

IRKBY OVERBLOW PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on
Monday 16 March 2020
at Kirkby Overblow School

Present: Councillors D Yeadon (Chairman), Cllrs R Denwood, S Snowden and A Whiteley. In attendance: NYCC Cllr C Trotter, Mr M Richards (Clerk) and 2 residents.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr P Perry and HBC Cllr A Paraskos.

2. Members' Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest for the meeting.

3. To receive and if thought fit, approve the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 20 January 2020

Resolved: That the minutes of the Meeting be approved as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Whiteley, seconded by Cllr Denwood. The Chairman then signed the minutes.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes of the Meeting

a) The Chairman confirmed that the village bench had been delivered , along with a fixing pack and plaque, and he would be arranging for installation shortly.

b) "Pickard's Yard" – HBC has issued an enforcement notice regarding the advertisement, but has acknowledged that no enforcement action was required in respect of the trees. Noted that no planning application for the housing development has as yet been submitted.

c) Swindon Lane flooding - see 8b) below.

d) Star and Garter – see 8 c) below.

e) Notice board – an application will be made to Cllr Trotter in May, for a contribution of £500 from his Locality budget.

5. Questions from the Public

None.

6. To report on or consider Planning Applications/TPOs received

(a) 20/00558/FUL and 20/00562/FUL- erection of agricultural buildings (Shed A and Shed B) – Dunkeswick Lodge, Dunkeswick Lane, Weeton.

The Chairman explained the background to the applications to build two sheds on site in place of the previously rented facilities at the now sold Lane End Farm.

Councillors considered the proposed buildings to be acceptable and instructed the clerk to submit a "No Objections" response to the Planning Authority.

7. To report on Decision Notices received

(a) 19/05058/ADV – Display of 2 internally illuminated entrance signs and 2 non-illuminated stone carved signs – Wharfedale Grange Farm, Dunkeswick.

REFUSED

(b) 20/00007/NRECLO – appeal against HBC's refusal to grant certificate of lawfulness re existing access including erection of entrance wall and gates – Wharfedale Grange Farm, Dunkeswick.

Councillors noted the above decision and appeal.

8. Planning correspondence

(a) Land off Swindon Lane ("The Stables") The Chairman reported on the meeting

between himself, the clerk, and HBC officers, to discuss progress on this case. He set out all the action taken by HBC which in his view had been comprehensive but unfortunately still failed in most instances due to the failure to identify the legal owner of the land in question. This despite significant but fruitless enquiries of the Land Registry, the named solicitor in Durham and the agent Don Ritson, all of whom either refused to provide details of, or denied knowledge of, the perceived owner Mr John Elam (Lanzarote Sales Ltd) It was pointed out that the most effective solution ie the issuing of a court summons, was unavailable as this course of action required the serving of the summons on the legal owner. The current position is, that HBC is still considering taking enforcement action itself ie removal of the piers and lowering the wall, following the potential violent response to the contractor originally appointed for this task. HBC is also considering enforcement action to define the use of the land as agricultural rather than equestrian. This will ensure that any manouvering over future use is restricted to this category. Councillors discussed and agreed to await further action by HBC.

(b) Flooding on Swindon Lane –the Chairman confirmed that some work had been carried out on drainage, and NYCC is still monitoring. It is hoped that conclusive action will be completed in summer.

(c) Star and Garter – the Chairman reported on the meeting between himself and Cllr Denwood with Mr Lawn and his son. Mr Lawn confirmed that his initial intention is to convert the property into a dwelling house although his architect is recommending that planning approval be sought for that conversion plus the construction of two further houses. Mr Lawn also indicated that he is not averse to selling the property but “at the right price”. He would not be happy for the property to be designated an Asset of Community Value (ACV) Cllr Denwood then set out the issues to be considered in determining the next steps:

- i) Potential uses of the property
- ii) Sources of capital for the purchase – Donations, PWLB loan
- iii) Business Plan and repayment of any loan
- iv) Impact on the precept for repayment of a loan

The potential purchase and all ramifications would need to be discussed at a meeting of the whole village/Parish, but given current restrictions, this is clearly not possible. In the meantime, the clerk will seek advice from YLCA regarding statutory guidance on conducting a vote and the definition of a “majority” The Chairman concluded by stating that, following the meeting with Mr Lawn, the Parish Council would now not support the designation of the pub as an ACV. The representative of the Residents’ Group acknowledged this and said that the Group would now concentrate on responding to the questions posed by Cllr Denwood. In addition, if appropriate, a questionnaire would be composed in preparation for issuing to all residents, seeking views on the future use of the Star and Garter should it become a community asset. He also reported that the Residents’ Group is willing to form a working party to tidy up the pub car park and garden. The Chairman agreed to approach Mr Lawn for his approval.

9. Parish Matters

a) HBC – community bulb/wildflower scheme. Councillors discussed and agreed to request a supply of daffodils, to be split between Kirkby and Dunkeswick.

b) Communication from NYCC re funding for supported bus services. The clerk

explained that he had contacted the local bus services but neither had expressed any interest in pursuing this initiative.

c) NYCC consultation on new policy for developer contributions for education. Councillors agreed that this was not relevant to this Parish as there was no prospect of large scale housing or other development within the Parish.

d) The clerk had circulated the summary report from the parish consultation meeting. Councillors agreed that there were no issues raised relevant to the Parish.

10. KO village Matters

a) Annual litter pick – agreed for 19th April, commencing at the school at 11.00am. The clerk will arrange supply of the necessary equipment from HBC.

11. Dunkswick matters

a) Cllr Snowdon reported that, as recorded at 4a) above, although no planning application has been received for Pickard’s yard, but he has observed much activity in clearing the site.

b) He enquired of Cllr Trotter whether there were any restrictions regarding the planting of trees in the verges adjacent to the highway, as local residents had expressed an interest in doing this? Cllr Trotter will follow up and report back directly to Cllr Snowdon.

12. School Activities

a) Planters. Following Cllr Trotter’s contribution of £300 from his Locality budget, the planters, will be located outside the school. Cllr Trotter will make available a further £300 for the purchase of plants for the planters and in the area immediately adjacent to the school entrance.

b) The application for a “School” sign to be placed on the by-pass has definitely been refused by NYCC with no prospect of changing this decision.

c) Tennis courts. The Headteacher has confirmed that the school is keen to use the village tennis courts for one day a week.

d) Security – the school has asked that the external doors to the building are locked during Parish Council meetings. Councillors acknowledged the request.

13. Crime and Disorder

The only Parish item recorded on the “police.uk” website for February was the vandalising of a car in the village. No further information available. Noted that the Community PCSO, Alastair Graham-Meritt, is to return to duty at the end of March, following sick leave.

14. Accounts & Services

(a) The Council received and **approved** the 2 monthly receipts and payments since the last meeting, with the bank reconciliation.

(b) The Council received and **approved** the invoices for:

M Richards Jan Salary	£176.16
M Richards Feb Salary	£176.16
HMRC – PAYE	£44.04
HMRC – PAYE	£44.04
Earth Anchors – community bench	£650.40

Two Councillors then examined the relevant bank statements and invoices, and signed the covering sheet to authorise the payments.

(c) Councillors agreed to contribute to a retirement present for Nick Rawson in recognition of his many years of service to the community.

15. Village Events

Noted, that due to the coronavirus outbreak, both KOSAF and the Village Shoot have been cancelled. The new Rector is due to be inducted on 1st April but any welcome celebration may have to be delayed, for obvious reasons.

16. Other matters

Cllr Denwood outlined the arrangements to be put in place to support the vulnerable and elderly who may not be able to pursue their normal activities due to the coronavirus situation. A list of volunteers to help with delivery of food, essential items, and medicines, has been put together. In addition, the Shoulder of Mutton is acting as a focal point for collections and is also putting on a service to provide take away meals and fresh fruit and vegetables. The Parish Council is very grateful to Lucy Crack for organising this essential service and also to Kate Deacon at the pub. Thanks also to all the volunteers without whom this would not be possible.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm

Date of the next meeting - Monday 18 May 2020, commencing at 8.00pm, at Kirkby Overblow School. This is the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, and will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting, commencing at 7.30pm.