

Church Fenton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting – ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of Church Fenton Parish Council held on Tuesday 27 July 2021 at Church Fenton Village Hall.

In attendance: Cllr Sam Charlston (Chair), Cllr Jess Cooper, Cllr Stewart Ferris, Cllr Andrew Mason, Cllr Jo Mason, Cllr Michelle Seguss, Cllr Ross Higham, Georgina Ashton, Clerk to the Council.

Meeting started at 7.28pm

21/50. To note Apologies and Approve Reasons for Absence
None

21/51. To note any Declarations of Interest and to approve any Dispensation requests
None.

21/52. Public Participation Period (no longer than 30 minutes)
No members of the public present.

21/53. To approve Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Church Fenton Parish Council held on 15 July 2021.

Resolution: It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting which took place on 15 July 2021 were a true and accurate record.

21/54. To confirm Date and time of next meeting – Thursday 16th September 2021 at 7.30pm, Village Hall, Main Street, Church Fenton.

At the conclusion of this part of the Agenda, the Chairman will move the resolution:

21/55. To consider the exclusion of the Press and Public under The Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 sec 1, due to the confidential nature of the business.

Resolution: It was resolved under Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting as publicity would be prejudicial to public interest because of the nature of the business to be transacted.

21/56. To consider the report and recommendations from Monitoring Officer, Selby District Council with regard to Code of Conduct complaints (note: confidential item under s1 of the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960).

The Chair opened up the meeting for a general discussion amongst all council members and the Clerk to discuss the recommendations outlined in the Monitoring Officer's letter dated 10 June 2021. The Chair led the start of the discussion as the letter implied that the councillor concerned had apologised to the three complainants. The councillor corrected this by saying they believed they had apologised to either the Chair or the Clerk in writing. The outcomes and recommendations of the letter were then discussed in turn with the following resolutions.

Resolution: The Councillor to provide written, individualised apologies via email to the three complainants, with a detailed apology to the Clerk within 2 weeks of the date of this meeting.

Resolution: The Councillor to attend either (YLCA training) Off to a Flying Start or Spreading your Wings and Standards of Behaviour expected of someone holding public office, such as a Councillor. This course to be attended at the next available opportunity and in any event before December 2021. All three new councillors offered to do some training and the Clerk has previously agreed to complete the CILCA qualification before May 2023.

Resolution: Clerk to arrange a mediation and education meeting between YLCA officers and full council with the Clerk before 30 November 2021 (ideally a Thursday evening 7.30-8.30pm). This would include topics such as Declarations of Interest, understanding the difference between Cllr and officers roles and adopting a Councillor/Officer Protocol. Clerk to send round documents already available on the google drive eg Role of the Councillor and the Clerk and the relationship between the two.

Resolution: A staffing committee to be formed to arrange and appoint a Grievance Panel to consider the formal grievance made by the Clerk as an employee of the Council, against the Councillor. The Staffing Committee will be chaired by Cllr Ferris, with Cllr J Mason and Cllr Cooper. The grievance panel hearing will take place before 30 September 2021 and if required will provide outcomes and recommendations.

The meeting closed at 8.46pm.