11 (Action Tracker) as those present had no recollection that Cllr. Dawson had agreed to this. The minutes were signed by Cllr. Dawson as the Chair of that meeting.

- 5. PLANNING
 - a. Planning Applications Received
 - i. AOD/24/00273 - Askham Bryan College - Variation of condition 9 (waste storage and disposal) of 24/00045/FUL. It was not possible for the PC to comment on this variation to the above condition as the Local Planning Authority had approved the variation – see 5b(ii) below.
 - ii. AOD/24/00275 - Proposed Sports Pitch Development To The South East Of 235 Tadcaster Road, Dringhouses - Variation of conditions 4, 5, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 23 of 18/00251/FUL. It was not possible for the PC to comment on the variation to the above conditions as the Local Planning Authority had approved the variation – see 5b(iii) below.
 - iii. 24/02012/TCA - West View, 21 Askham Fields Lane - Fell 1no. Cedar (T9), 1m crown reduction of 1no. Holly (T7) and 1no. Apple (T8) and remedial pruning of 6no. Apple (T1-T6) - trees in a conservation area.
Having considered this application, the PC had no comment to make noting that there were proposals to replace the cedar with a fruit tree to expand the orchard area.

b. Planning Decision Notices Received
Three planning decisions were noted as follows;

- i. 24/01511/TCA - Mill Bank, 143 Main Street - Remedial pruning of 4no. trees as per submitted specifications - trees in a conservation area. The Local Planning Authority had raised no objection.
- ii. AOD/24/00273 - Askham Bryan College - Variation of condition 9 (waste storage and disposal) of 24/00045/FUL - The Local Planning Authority had approved the variation to the above condition.
- iii. AOD/24/00275 - Proposed Sports Pitch Development To The South East Of 235 Tadcaster Road, Dringhouses - Variation of conditions 4, 5, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 23 of 18/00251/FUL. The Local Planning Authority had approved the variations to the above conditions.

6. CRIME REPORT

There was one reported crime in October. This was on the 4th at Nurseries Caravan Park where a man assaulted a lady and kicked a dog. There was a possible photograph of the suspect. It was hoped that this was a isolated incident.

7. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR HOOK

Ward Cllr. Hook reported on a by-election in Haxby and Wigginton. There had been discussion about cycle paths and access routes including a cycle path between Askham Bryan and Askham Richard. This was a long term plan with nothing expected in the immediate future. Charges for green bin collections were going up next year from £44 to £49.

8. OTHER MATTERS.

8.1 Budget for 2025/26

Consideration was given to the budget for 2025/26 with each category of expenditure considered in turn. It was noted that room hire charges were going up from £8 an hour to £9 an hour in 2025. There was a query about the budget for training. The Natural Environment Committee were looking to hire a skip for the garden waste resulting from work done on tidying up Saint Nicholas' Croft and for tree work. The budget included £500 for any National Commemorative Events and it was noted that 2025 would be the eightieth anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) day. The Recreational Area was also discussed. The triannual tree inspection would be due in 2025. The budget calculations pointed to the need for a 2% increase in precept. However, as there were sufficient funds in reserve and as the PC had not spent its full budget in recent years, it was felt that the precept should be left unchanged for 2025/26. A formal vote on this would be taken at the January 2025 meeting.

8.2 Final plans for Christmas 2024

Cllr. Wiseman had circulated plans for the event on the following Sunday. The hole for the tree had been dug and the casing was in place. The tree was fifteen feet tall and two people had volunteered via the "Good Eggs" WhatsApp group to help put the tree up. Erection of the tree was scheduled for 9am and decoration of the tree for 9:45am. Cllr. Barber was aware of what needed to be done regarding the power supply. Cllr. Peers was doing hot chocolate and mulled wine. Cllr. Wiseman would print off the carol sheets and the choice of carols was agreed. There would be a bin liner at the Village Hall for the clear up. Cllr. Wiseman agreed to act as master of ceremonies. Cllr. Peers had craft materials for the tables. There would be a bucket for donations. Drums were still needed for the trail with the theme of the twelve days of Christmas and locations of some of these were considered. Cllr. Wiseman had put up advertising posters but the lampposts near the college were too overgrown for posters. There had been advertising on the PC Facebook page and on WhatsApp (for both Christmas events). The landlord of the Nag's Head public house had confirmed that he was still happy for the social event at his place and he would do the mince pies. The public house had been seasonally decorated and posters had been printed.

8.3 Land Registration.

It was noted that the pond was now registered to the Parish Council at the current Clerk's address (having been registered to a previous Clerk's address) and that the Clerk was pursuing registration of other unregistered land.

In the interests of business continuity, the Clerk would produce a list of organisations who would need to be informed of a change of address if this became necessary. This list would be held by the Chair alongside the user ID and password information already supplied.

8.4 Programme of reviewing Parish Council policies and documents - Accessibility Statement.

The Accessibility Statement was reviewed and it was **resolved** to adopt the previous version of the Accessibility Statement with changes to show the Clerk's current email address and removal of the reference to having a new website running by the end of 2020.

8.5 Introduction of 20mph restrictions.

Consideration was given to the report given by the Ward Councillor at the October meeting regarding the introduction of 20mph restrictions elsewhere in the Rural West ward and a suggestion that consideration be given that a similar restriction be introduced in Askham Bryan. Councillors had their own views on this and it was recognised that many residents would have differing views including those that were supportive and those that were not supportive of such a proposal. Concern was expressed that the road sign at the start of Westwood Lane indicated that the national speed limit applied. Although this meant 60mph, the road was narrow with passing places and there were numerous pot holes. It was felt that a 30mph restriction was more appropriate and the Ward Cllr. suggested making an approach to Highways Regulations. It was agreed to wait for the formal consultation process to begin and the PC would welcome public feedback as part of the PC response to this and to suggestions that they press for a review of the speed restrictions on Westwood Lane. Residents would be welcome to comment via email or by coming to the PC and expressing their thoughts during the public participation. The "Twenty's Plenty" signs needed to be taken down as they did not reflect the actual speed limit.

9. FINANCE

9.1 Report of invoices to be paid.

It was **resolved** that payment of the following invoices to be approved, all in favour.

- Clerk's Salary 01/10/2024 to 31/10/2024 and 01/11/2024 to 30/11/2024 plus deductions payable to HMRC and a cost of living increase backdated to 01/04/2024.

An invoice from the landlord of the Nag's Head public house for £50 + VAT was awaited.

9.2 Bank Charges.

It was noted that with effect from 14th January 2025, Lloyds Bank would be changing the Treasurer's Account to a Community Account with a monthly fee of £4.25

9.3 Funding for the Christmas trail.

Ward Councillor funding had paid for the Christmas trail and there was discussion about repurposing the £300 which had originally been set aside from PC funds to cover the cost of this. There was an issue with storage of materials used for this Christmas trail once the festive season was over. Currently Cllr. Peers was using domestic space for this which created storage issues for him and also meant that no one else had access if he was unavailable. It was therefore **resolved** that the £300 be used to purchase a shed for storage of PC equipment once a suitable location for the shed had been found, the coach park being one of the locations considered.

10 CORRESPONDENCE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

A list of correspondence had been circulated and the contents noted. The only item of note was a letter from Lloyds bank (item 757) regarding charges which had been considered above (see item 9.2)

11 ACTION TRACKER

An Action Tracker had been circulated with the agenda papers listing all previously agreed actions and reports on progress. It was agreed that the action where Cllr. Walker and Ward Cllr. Hook investigate trees overhanging the public highway and footway below the statutory level be deferred until the weather was warmer.

12 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

There was discussion about whether the third Thursday of the month pattern for meetings should continue into 2025 as several Councillors were unavailable for meetings if that pattern continued but were available if the meeting was a week later. It was agreed that meetings for the first six months of 2025 be on the fourth Thursday of the month and that this pattern be reviewed at the Annual Parish Council Meeting in May.

The dates for forthcoming meetings in 2025 (assuming the fourth Thursday of the month pattern continues throughout 2025) are;

23rd January, 27th February, 27th March, 24th April, 22nd May, 26th June, 24th July, 28th August, 25th September, 23rd October and 27th November.

All to be held at the Village Hall at 7:30pm

The meeting closed at 8:53pm.

Signed

23 January 2024