

## Church Fenton Parish Council

### Minutes of ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING held on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023

In attendance: Cllr Charlston, Cllr Higham, Cllr Andrew Mason (Chair), Cllr Jo Mason, Cllr Seguss, Cllr Whyte and Robin Harris, Clerk to the Council.

NYC Councillor Andrew Lee

In addition, 15 members of the public including Paul Spink, Chair Ulleskelf Parish Council

Meeting opened at 18:59

23/66 **To note Apologies and Approve Reasons for Absence**

Stewart Ferris – unwell. **Accepted**

23/67 **To note any Declarations of Interest and to approve any dispensation requests**

**None**

23/68 Public participation period

A resident spoke about the proposed land acquisition project and suggested it was expensive. Another resident agreed.

A resident spoke to outline the history of the Shop and the overage deed. The statement will be passed to the Clerk together with details about land adjacent to the Village Hall.

23/69 **To receive representative reports**

1. Mr K Mather, MP for Selby & Ainsty

Keir introduced himself and said that he looks forward to working with Church Fenton and Ulleskelf Councils.

Cllr Seguss described the problems with the sewage pumping station which appears to be under-capacity and fails frequently. She asked Keir if he could help to put pressure on Yorkshire Water.

A resident spoke about the government support for Israel, which she does not support. She finds the PC meetings to be not a pleasant place and feels that this should change.

Cllr Higham asked Keir about monthly surgeries – he will be holding these in several local venues as well as online.

Cllr Charlston raised concern about the LEA outstanding planning applications relating to HGVs and reminded the meeting that whilst focusing on existing applications, it is also important to monitor new ones that could bring further problems for residents.

Paul Spink, Chair of Ulleskelf Parish Council updated the meeting on the status of their efforts with NYC, the police and (possibly) Keir Mather together with NYC Councillor Andrew Lees. A resident added to the concern about the planning process which appears not to be working well and to a lack of enforcement. This was amplified by Cllr J Mason.

2. Cllr A Mason summarised the previous discussions with Keir Mather, MP and asked Cllr Lee what can be done. Cllr Lee is trying to arrange a multi-agency meeting including highways, planning, enforcement, police and representatives from parish councils within two weeks. Cllr A Mason suggested the loads are over-hanging the footways and therefore are not legal and should be stopped immediately. Cllr Lee said this is a police matter. There was then a discussion about over-sized loads requiring a movement order which would be issued by NYC. Cllr Lee will ask NYC to consider issuing stop order or to withdraw movement orders immediately.



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Cllr Seguss raised concern about the waste pumping station and pipe infrastructure. The pipes have failed several times this year and, on each occasion, sewage has to be removed in tankers accessing the pumping station alongside the children's playground.

3. To receive an update from the Highways Working Group  
Cllr Lee clarified that the movement orders are required for the haulage company and not LEA. Other than the HGV issues above, the major concern in the village is parking on the railway bridge. There is poor visibility for vehicles joining Station Road from side roads / car park. The access road to the station car park has been resurfaced. Signs on the village entry on Ash Lane were damaged in an RTA.
4. To receive an update from the Christmas Working Group  
Cllr Seguss read a report which is attached to these minutes.
5. To receive an update from the Environment Working Group  
Experts within the group confirmed that everything they could envisage being required to make use of the land under consideration for purchase could be achieved without vehicular access.
6. To receive an update from the Public Rights of Way Group  
Nothing to report (Cllr Ferris not present)

23/70 **To approve minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Church Fenton Parish Council held on 14th September 2023**  
**Resolution: Approved (unanimous)**

23/71 Planning

1. **To consider applications received and resolve on recommendations to be made to North Yorkshire Council Planning Authority**
  - a. ZG2023/0983/TPO, Land North Off Gate Bridge, Main Street, Church Fenton. Crown lift by 6 metres and removal of 6 limbs to 1 No Sycamore (T1), reduce 1 No branch by 3 metres to 1 No Elm (T2), crown lift by 6 metres and remove several limbs to 1 No Sycamore (T3), Crown lift by 6 metres and removal of 3 limbs to 1 No Sycamore (T4), Removal of 5 limbs to 1 No Sycamore (T5), reduce 2 large lower limbs and crown lift by 6 metres to 1 No Willow (T6), remove one trunk and approximately 7 limbs to 1 No Sycamore (T7) and fell 2 No Elm trees protected by TPO 8/1985

**Comments: None**

2. To note applications approved and declined
  - a. ZG2023/0377/HP Mr Marshall. Erection of single storey rear extension, 39 Sandwath Drive, Church Fenton, Tadcaster – PERMITTED

3. **To consider any planning enforcement issues**

There are multiple outstanding questions about activities at LEA that seem to be outside of planning permissions. It is very difficult / impossible for residents to determine which consent an HGV is operating under and therefore whether it is permitted. Residents are providing photographic evidence to support their complaints but the determination of what is or is not within approvals can normally only be confirmed by Enforcement monitoring activity.

A recent email from Enforcement mentioned an unspecified complaint about aircraft activity with a suggestion that the Council may wish to support it. Details were requested but not received – Clerk to ask again.



23/72 Finance

1. To note the finance report
  - a. Bank reconciliation – Q2
  - b. Payments
  - c. Budget monitor
  - d. VAT Q2 Submission
  
2. To note that preparation of a 2023/24 budget has commenced. Please provide information on any items that need to be included (on-going expenditure will be calculated and proposed by the Clerk).
  
3. **To resolve to delegate to the Clerk the authority to purchase items for the Christmas Working Group from the donations that are ringfenced – to date:**
  - a. **Christmas Lighting £269.33**
  - b. **Christmas event materials £88.98****Resolution: Approved (unanimous)**

23/73 Policies and procedures

1. To receive an update from the Clerk of options to bring the website into compliance with accessibility requirements  
There are 3 broad options – upgrade the current site, re-architect the site technically based on the current requirements (Joe Miller will help put this together) or buy a site to our requirements from a third party. Clerk will work with Joe Miller to summarise the costs and benefits of these options for the next meeting.

23/74 Environment

1. **To consider and resolve on the next steps on the suggestion of buying land adjacent to the Church**  
A number of observations and concerns were expressed by some of the councillors whilst others saw the project as a potential legacy for generations to come with many positive aspects.  
Motion: The Parish council should accept the offer from CFCS Ltd and progress to purchase the land at the rear of the church.  
**Resolution: Not approved (For Cllrs J & A Mason; Against Cllrs Charlston, Higham, Seguss & Whyte)**
  
2. **To receive recommendations from the Playground Group on repairs needed to both playgrounds and to resolve on repairs to be made.**  
One comprehensive proposal has been received with a detailed quote. Two more quotes are pending from HAGS and Streetscape. These will be brought to the November meeting together with recommendations.  
Motion: To relocate the picnic benches and replace the springer on the Sandwath Playpark (£673) as soon as possible.  
**Resolution: Approved (unanimous)**



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3. **To note the response from LEA to the Council's request to initiate dialogue for mutual benefit and to resolve on any further steps to be taken.**  
**Motion:** Write back asking if LEA would be willing to meet with four representatives of the Council  
**Resolution: Approved (For: Cllrs Charlston, Higham, Seguss, Whyte, Against: Cllrs A & J Mason)**  
**Motion:** To nominate Cllrs Ferris, Higham, Seguss & Whye to represent the Council.  
**Resolution: Approved (For: Cllr Charlston, Higham, Seguss, Whyte – Against: Cllrs A & J Mason)**
4. **To consider whether to make any arrangements for the D-Day 80 event and resolve on any actions**  
**Motion:** To write to all community groups in the village to explore if there is any interest in helping to organise an event.  
**Resolution: Approved (For: Cllrs Charlston, Higham, A Mason, Seguss & Whyte – Against: Cllr J Mason)**

23/75 To note correspondence received not covered on the agenda

1. Local Police News letter
2. Letter to NYC re change of use of LEA from an Ulleskelf resident
3. Follow-up letter about extending hard standing and possible breach of conditions
4. Cambridge & Counties – interest rate increased from 4.3% to 4.5%
5. Zero Hour – Climate and Ecology Bill
6. NYC – requested precept for 24/25 before 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023
7. NYC – Housing strategy consultation
8. Citizen's Advice asking for donations
9. Resident – path between Barkston Ask and Church Fenton
10. Resident – Static caravans passing through Church Fenton
11. Resident – HGVs passing through Ulleskelf & CF
12. Resident – parking on railway bridge
13. Resident – asking if letters to the Council could be read out

23/76 To note agenda items for next meeting

Playgroup repairs

D Day Event

Supporting Citizens Advice

Councillors Reports

Cllr A Mason has had two meetings with the Chair of Ulleskelf PC (Paul Spink) looking for areas of cooperation. A report together with next steps will be circulated to councillors.

23/77 **To confirm date and time of Ordinary Council Meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 at 7:00pm in the METHODIST HALL, Main Street, Church Fenton**

Meeting closed at 21:06

*Robin Harris, Proper Officer, Church Fenton Parish Council*  
12th October 2023

