

# **Minutes of the Meeting of Osmotherley Area Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Osmotherley on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

1. **Present:** Mr R Horner (Chairman), C Nozedar (Vice-Chairperson), Mr B Robinson, Mr M Read, Mrs M Kay, Mr T Wood , Mr M Laverick , Mr B Manners , Mr P Howlett, and NYCC ward member Cllr B Fortune

**Apologies were received from:** Mr N Ward and Mrs A Atkinson

2. **Minutes of the meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman**

### 3. **Public Forum**

Five residents of the village attended to raise concerns over the lack of a clear footpath in front of the Queen Catherine Hotel, the inappropriateness of the new furniture and banner signage together with the removal of parking spaces in front of the QC. There is still a strong feeling that the paved area in front of the QC should not have been permitted and there was a request that the council should make efforts to have the area of land returned to allow vehicles to park as they did before, at right angles to the carriage way.

The Clerk advised the meeting of the NYM Planning Committee decision in February 2022, regarding the issues the council had reported to them as concerns, including the removal of tarmac and subsequent replacement with paving, a French drain, lighting, replacement windows and the securement of parking spaces and disabled parking.

When the Covid pavement license extension finishes in September, the council would take all necessary measures to ensure that the current parking bays would be available for the parking of cars.

Other residents were concerned that the footpath was causing a danger to villagers and visitors because the pathway through the QC patio area is narrow and staggered and when tables are occupied, it is difficult to negotiate around the tables, with pedestrians often finding it hard to get through easily. There has been a clear and uninterrupted right of pedestrian passage in front of the QC for many years and there is a strong feeling that this should continue to exist, allowing free passage along it either on foot or with push chair, pram or wheelchair without hinderance. Pedestrians should not have to negotiate a way through or have to request people to move aside to gain access.

BF confirmed that she'd received two disturbing letters from residents who do not feel safe in the village as a result of the issues at the QC.

The Chairman assured those present that the PC were being as proactive as possible, enquiries have already been made with the Director of Planning at NYM, in relation to the recent changes asking if these are lawful. The Clerk confirmed that the licensing team at NYC have also been asked for comment.

Concerns were raised that the Three Tuns have posted on their Facebook page that they and the QC are sponsoring the Summer Games which will include fireworks and music. The Chairman confirmed that PC would be contacting the relevant agencies and authorities to ensure that if these activities go ahead that they comply with all aspects of

the law, to safeguard the peoples safety and welfare. The organiser of the of the Village part of the games (stalls, Jazz and Silver Band) has confirmed that they have no involvement or responsibility for the actions off the Three Tuns or Queen Catherine and that the pub's activities are running in parallel with the Village games but they are not part of the traditional Village Games.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to arrange a meeting with Highways, NYM and Licensing as soon as possible, to discuss Village matters particularly those involving the QC and Three Tuns. BF to assist in facilitating this meeting.

The subject of the potential village car park was raised and it was confirmed that a road use survey appeared to be underway on West End. The Chairman confirmed that this would be a necessary part of a planning authorities application.

#### **4. Matters arising:**

##### **4.1 Items not on the agenda**

The Clerk and the Chairman updated the council on the following items not on the agenda:

- A full tree survey is being sought from two arborists local to the area following consultation with Mr Angus Forsyth. It is hoped that progress will be reported to the next meeting of the council.
- The bus stop on West End, near Oswaldene , has been repaired.
- The Clack Lane water leak continues with no resolution found. The Clerk reported this again after the last meeting and some action seems to have occurred near to the site of the leak onto the road.
- Damage to the granite sets on the village green has been reported to Highways for repair, which has been completed.
- Some residents had noticed that the lighting on North End had recently been replaced by HDC. These were brighter and causing concerns. These have been moderated and returned to night time variances.
- The tap in the ladies which was running continually and reported at the last meeting was repaired shortly thereafter.
- Parking on the green near to Robin Hill has been monitored and whilst not as prevalent as previously reported this issue is ongoing. The resident of Robin Hill wishes to repair the driveway, which was agreed as necessary, and it was agreed that the owner could tarmac the area for Robin Hills' boundary to the road side.
- The Clerk confirmed that he was awaiting photos regarding the road from Chester Lane to Cotcliffe Wood which was in need of repair.
- BR updated the council on path up Clack Bank where some concerns over the hedging encroaching was reported. It was agreed that photos be provided of the area to renovate on the footpath, which would be forwarded to Highways.
- The Clerk reported that the paper summarising the responses to the Parish Charter had been submitted to NYC on behalf of the council.

##### **4.2 Police matters**

The police report from 1 March to 31<sup>st</sup> March was circulated to all councillors to discuss the following incidents:

Burglary: Commercial: 1; Residential: 1

Violence Against the Person:1

Other crimes:1

##### **4.3 Highways**

Nothing to report

#### 4.4 NYCC,HDC & NYMNP

BF reported on her recent meeting at NYM and confirmed that biodiversity was a priority for the Park and grants were available to farmers for any land which may have been set aside.

#### 4.5 Maintenance

The cobbles in front of Moon House have been damaged and it was agreed to have these repaired.

#### 4.6 Village Hall

Nothing to Report

#### 4.7 Toilet Refurbishment Update

The Clerk reported that the winning contractor had been contacted to provide a timetable of when it would be possible to begin work should an order be placed. It was confirmed that the best time for all is late September, early October to begin.

PH reported that the grant application result would not be known until the end of May 2023.

#### 4.8 Constituent Reports

Members from the other areas in the Parish were asked to raise any issues pertinent to their areas.

MK confirmed that the toxic waste has still not been removed and she had enquired of environmental health for confirmation.

CN confirmed that the previously reported graffiti on the phone box at the foot of Clack has been removed.

#### 5. Correspondence

*Most correspondence is now electronic and is forwarded when received so Members can therefore raise concerns or comments by email to the Clerk should it need to be an agenda item. These items will only be minuted if they are discussed at a meeting.*

An email has been received from a resident concerned over the problems disabled people have in getting to the village hall, which we will forward to Highways.

#### 6. Planning.

##### a) Applications

6.1 The Old Vicarage, 40 North End, Osmotherley - Listed Building consent for installation of seven replacement timber sliding sash windows – **Supported**

6.2 Osmotherley Village Hall - for installation of replacement timber windows and doors – **Supported**

6.3 Oak Tree Enterprise Park Bullamoor Road Northallerton - Retrospective Change of Use of Existing Agricultural Building to Mixed Use Commercial Facilities, Provision of New Vehicular Access and Closure of Existing Vehicular Access, and Provision of Parking Area – **Object**

##### b) Decisions

6.4 2 Foxton View Ellerbeck - Alterations and extensions to existing dwelling - **Granted**

6.5 Orchard House Thimbleby - Works to a tree in a conservation area - **Granted**

#### 7. a, b, c and d Accounts

The Clerk reported the up to date financial position of the council updating the accounts from the last meeting in March. The monthly bank reconciliation was agreed and supported.

Income reported at last meeting	£21,582.11	
<b>a) Receipts in the period:</b>		
Headstone	£85.00	
Honesty box	<u>£101.00</u>	
Total income for the period		<u>£186.00</u>
Revised 2022/23 income to 31st March 2023		£21,768.11

Expenditure reported to last meeting	£22,462.69	
<b>b) Payments in the period:</b>		
Scottish Water - Cemetery	£3.00	
1 & 1 Internet	£8.40	
Service Charge	£18.00	
Printroom	£101.00	
J.Robinson Salary March	£686.85	
HMRC	£171.80	
Sam Turner & Sons - Consumables	£48.47	
Holly Enisz - Toilet Cleaning Feb	£96.00	
J.Robinson - Expenses Feb/Mar	<u>£141.69</u>	
Total expenditure for the period		<u>£1,275.21</u>
Revised 2022/23 expenditure to 31st March 2023		£23,737.90

**c) Funds:**

Surplus/(Deficit) for Period (Income less Exp)	-£1,089.21
Funds B/Fwd From last meeting	<u>£46,194.99</u>
Funds C/Fwd to next meeting	£45,105.78

**Represented by:**

<b>Balance of Unity Trust a/c</b>	£45,105.78
<b>Skipton Bond</b> , Account Closed	<u>£0.00</u>
Total Funds as at 31st March 2023	£45,105.78

**Unpresented cheques**

**Invoices for Payment:**

M.Hague - Internal Audit Fee	£30.00	
TP Jones - Payroll Fee	£85.92	
YLCA Membership Fee	£328.00	
Holly Enisz - Toilet Cleaning March	£78.00	
Osmotherley Village Hall - March meeting	£20.00	
Printroom	£101.00	
J.Robinson - Expenses April	£12.99	
Inside Outside Services - Play Area Maintenance	£215.00	
MJW Property Services - Toilet leak repair	<u>£45.00</u>	
		<b>£915.91</b>

d) The final accounts for the 2022/23 financial year were presented by the Clerk. They have been audited by our internal auditor and approved. Council approved the accounts.

**OSMOTHERLEY AREA PARISH COUNCIL**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2022/23</u>
<b><u>GENERAL A/C INCOME</u></b>		
Refunds	£32.21	£12.21
Interest	£11.18	£47.66
Precept	£14,000.00	£14,300.00
VAT Refund	£1,588.46	£479.03
Public Conveniences - Honesty Box	£1,200.03	£862.80
Grants	£9,500.00	£2,500.00
Newsletter Advertising	£600.00	£1,362.00
Cemetery	£385.00	£1,620.00
Village Improvements	£584.41	£584.41
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>£27,901.29</u></b>	<b><u>£21,768.11</u></b>
<b><u>GENERAL A/C PAYMENTS</u></b>		
Clerk's Salary	£3,174.60	£3,434.60
Admin, Grants, Stationery, Chair's Exp, Legal/Audit Fees	£1,527.57	£2,232.26
Hire Charges	£60.60	£80.40
Subscriptions	£320.00	£324.00
Play Area Expenses	£115.80	£153.80
Insurance incl. Equipment Insurance	£474.91	£481.21
Grass Cutting Caretaker & Landscaping	£7,535.00	£7,462.00
Village Improvements	£3,963.46	£4,103.29
Public Conveniences	£3,112.28	£3,717.41
Cemetery	£269.50	£892.00
Capital Equipment, Repairs, St Peter's Clock, Drainage	£0.00	£0.00
Play Area Refurbishment	£1,044.00	£850.00
Grant Aided Projects:		
Public Conveniences	£0.00	£0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>£21,597.72</u></b>	<b><u>£23,730.97</u></b>
<b><u>BANK RECONCILIATION 2022/23</u></b>		
	<b><u>2021-2022</u></b>	<b><u>2022-2023</u></b>
Opening Bank Balances	£40,915.07	£47,068.64
Plus Income Received	£27,901.29	£21,768.11
Minus Expenditure	£21,597.72	£23,730.97
Unpresented cheques	£0.00	£0.00
Cash in hand	£0.00	£0.00
(Capital assets carried forward see below)		
<b>Figure reported at Annual Return</b>	<b><u>£47,218.64</u></b>	<b><u>£45,105.78</u></b>
Skipton Account balance at 31 March	£22,363.15	£0.00
Plus HSBC/Unity Trust Account Balance at 31 March	£24,705.49	£45,105.78
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b><u>£47,068.64</u></b>	<b><u>£45,105.78</u></b>
Plus credit for cheques presented this year from last year accounts	£150.00	£0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£47,218.64</u></b>	<b><u>£45,105.78</u></b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
Osmotherley Area Parish Council are responsible for the following assets :		
The Village Greens	War Memorial	Defibrillator X 2
The Cemetery	Bus Shelter	Clerk:
Public Conveniences	Church Walls	Lenovo Yoga Tab
Capital equipment	Village Cobbles	HP Printer
Village Hall	Public Conveniences	
Play Area Equipment	Village Signs X 4	
I certify that these statements present fairly the financial position of the Council and the income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2023		
<b>John Robinson, Clerk and Financial Officer</b>		

e) The external audit exemption certificate was signed by the Chairman following an explanation that for councils with a turnover of under £25,000 there was not a need to have an audit undertaken, saving the council the normal audit fee. A return would still be made to the external auditor. The council agreed for the Chairman to sign the document.

### **8. Any Other Business**

The Chairman presented a brief summary on a report that had been submitted by a formerly legally qualified resident regarding the definition and control of highway waste. Discussions ensued and it was agreed that it may be of some assistance to the Parish Council. The Clerk is to liaise with Highways at NYC and further discussion would take place next month. The full report is to be distributed electronically.

BR stated strongly and very clearly that if any business in the village did not follow the appropriate rules then it was incumbent upon the council to report any and all issues to the appropriate authorities.

### **9. Press Items**

It was agreed that the approved minutes be included on the website and a summary of the discussions at this meeting be included in the next available Messenger newsletter.

**10. Date of next meeting and AGM: Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 7.30pm in the Supper Room in the Village Hall, Osmotherley.**