



Bishop Wilton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held in Bishop Wilton Village Hall on the 22th November 2021 at 7:30pm – Meeting 11/2021

Present: Cllrs Stewart Berry, Leo Hammond, Ingrid Haywood (Chairman), Iain Rickatson, Paul Rigby, Justine Sangwin, Roy Sumpner, Sue King. The Clerk and 22 Members of the Public (MoP). Ward Councillor David Rudd was also in attendance.

- 1. Chairman's Welcome and Apologies:** Cllr Haywood welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were accepted from Cllr Vicki Kress.
Cllr Haywood addressed the Council in regards to item 8 on the agenda, explaining because of the unusual nature of the item, she had sought advice from ERYC Democratic services and the chairman of neighbouring Parish Councils on an appropriate process. Cllr Haywood explained and proposed the use of that process and the Council unanimously agreed to adopt it for item 8. Cllr Haywood explained that the result of agenda item 8 would be purely symbolic however it goes.
- 2. Code of Conduct:**
 - a) No pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests were declared.
 - b) No dispensations were granted.
 - c) The Council agreed to adopt the need to declare prejudicial declarations of interest as well as pecuniary and non-pecuniary.
 - Cllr Sumpner raised concerns that councillor's registers of interest were not on the Council's website and were not up to date. The Council agreed that this would be investigated and remedied.
- 3. Open Forum:** The meeting was suspended so MoPs could address the Council.
 - MoP 1 welcomed Cllr Rudd to the meeting.
 - MoP 2 stated they were glad to see that Parish Council agendas and minutes were being put on the Parish Council website in a timely manner. The MoP raised concerns about the conduct of Cllr Hammond in regards to previous advice he had given the Council and an email he had sent to Cllr Sumpner. Cllr Hammond responded to the points raised by the MoP and advised that if they or anyone else had an issue with his conduct, they should raise it with the Monitoring Officer at ERYC.
 - MoP 3 made a statement relating to agenda item 8. Stating that they felt Cllr Sumpner had made some good contributions to the Parish Council and Parish, however, raised concerns about his overall conduct which they felt had led to the

resignation of the Parish Clerk. They expressed the view that if the Council determined not to have confidence in Cllr Sumpner, he should do the right thing and resign.

- **MoP 4** stated they attended the previous Council meeting and raised their concerns that the Council had given the key to Worsendale Quarry to Halifax Estates. The MoP raised concern that a request they had made relating to this had not been recorded in the minutes of the **25th October 2021**. It was agreed that this would be corrected and added to the minutes. The MoP raised concern that they had seen no charges against Cllr Sumpner in relation to agenda item **8** before this meeting.

4. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on the 25th October 2021, with minor amendments agreed to items **4, 5** and **15** were adopted as a true record.

5. Ward Councillor's Report:

Cllr Rudd reported:

- 99% of care home residents in North Yorkshire and the Vale of York had now been vaccinated.
- 34% of 12 to 15 year olds had now been vaccinated.
- Second doses are now available for 16 to 27 year olds.
- Across England 1 million 12 year olds had been vaccinated.
- Across England 3,500 schools had vaccination clinics.
- **Cllr Rudd** asked people to please get vaccinated.
- There is a need for Foster Parents. If anyone would like to volunteer, contact 01482 39500
- Candidates for the UK Youth Parliament are wanted. If anyone would like to apply, contact 01482 391450. The elections will be in February.
- ERYC Digital Team have won a national award for their work.
- ERYC will be implementing free parking in currently charged carparks in the run up to Christmas, starting on the 25th November 2021.
- Hardship Grants are available.

Cllr Hammond reported:

- He had taken up the issue of the broken streetlight on Garrowby Road with the Street lighting team at ERYC. They had no record of a complaint that it was broken, however, will now take action to repair it as soon as possible.
- He had requested a new safety barrier on Garrowby Road to replace the hedges which were removed and improve highway safety. ERYC Road Safety team will now look into the possibility of this and find funding. ERYC is also monitoring the road as there is concern that the water running across the road is a hazard. If the situation does not improve, ERYC Highways will look to remedy it.
- Updated Council on his campaign to get improved winter gritting for rural areas like Bishop Wilton. He is currently awaiting a report on what the additional cost will be to implement an earlier gritting time for secondary gritting routes (like Pocklington Lane) so that the roads are gritted in time for commuters and school

buses, once he has this he will try to secure the funding as part of ERYC's budget review in February 2022.

- He asked residents to please use the 747 bus when possible, as whilst its timings are not perfect, it is a valuable asset for our area and if we do not use it we will lose it.
- ERYC will be launching a grant scheme for the Queens Jubilee in early 2022 which Parish and Town Councils will be able to apply for to hold events in their communities.
- **Cllr King** asked if the streetlight on Garrowby Road had been disconnected. **Cllr Hammond** agreed to raise this with ERYC.

6. Matter Arising: Cllr Haywood asked Cllr Sumpner for the advert for the sale of Worsednale Quarry which he presented at the last meeting and had agreed to pass to Cllr Hammond so that he could raise it with ERYC, but had not yet done so. **Cllr Sumpner** agreed to provide it.

7. Clerk Situation: Cllr Rigby updated the Council on the process of recruiting a new clerk. He intends to draft a contract and the brief for the role to be presented to and approved by the Council. Once this happens the role will be advertised.

An exit interview had been held by the Personnel Committee with the Clerk. **Cllr Rigby** read a statement from the interview with the permission of the Clerk, which stated the reasons for her resignation. It stated the conduct of Cllr Sumpner was a significant factor which led to her resignation.

Cllr Rigby thanked Cllr Hammond for taking on the role of Acting Clerk.

8. Vote of No Confidence: in line with the procedure agreed and adopted at agenda item **1**, **Cllr Hammond** read out a written statement on behalf of Cllr Kress (see **appendix 1**). **Cllr Sumpner** then made a verbal address to the Council.

The meeting was suspended to allow **Cllr Rudd** to speak. **Cllr Rudd** expressed that he did not see the point in this agenda item.

The meeting was suspended to allow **Cllr Hammond** to speak as a ward councillor. **Cllr Hammond** clarified to Cllr Rudd why this was an agenda item, in that it had been requested by Cllr Kress at the meeting **25th October 2021**.

The meeting was suspended to allow the **Clerk** to speak.

A vote was then held to determine if the Council had confidence in Cllr Sumpner as a Parish Councillor.

The Council determined that it does not have confidence in Cllr Sumpner as a Bishop Wilton Parish Councillor.

9. Finance:

a) Current bank balance noted as **£18,310.90** (as of October 2021).

b) NS&I balance could not be noted as a statement had not been available at the time of publishing the agenda, however, it was noted that the balance does not usually change.

c) Receipt of **£599.88** VAT Reclaim noted.

d) Agreed to pay **£2,252.21** to ERYC for April 2021 to March 2022 Street Lighting Service Level Agreement.

- e) Agreed a budget of **£150** for the purchase of gritting salt. Cllrs Rigby and Rickatson to fill Gowthorpe Grit Bin once purchased.
- f) Agreed to pay **£175** to Parish Pump.
- g) Agreed to pay **£120** for Christmas Tree.
- h) Agreed to pay **£53.97** for Christmas Tree Lights.

10. Planning:

- a) App Ref **21/02801/PLF**, Replacement of three chimney stacks in roof at front, Church View Cottage 59-61 Main Street Bishop Wilton, East Riding of Yorkshire, YO42 1SR – **Full planning permission granted with conditions**. Decision Notice **Noted**.

11. Mid-Year Budget Review 2021: The Council noted that so far this year **£3836.90 (plus the payments agreed above)** had been spent. It was agreed that this was well within the agreed budget, so no concerns were raised.

12. Village Green: Cllr **Rigby** reported he is still to write scope for tender.

13. Training: agreed budget of maximum **£25** per councillor to be spent on sending those councillors who wish to, to attend the **Being a Good Councillor** training sessions on the 5th and 6th January 2022.

Agreed that it would be advised for all councillors, current and future to go on the above training session if they wish to.

14. Parish Council Website: Cllr **Sangwin** updates the Council on the process to establish a new and improved Parish Council Website. She has met with the MoP who has kindly agreed to create the website free of charge and provided them as scope of what is needed based off of the legal requirements for Parish Council websites.

The Council agreed a budget of a maximum of £10 per month to be spent on a domain name/online host page for the new website.

It was agreed that the MoP would now look to create the website and then present it to the Council for approval before it goes live.

15. Christmas Tree:

- a) Cllr **Haywood** reported that she continues to try and get approval from ERYC to use the remainder of the Do it for East Yorkshire Community Grant the Council received for the Street Party to pay for the Christmas Tree.

- b) The Christmas Tree has been purchased and should be in position on the Green by the 2nd December 2021.

- c) The Council agreed to purchase the additional needed Christmas Tree Lights, as agreed at agenda item **9 h**).

16. Worsendale Quarry Letter:

- a) The draft letter constructed by Cllrs Hammond and Haywood was approved. This can be viewed at **Appendix 2**.

- b) It was agreed that the letter would be distributed to all those who contacted the Council about the Quarry. It was also agreed to put the letter on the Parish Council Notice Boards and Website.

17. Western Parishes Liaison Meeting: Cllr **Hammond** explained that this is a meeting usually held every three months where all 36 Parish Councils in Wolds Weighton and Pocklington Provincial can get together with all 6 Ward Councillors to discuss and try

to resolve area wide issues. It is also a good forum for Parish Councils to get to know each other and discuss ideas. The next meeting is on the 25th November 2021. It was agreed that Cllr Sumpner would attend on behalf of Bishop Wilton Parish Council.

18. Platinum Jubilee: agreed to defer to next meeting.

19. Community Issues:

- **Cllr Sangwin** informed the Council that Yorkshire Water works were due to take place in the area, so if anyone has any water pressure issues, that is most likely why.
- **Cllr Haywood** advised that she had been contacted by the Women's Institute (WI) about a request regarding tree planting in the Parish.
Cllr Haywood had also been contacted by the Church Council, who request permission to do their Christmas Draw on the Village Green. The Council agreed to this.
- **Cllr Berry** asked if the Winter Maintenance Volunteer WhatsApp Group had been established yet. **Cllr Haywood** confirmed that it had. **Cllr Berry** asked to be added to the group. He will be.

20. To note correspondence: noted.

21. Agenda Items for next meeting:

- WI Tree Planting.
- Playground Report
- Write to Halifax Estate regard update on Quarry situation.

22. Date of Next Meeting: 24th January 2022.

Meeting Closed: 9:40