

**Austwick Parish Council
Meeting 1 2017-18 - Monday 3rd April 2017
Minutes**

Present: Cllrs Peter Goold (Chairman), Kate Smith (Vice-Chairman), David Dewhirst, Ian Smith, and Barbara Tibbatts.

In attendance: Marijke Hill (Parish Clerk), Kate Hilditch (YDNPA's Area Manager Southern Dales) and two members of the public

The Parish Council allocated a reasonable period of time at the start of the meeting to allow registered electors the opportunity to ask questions and / or make statements that relate to the work of the Council.

Public Participation: an issue relating to YDNPA maintenance was raised and discussed under item 1.7.f

1.1 Apologies for absence None received.

1.2 Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interests

a. Councillors did not record any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) or other interests in relation to items on this Agenda.

b. No requests were made for dispensations in connection with items on this Agenda.

1.3 District and County Councillors' Reports: none received

Police Report:

PC Barbara Parsons of North Yorkshire Police **reported** at the Annual Parish Meeting that seven incidents had happened in and near Austwick in the last month. These were: two alarm activations; one report of rogue fish sellers; one stopped vehicle without vehicle registration, one minor injury Road Traffic Collision on the A65; one diesel theft and one reported suspicious vehicle. PC Parsons reiterated that the parish is a safe area and that crime remains low. Residents are encouraged to report anything suspicious to telephone 101.

1.4 Minutes of Meeting 8 2016-17 (20th February 2017)

The Council **resolved** that the minutes of the Austwick Parish Council meeting held on 20th February 2017 should be confirmed and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Peter Goold, as a true and accurate record.

1.5 Matters from previous meetings minutes not otherwise included on the Agenda

a. Item 8.6.c: YDNPA's Southern Forum Meeting. Cllrs. Kate Smith and Barbara Tibbatts **reported** that they would attend the meeting on 19th April in Grassington and that no topics had been forwarded for inclusion on the agenda.

1.6 Village matters other than maintenance

a. Objection to proposed removal of payphone
The Council had discovered a BT notice in the village telephone kiosk stating that BT proposed to remove it and a consultation period had commenced with CDC as the responsible body. The Council had objected to the discontinuation of the service on the grounds that it provides an essential service for visitors and for emergencies and it had objected to the removal of the kiosk on the ground that it has important historical value.

1.7 Parish maintenance matters

a. dog fouling on footpaths

Cllr Dewhirst **reported** that he continued in his endeavours to agree with CDC that they would replace the existing two dog bins and provide a new bin for the centre of the village. The Council **confirmed** that any further initiatives should await the outcome from these discussions.

b. improvements to Graystonber Lane lay-by

Cllr. Goold **reported** that Mr Shaun Wilson from NYCC's Estates Department will provide a further response in four to six weeks' time in connection with the future maintenance of this area.

- c. repairs to bus shelter railings
The council was **informed** that these repairs will be carried out by Cllr. Dewhirst at his soonest convenience.
- d. potholes on the Austwick to Helwith Bridge road
The Council had **received** a reply from Mr Richard Pennell of NYCC Legal and Democratic Services Department stating that NYCC does not dispute that the Austwick to Helwith Bridge road, including the verges, is Highway Maintainable at Public Expense. However, at this stage, the Highway Officer initially and the Maintenance Manager subsequently deemed the potholes not damaged enough to action a repair and that the requested repair is for 'verge overrun'. The Council **agreed** that it should write again to Mr Pennell to reiterate the Council's concern for all users of the highway as there is no footway. The Council is of the opinion that it is the basic duty of NYCC to decide the most appropriate means of repair and to manage risks to user safety in the interim, irrespective of whether the area is metalled/part of the carriageway or is the verge/footway. Cllr Kate Smith would draft an appropriate letter to Mr Pennell for the Clerk to send, with copies to North Yorkshire Highways Area 5 in Skipton and also to Cllr David Ireton.
- e. other issues relating to NYCC Highways
The Council was **informed** that the sycamore saplings on the road bridge near Wharfe at the junction with White Stone Lane will be removed as part of NYCC Programmed Sapling Removal Works and a white line has been painted around them.
- f. issues relating to YDNPA
In addition to outstanding issues mentioned under minute 8.7.f the Council **agreed** that the signs on the fingerpost on the junction of Graystonber Lane and Wood Lane should be replaced as the two signs are unreadable. The clerk was asked to report this to the newly appointed YDNPA Area Ranger in due course.
Ms Sarah Wiltshire **reported** to the Council that the broken gate into the woods at Feizor Nick has been repaired.
- g. other lengthsman duties or parish maintenance matters
No further lengthsman duties or parish maintenance matters were reported.

1.8 Finance

- a. The total balance of the HSBC current account on 28th February 2017 as £6,685.87 comprising £5,015.87 parish council monies and £1,670.00 AED funds was **noted**.
- b. **Resolved:** to approve Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2016/17 of the Annual Return for the Year ended 31 March 2017.
- c. **Resolved:** to approve payment of £24.00 to Bob Evans for 6 weeks of bus shelter cleaning.
- d. **Resolved:** to approve payment of £195.00 to YLCA for Membership of Craven Branch 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018.
- e. The Council considered subscription to Parish Online Mapping and it **resolved** to not subscribe.
- f. **Resolved:** to approve payment of £192.94 for February and March salary each and £53.30 for stationary and mileage expenses from 15 December 2016 to 31 March 2017 to Marijke Hill.
- g. The Council considered a monthly payment for expenses to the clerk and it **resolved** to approve a payment of £10.00 per month for expenses; £6.00 for broadband, line rental and telephone costs and £4.00 for working from home with effect from 1st April 2017.
- h. The Council reviewed the clerk's salary and it **resolved** that an increase to NJC scale SCP 20 to £10,099 should be approved with effect from 1st April 2017.
- i. The Council had **received** the transparency obligations for smaller parish councils and it **resolved** that the list of all items of expenditure above £100.00 in the financial year 2016/17

should be approved.

- j. The Council had **received** guidance notes for the Transparency Fund application form and it **resolved** that websites maintenance costs and staff costs to keep compliant with the transparency regulations are the two items that should be approved for a bid for funding.
- k. There were no other financial issues to consider.

1.9 Planning

a. Applications

The Council had not received any planning applications.

b. Decisions

The Council **noted** the following decisions by the YDNPA Planning Authority:

1. C/04/122C/LB variation of Conditions 2 and 8 of C/04/122B/LB to amend the scheme details and to use aluminium guttering instead of cast iron, Battle Hill, Main Street, Austwick.
Approved with conditions
2. F100106: application for work to protected trees to fell 3 pine trees and carry out works to 1 other within the grounds of Woodland Heights, Town End Lane, Austwick.
Given consent for: removal of the lowest scaffold branch on a scots pine overhanging the road; crown cleaning of 3 x pine trees; removal of a sycamore on the edge of the woodland area that is affected by honey fungus.
Refused: works to completely remove the 3 fully mature pine trees in front of the property.

The Council **noted** that the following applications have **not** yet been **decided**:

3. C/44/101F full planning permission for resumption of mineral extraction at Arcow Quarry; retention of the existing processing plant until progressively replaced by a new mobile processing plant; retention of the railhead and the completion of site restoration in accordance with an amended nature conservation and landscaping scheme during the following 12 months, Arcow Quarry, Helwith Bridge, Horton-in-Ribblesdale.
4. C/04/615A Full planning permission for creation of 16 hardstanding areas for touring caravans, motorhomes, campervans or tents in a designated area with permission for 9 pitches (retrospective) Wood End Farm, Austwick
5. C/04/685: full planning permission for conversion of barn to form one local occupancy dwelling or holiday let; change of use of agricultural land to form domestic curtilage; works to the vehicular access and provision of a new mini sewage treatment plant, White Sike Barn, Far End Farm, Wharfe

c. Additional planning matters

No additional planning matters were received.

1.10 Correspondence: no items of correspondence were received.

1.11 Items of information

- a. The Council **noted** receipt of the Notice of County Council elections on 4th May 2017.
- b. The Council **noted** receipt of a letter from CDC re changes to the waste recycling service.
- c. The Council **noted** receipt of the Water Cycle Challenge charity bike ride through Austwick on 1st July 2017 and **noted** receipt of a list of cyclosporives for 2017 from YDNPA.

1.12 Date and time of the next meeting

RESOLVED: the date of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council was **confirmed** as Monday 15th May 2017, 8pm at Austwick Parish Hall, immediately followed by the ordinary Parish Council meeting.

Marijke Hill
Clerk to the Council