

PARISH COUNCIL OF BISHOP WILTON
Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held online
Monday 19th April 2021 at 7.30 PM - Meeting 4/21

Present: Cllrs: Stewart Berry, Pat Black, Leo Hammond, Ingrid Haywood, (Chair), Sue King, Iain Rickatson, Paul Rigby, Roy Sumpner, Ward Cllr David Rudd and the clerk. Five members of the public (MoP).

1. Welcome and Apologies: Cllr Rudd gave apologies. Cllr Hammond informed he would be late arriving due to other ERYC commitments. Cllr Haywood welcomed all and advised the meeting would be recorded. She then read the following statement:

“Sadly, this month, I need to inform you, that this month, I have been informed that a member of this council made a complaint about the way I handled the February meeting to ERNLLCA. Both the statement I made and the personnel committee changes. This resulted in ERNLLCA spending a considerable amount of time with the clerk checking the agenda/minutes and statement as well as other items of process completed by this council. The bad news is that once again this has cost the council time and money, in terms of how long they took with the clerk. The good news is that we have been given a clean bill of health with minor changes to make in the coming year. Indeed the statement I made at the beginning of that meeting has been praised and is now being given to other councils who are having similar issues.

To those of you who feel I am not acting professionally and in accordance with our council ethos, then the correct place to complain is to Democratic Services at the East Riding and they will assist you. You can also ask members of this council to back you and pass a vote of no confidence in my chairmanship.

To clarify though, when we have made a decision at council that has been democratically decided on we cannot have further discussion on it by email after the meeting. Please though if you confused by a point and would like to clarify your understanding, please do not hesitate to contact me.”

2. Code of Conduct: a) Cllr Hammond declared a non-pecuniary interest in all planning applications in his capacity of ERYC Planning Committee member on his late arrival. b) No Dispensations were granted.
3. Open forum: To resolve that the meeting is temporarily suspended to allow for a period of public participation: A Member of the public made a complaint about individual cutting of the parish green citing the need to conserve wildlife and meet the needs of all parishioners around this common land. Different viewpoints were heard with various opinions and facts laid bare. It was agreed that the best way forward is to consider the issue and place on the agenda as a specific item to achieve a balanced decision.

4. Minutes of Meeting of 15th March 2021: The Chair read out the following statement:

“I am concerned that the clerk’s skills are not being recognised and she is not being trusted to do her job. Please, if you have issues with the accuracy of the minutes – then let the whole council know the issue and then we can vote on the amendment at the next council meeting. The clerk is the only one of us trained to complete and issue minutes. I, personally like the way she does it. All that needs minuting is the decisions made. If you take a look at East Riding minutes there are no names or conversations just agenda item and decision made. We are one council and should act as such. Please can we be, Supportive, Encouraging, kind, less forthright and far less judgemental. If a MOP raises an item with one of you then they will know it has been discussed if they read the minutes or you go back to them. I do not want the clerks time wasting with immaterial changes. Equally she does not use recordings and we don’t pay her to minute a two hour meeting and then listen to a 2 hour recording. I am satisfied that the minutes provided are representative of the decisions this council make.”

Two councillors were in disagreement with the minutes saying they were inaccurate, lacked transparency and, on a continued basis, do not allow the public to track progress on issues they might raise. Majority opinion is the information is sufficient and members of the parish have the option to attend any meeting for transparency and updates. **Minutes adopted and approved 7: 2** - Prop Cllr Rickatson, seconded Cllr Rigby.

5. Ward Councillors Reports: The Clerk read out a report from Cllr Hammond (see appendix).

6. Matters Arising: A motion was proposed to publish the council's Action List, on the website and noticeboards, with the Minutes. Discourse concluded that the Action List exists to aid councillors in their agreed duties and facilitate the efficiency of meetings. Proposal fell with no seconder.
7. Finance
 - a) The current account bank balance: £12,298.58 – noted.
 - b) The NS&I balance: £3,430.77 – noted. Clerk reported this is an investment account with no online access and a written notice period of ten days required to access funds
 - c) To approve ERNLLCA invoice Si-1082: £326.17
 - d) To approve village hall payments for use in 2020: £110.00
 - e) To approve the final budget for 2021/22
 - f) Update from the clerk about the status of the bank card request – NatWest sent a letter asking that the enclosed form be signed, as proof of signature, before a card would be released and approved. The envelope did not hold a form. Clerk wrote back to inform NatWest and included a signature in the hope this would suffice. Cllr Rigby stated he has a nearly new laptop bag for the clerk's use, at no charge to the parish. Bank card required before laptop can be purchased. **All Approved: Prop Cllr Haywood, seconded Cllr King. Agreed.**
8. Planning:
 - a) Notification of decision on: 20/01168/PLF / Albanwise LTD, The Airfield, Full Sutton/ Replacement Grain Storage. / **Permission granted subject to conditions.** – Noted.
 - b) To consider 21/00545 /Variation of Condition 8 (approved plans) of planning permission 20/03397/VAR (Variation of Condition 7 (approved plans) of planning permission 18/00339/PLF (revised scheme of 16/00085/PLF) to allow design modifications) Location: Thistle Hill Belthorpe Lane Bishop Wilton YO42 1SB / Variation of Conditions **Agreed: No objections as long as not used for permanent residence.**
 - c) To receive Third Party Decision Notification for 21/00486/TCA / Crown lift 1 no. Larch tree (T1) Location: Larch House Main Street Bishop Wilton YO42 1SR / **No objections raised** - Noted
 - d) To receive Planning Tree Third Party Decision Notification for 21/00376/TCA / BISHOP WILTON CONSERVATION AREA - West Field House Bray Gate / **Raised no objections** – Noted.
 - e) To receive: Notification of decision for 20/04289/PLF/Land East of Wilton Lodge Pocklington Lane Bishop Wilton/ Change of use for siting of 5 holiday lodges etc / **Refused** – Noted.
 - f) To consider 21/00865/PLF of extension to existing spray shop and office building, erection of an extension to workshop and erection of a building for use as staff facilities and offices / Rapide Tankers Limited. The Airfield Common Lane Full Sutton YO41 1HS / Full Planning Permission – No objections from council.
9. AGM, officially named the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council – To be face to face in Bishop Wilton Village Hall on Monday 17th May at 7.00pm
10. Quarry: **Resolved** – Under ownership of Halifax Estates. ERYC contacted Land Registry and confirmed the estate been the owner since the 1970s before which the quarry belonged to Flat Top House. There are two 'rights of access' comprising highways and water authorities. In the interest of safety, the estate does not wish for anyone else to gain access. In his capacity as Ward Councillor, Cllr Hammond took up the research, as requested but stated the estate should have been taken at their word, commending their strong community relations and affirming their unique asset to the parish and ward. **Agreed** – return quarry keys to estate and remove signage relating to the parish council and clerk. Leave health and safety signs, provided by the parish council in situ. ACTION: Write letter to estate to return keys. IH and Clerk
11. Resident Survey: deferred to item 13.

12. Community Recovery Grant – Councillors discussed various ideas. **Agreed:** A community fundraiser to be held to encompass as many ideas and local groups as possible. Proposed by Cllr Haywood, seconded by Cllr Rigby. ACTION: Draft letter and send to parish groups. Bring any further proposals to the next meeting. (IH & Clerk).
13. Parish logo competition – (Also item 11) **Agreed:** Amalgamate Resident Survey, news about parish activity and logo competition. ACTION: In June put something together to go to all residents (IH & VK)
14. Dog Fouling – **Agreed:** Add something to Item 13 Proposed Cllr Haywood, seconded by Cllr Rigby.
15. Councillor Code of Conduct – **Agreed:** Adapt Local Government version. Proposed by Cllr Haywood, seconded by Cllr Rigby.
16. Community Issues and any arising items for the next agenda
 - a) Letter from resident about grass-cutting: Discussed in Open Forum. **Agreed:** Resident survey (item 13) to include questions for community. Proposed by Cllr Hammond, seconded by Cllr Rickatson. ACTION: Email MoP who raised the issue to explain the action to be taken (Clerk)
 - b) Letter from resident about the BW playground surface: The black surface of the play surface has apparently been leaving marks on children’s skin and clothing. ACTION: Seek warranty for playground surface in archives (RS & Clerk). Go and check the playground surface (IR)
 - c) Notice of AGM for BW village hall - Noted.
17. Correspondence – Noted.
18. Date of next meeting: Monday 17th May

Appendix: Bishop Wilton Ward Councillors Report - Cllr Hammond:

1. Potholes on Braygate - this has been completed.
2. Potholes on Belthorpe Lane and Bolton Lane (Snakes Lane) - I chased this up with highways and can confirm that both roads need to be repaired by the road master machine as the majority of potholes/defects are too small to be filled by hand. The machine is currently in our part of the East Riding and either will have already done, or will be done over the coming weeks.
3. Dredged Ditch Material on Braygate Verges –ERYC Highways have inspected this and do not have any concerns from a health and safety perspective. Land Owners have a legal right to leave dredged material on the bank of the ditches, so this is fine from an ERYC perspective.
4. Works carried out by Halifax Estates next to Garrowby Road - I can report, ERYC have inspected the works and raise no concerns. In fact the view of the council is that they are beneficial to the area - removing the hedge allows sun to get to the road surface, which in winter will reduce the chances of ice and melting it faster when it does form - a clear advantage in highway safety terms. Installing the ditches will help road drainage, which has been an issue on this road for sometime, again helpful to reduce the likelihood and intensity of ice - improving highway safety. The estate has also created a new area of planting which clearly has environmental benefits, mitigating the loss of the hedge.
5. Proposed works by Halifax Estate to remove and replace Worsendale Tree Plantation - I have spoken both with ERYC's Trees and Landscaping Team and The Forestry Commission about this. The Trees and Landscaping Team confirmed that the woodland is not protected by a conservation area or tree protection order, so the land owner does not need permission from the council to carry out works or remove the trees. They may require a license from The Forestry Commission. Having spoken I spoken also to the them, they informed me, whilst they had not at that time (March 2020) had any correspondence from the estate on this matter, they had full confidence that the estate takes the management of its woodland areas very seriously and always follows the correct procedure, so if they do need a license the Commission is confident the estate will ask for one. The Commission also confirmed that they have been aware that this ash woodland has been full of Ash Die Back since early last year. The Estate informed the PC that the reason they wish to fell the woodland is because it is infected with Ash Die Back. The Forestry Commission has backed this up. Therefore, the Estate is following the correct procedure, and to my knowledge always does.
6. Damage to Public Bridleway, South Lane - as promised, I have requested a site visit with Sam McGivern from ERYCs PROW Team to look at this and see what we can do. The PROW team is extremely busy at the moment, so she has still not been able to commit to a time. She hopes to be able to inspect the path herself this week.
7. Worsendale Quarry Ownership - I asked ERYC who owns the land. They contacted the Land Registry and the Land Registry confirmed that they Quarry is the property/part of the property which makes up Halifax Estate. According to the Land Registry document, the Quarry was registered as the estates property in 1976. Before that it was registered as part of the property of Flat Top House (which in 1976 was also owned by Lord Halifax). Therefore, the Quarry is owned by Halifax Estate (as they told us!) and not the Parish Council.
8. Junction Sign on A166 at the Balk Youlthorpe - I am still waiting for Highways to get back to me about this.