

ADDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT THE OLD SCHOOL ROOM, ADDINGHAM ON WEDNESDAY 20 JANUARY 2016 AT 7:00PM

Present

Cllrs: Batley, Brady, Coates (Chairman), Flesher, Hindle, Jerome, Mawson (Vice Chairman), Naylor (from Minute 12), and Orr.

Absent

Cllrs Smith and Tennant

In Attendance

Parish Clerk – J Markham

Ms E Brady, Yorkshire Water (Minutes 1-5 only)

Local electors – 6 (5 for Minutes 1-5 only)

1/16 Apologies for Absence

Received from Cllr Smith; absence for personal reasons approved.

Noted that Cllr Tennant unlikely to attend for personal reasons.

Apology for late arrival received and noted from Cllr Naylor.

2/16 Disclosures of Interest

Pursuant to the Council's Code of Conduct, Members were invited to disclose any additional interests (not already listed in the Register of Interests), and to note in the Declarations of Interests Book any previously disclosed interests, relevant to the business of the meeting.

Relevant interests noted: Members disclosed the following interests and noted them in the Attendance/Declarations of Interests Book:

Cllrs Coates: Personal Interests in agenda items 7 (Planning) and 9 (Trustee of Addingham Community Library).

Cllr Mawson: Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in agenda item 11 (Wall at Stockinger Lane)

Disclosed and noted in Book on arrival - Cllr Naylor: Personal Interest in agenda item 13A (Approval of invoice to Naylor's Ltd)

3/16 Public Consultation and Question Time, including Police Matters

Local electors present at the meeting with comments to raise in relation to drainage issues, due to be considered under agenda item 5, agreed to speak at the invitation of the Chairman at the relevant point in the meeting (see Minute 5/16 below).

Local electors present on behalf of the Bowling Club raised matters relating to localised flooding caused by the layout of the car park, together with tree maintenance and security issues. The Chairman noted that the Memorial Hall would need to look into the car park flooding problem (Cllr Jerome agreed to contact them), and the Clerk was asked to contact Bradford MDC to request that the Council be permitted to trim the trees overhanging the Green (an issue previously discussed with them). The Clerk was also asked to check the Council's insurance policies as regards the security of the building in which the Club's equipment was stored.

In the context of weather-related safety issues, the Clerk was asked to follow up the possible provision of an additional grit bin outside the Coop, and to contact Highways to request replenishment of the grit piles on Moor Rd and on Strait Lane/Moorside Lane.

There being no member of the police force present, consideration of an update on police matters was deferred, and the Clerk was asked to contact the PCSO team for the area and notify them of the dates of future Council meetings.

4/16 Minutes of Meeting held on 16 December 2015 and Progress Report, for information only, on Matters Arising from the Minutes (not included elsewhere on the Agenda)

Minutes:

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 December 2015, having been taken as read, be approved and signed as a true and correct record by the Chairman.

Matters Arising:

Newsletter – Cllr Orr noted that the next edition could be distributed by the end of the month.

Memorial – the choice of feature, subject to the agreement of a site for it (possibly outside the Health Centre), had been discussed again with the family and a report would be made to the next meeting.

Documents and Filing – the Clerk reported that she was currently carrying out a full review of the files, archives and filing systems at the school room, and a meeting for councilors to go through historic material would be organised at a later date.

Allotments – the vacant plots had been advertised on the Council website and on the village noticeboards and some interest was being generated.

Hen Pen and Sugar Hill Gate – the repair work had yet to be carried out.

Youth Group – this would be reported on at a future meeting.

St Peter's Fete (and discussion of arrangements for the Queen's birthday celebrations) – the Chairman noted that she was due to attend a meeting with the Fete organisers and a report would be made to the next meeting.

5/15 Drainage Systems

The Chairman welcomed local electors attending for this item and Ms E Brady, representing Yorkshire Water, and then, in the light of recent flooding events, introduced a review of action that could be taken by the Parish Council to look at drainage issues affecting the village. Ms Brady drew attention to the respective responsibilities of Yorkshire Water, Bradford MDC and the Environment Agency. She agreed to provide a map of water courses held by YW in connection with their responsibilities. At the invitation of the Chairman, comments from local electors present at the meeting and sent in by email were then heard. It was noted that a number of ditch and gully clearance issues already notified to Highways (ditch at Long Ridding Rd, gully at top of Moor Lane and trees at the beck) remained outstanding for immediate resolution and these would be followed up by the Clerk.

After full discussion, it was

Resolved: That an initial inspection of becks, gullies and drainage systems in the village be organised by the Chairman and carried out by a small group of members, as invited to participate by the Chairman.

Further

Resolved: That representatives of Yorkshire Water, BMDC and the Environment Agency (to be contacted by Ms E Brady on behalf of the Council), be invited to attend a future meeting of the Council to discuss a strategy for ongoing and longer-term maintenance of the village drainage systems.

Subject to the outcome of the initial inspection and review of the issues with the agencies with statutory responsibilities, further thought would be given to involvement of the community in future discussion of strategies for longer term action, possibly as part of the Neighbourhood Planning process.

On behalf of the Council, the Chairman thanked Ms Brady for her advice and thanked local electors present for attending the meeting.

6/16 Addingham Neighbourhood Plan

The Vice-Chairman reported that advisers, Kirkwells, were to make a presentation to the Steering Group at their next meeting to be held on 27 January.

7/16 Planning Applications

The Clerk reported on technical problems with accessing the Planning database to download current planning applications, as listed on the agenda, and it was accordingly agreed to request a longer timescale for the consultation in each case in order to provide members with more opportunity to view the detail of submitted documents. In the expectation that this request would be granted, it was

Resolved That full consideration of the planning applications referenced on the agenda for the meeting at item 7 be deferred to the next meeting of the Planning Committee, due to be held on 3 February.

8/16 WREN Grant Application – Library Refurbishment.

The Personal Interest of Cllr Coates had been noted (Minute 2/16 refers).

It was noted that the grant application had been submitted; however, for technical reasons, there had been a glitch with the electronic process and the required electronic signatures had not gone through. A decision was awaited as to whether the funding body would nonetheless accept it for the current funding round.

9/16 Telephone Kiosk

The Clerk reported on the procedures and likely costs of adopting the telephone kiosk on the Green. After discussion, the Clerk was asked to request further information from BT as regards their plans for maintaining it.

10/16 Wall at Stockinger Lane

Having declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, Cllr Mawson withdrew from the meeting.

The Clerk reported that a quotation had been received from a second dry stone wall contractor, but it was agreed that the first quotation, considered at the meeting in November [Minute refers], would need to be submitted in writing for it to be taken into account. It was therefore

Resolved: That consideration of two written quotations for repair of the dry stone wall at Stockinger Lane be deferred to the next meeting of the Council.

Cllr Mawson was invited to rejoin the meeting at this point.

It was noted that the Clerk and Cllr Mawson would liaise in order to ensure that the two quotes were prepared on the same basis.

11/16 Correspondence

Correspondence circulated for information, as set out on the attached Correspondence List (Appendix 1) was noted. The following items of correspondence were discussed and matters agreed, as appropriate, as follows:

- 5 Kitty Fold – noted that the householders were offering to reopen negotiations for the purchase of land to the rear of their property. It was agreed that the Clerk should make contact with the householders to ask them to agree to fund the cost of an updated land valuation.
- Queen's 90th birthday celebrations – noted that beacons were to be lit across the country on 21 April.

Cllr Naylor entered the meeting at this point.

12/16 Bradford Core Strategy Proposed Main Modifications Consultation

At the invitation of the Chairman, Cllr Naylor updated the Council on consultation responses made on the Proposed Main Modifications. He noted that a response had been sent on behalf of the Council, reiterating and re-emphasising the comments made on the original consultation on the Core Strategy, and drawing attention to the implications of recent flooding events for the Plan process.

13/16 Finance

A. Invoices for payment

Resolved: That the presented list of invoices paid and due for payment (Appendix 2) be approved, and cheques signed as required.

B. Budget and Precept 2016/17

The Chairman presented the draft Budget and precept proposals 2016/17, and invited Cllr Jerome to submit supplementary proposals, all of which were discussed. In particular, the need to make provision for demands on funding likely to arise during the financial year as a result of BMDC cuts to services, such as funding for the youth service and grit bins, was agreed. It was then

Resolved: That the draft Budget 2016/17, revised to make additional provision of £4500 for contingency funding, be approved (copy attached to these Minutes as Appendix 3), that it be used as the basis for setting the parish precept 2016/17, and that the Clerk be authorised to complete the precept form accordingly, arrange for its signature by the Chairman and return it to the Billing Authority by 29 January.

C. External Audit

The Clerk reported on proposed "sector-led" external audit arrangements, which, unless a resolution to opt out was passed, were due to take effect in 2017.

Resolved: That the Council remain automatically opted in to the Sector Led Body audit regime, set up under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, as notified by the National Association of Local Councils, and as due to take effect from the 2017 audit of the 2016/17 accounts.

14/16 Date of Next Meeting

The next Meeting would be held on Wednesday 17 February 2016 at 7:00pm, at The Old School Room.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Chairman