

Minutes of Hellifield Parish Council Meeting
Held on Thursday 24th September 2020
Hellifield Village Institute – Main Hall

Present: Councillors B Hugill, D Statt, J Thwaite, F Ludlam-Brown, I Walton, J Sleath.
M Blackwell (Clerk)
Members of the Public: 0

Councillor Hugill opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 30th July 2020 were approved and signed.

2. To accept apologies and reasons for absence. Cllr Moore has already given his apologies due to holiday commitments made prior to date of meeting being announced.

2.1. To agree Councillors' non-attendance at council meetings for previous 6-months. It was proposed that until the Government restrictions are lifted and the virus is no longer a threat, any councillor who is unable to attend due to Corona virus concerns will not be disqualified as a parish councillor. Proposal seconded and agreed by all.

Resolution: Until the Government restrictions are lifted and the virus is no longer a threat, no councillor will be disqualified from Hellifield Parish Council due to non-attendance as a result of Corona virus concerns.

3. To record members' interests: changes in those and relating to anticipated business. None.

4. Public Participation. None.

5. Village Matters.

5.1 To receive updates from NYCC Police on crime and any anti-social behaviour. The Chairman read out the police report received from NY police. There were 35 incidents between 29th July and 24th September including: theft of quad bike, theft of bike, 4 road related incidents, Damage to old railway carriages, concerns for welfare and suspect vehicles.

5.2 To receive an update on the Play Areas. Cllr Moore submitted a report which was read out by the Chairman. In summary: "Following the playgrounds inspection in July, a number of medium and low risk areas were identified at both playgrounds and these will be addressed imminently. The only high risk identified was the basket swing at Station Road which had been damaged immediately prior to the inspection and although the broken rail and basket and chains had been removed, the uprights were still in situ. Plans were in place to remove these as soon as possible. Both the basket swing and flat swing at Station Road are to be replaced in October"

Discussion ensued around the cost in time and money of repairing the swings, posts, flags, picnic tables etc which were repeatedly vandalised. It appears that older children are causing the damage and spoiling things for the younger ones who use the playgrounds. The hedge along Station Road will be lowered this year to make it easier to see what is happening in the playground, which might help. However, it was felt that the continual cost of repairing vandal damage could not continue. The Clerk is to write an article for the community magazine to emphasise this and asking people who witness vandalism to report it to the police and name names if necessary.

5.3 To discuss this year's Christmas Lights. An email has been received from H's Store regarding this year's Christmas lights which was read out by the Chairman. H's Store have again raised funds to purchase more lights and were enquiring what the plans were for installation of the lights this year.

It was agreed by all that in light of the Covid risk and Government restrictions, that the Switch-on Event could not take place this year. However, it was agreed a Christmas tree should be purchased

and decorated as usual but the plan to install a cable and hard-wire the lights should be postponed until the Spring due to the social distancing risk involved in volunteers digging a trench. The Parish Council was grateful to H's Store for raising funds to purchase more lights but, again from a risk perspective, all lights should be purchased by the council and tested prior to installation. It was proposed and agreed that a risk assessment should be undertaken to cover all aspects of the Christmas Lights and for a budget of up to £1K put in place to allow all village Christmas lights to be purchased, tested, installed and maintained by a qualified electrician. It was agreed that Brian Hugill would take this role.

The proposal was seconded, voted for and agreed by all.

Resolution: The Clerk to undertake a Risk Assessment of the Christmas Lights and a budget set of up to £1K to ensure all lights are purchased, tested, installed and maintained by a nominated, qualified electrician.

It was also agreed that the Clerk would again order the village Christmas tree from Bob Shepherd at the Grange in Hellifield.

5.4 To arrange meeting of Policy & Procedures Review sub-committee. The Clerk is to arrange a WhatsApp meeting within the next few weeks.

6. Reports to and from District and County Councillors. The Chairman read out County Cllr Welch's report:

"In these strange times there is not much to report and not much getting done. It's all Covid 19, Devolution etc. at the moment. If anyone was wondering what was going on 19, Devolution the A682 recently with the traffic lights and machinery, they were drilling to test depth and firmness of the land in preparation for work on the fencing. I got a grant of about £700 for the Institute for crockery and table tennis stuff a couple of months ago. I hope you all find interesting the reports I forward on from the CE at NYCC regarding the virus etc. Hope all are keeping well and safe"

A report was also received from District Cllr Moorby which was also read out:

"The Flashes - I am still awaiting the report from the Barrister to go public. I have been informed that the officers still have a great deal of work to do around this issue, but the last I heard from the Chief Executive was that it would be available at the end of September or early October. I have asked the question of him again at the time of writing this report. I have heard a rumour from a local resident that the latest planning application, 2020/21553/OUT is to go before the Planning Committee in October, I have also asked this question and also requested that the plans do not go before committee until the report from the Barrister is published and scrutinised.

Station Road/Midland Terrace - There is a great many more steam excursions that are using Hellifield Station as a boarding point and although the area of land to the South of the Station is being used as a car park traffic is still using Station Road/ Midland Terrace. I am a steam enthusiast myself and love to watch these excursions, but my duty as a councillor is to look after and protect the residents in my ward and at the moment this road would appear to be rather dangerous, especially as there is a play area adjacent. A number of residents have asked the question as to whether there are any conditions with regard to the use of the Station and there is, hence I have included the decision notice for your attention. Another resident has asked the question about parking on private roads including the above and also Brook Street following an article in the Craven Herald last week about a road in Skipton that is jointly owned by the residents and Craven District Council. Non-residents have been asked not to park on the road and the council have installed No Parking Signs. The resident has asked if this could be done on the two afore mentioned roads and I will look into this.

Community Grant - I have a sum of £100 left in my allocation therefore if you know if this could be put to good use please let me know.

Covid-19 - We are all having to struggle with this pandemic, adults, children, teenagers, the elderly and the infirm. I know things are very difficult, especially now the new rules are in place. I have tried to imagine what I would have felt like if I was a young person having to live through these times and I have come to the conclusion that I really would have missed all the social gatherings, including dances, concerts and the like. I don't know what will happen in the future but all we can do is try to help others in any way we can and obey the rules and to this end we at Craven District Council we do all that we can. Do not hesitate to get in touch with myself or the council direct if you think we can help in any way whatsoever.

Local Government Reorganisation - Government are looking to reorganise North Yorkshire and York over the next few years. They would like to have a unitary authority; therefore, North Yorkshire County Council have put their plan forward and the District Councils in North Yorkshire have got together to formulate a plan that would see the County being run by some form by the District Councils. All this is at a very early stage. Seminars have been organised for Parish Councils by both NYCC and the District Councils.

Talking to people in my ward I get the feeling that the majority would like to keep the local councils in place as North Yorkshire is a very big county to be run by a mega authority, especially as in our neck of the woods we are right on the edge of the County. That is all for now. Keep your spirits up and look after yourselves and others.

7. Correspondence.

7.1 Email received from Mr Peter Richardson of Haw Grove advising of temporary closure of wayleave path.

7.2 Response from CDC regarding litter bins informing we need to provide photographic evidence of need.

7.3 Email from H's store regarding the provision and installation of Christmas lights.

8. Street Lighting: To receive reports of any light failures or repairs required. A light is out on Skipton Road which required attention.

8.1 To receive an update on the Street Light Replacement Programme. Cllr Hugill reported that Phase 3 is completed with the exception of the light outside 5 Gisburn Road which will be repaired by Cllr Hugill. Also, requests had been submitted to NYCC to replace two wooden columns with steel ones as part of Phase 4. The columns are on Kendal Road and Junction of Park Ave/Kendal Road and the estimated cost is £3275 per column.

9. Highways: To receive reports of any highways issues or road repairs required. Nothing to report.

10. Planning items:

10.1 – 2020/21888/FUL – Demolition of existing single storey and rebuild on same footprint – 2 Victoria

Buildings, Main Rd, Hellifield. BD23 4ET. NO COMMENTS.

11. Allotments –To discuss any correspondence and matters relating to the allotments. The Clerk reported she had received several requests for allotments (probably as a result of the lockdown) so the waiting list now consists of 6 people.

12. Finance -To discuss and approve financial matters including receipts, payments, transfers and donations.

Finances as at 31st August 2020

Lloyds TSB Account £ 13,712.83 as at 31st August 2020

Skipton Building Society £ 20,954.28 as at 31st August 2020

Receipts £3704.00 Insurance claim settlement

September Payments

Village Maintenance – August	£262.00
Administration – August	£468.60
HMRC – Income tax & NI - August	£179.60
Repair to Streetlight at 2 Park Place	£179.22
Rent for Station Rd Playing Field	£50.00
Grass Cutting – August	£873.10
Wayleave for Haw Grove	£100.00
2 x Playground Inspections	£144.00
Printer Ink and Paper	£26.00
Total	£2282.52

13. To receive items of information and proposals for the agenda of future Meetings.

- Councillor Ludlam Brown Advised the lady who organised Royal British Legion wreaths had finished and has not yet been replaced so wreaths are now been obtained through Paul Emsley. Cllr Ludlam Brown to order one for HPC.
- Councillor Statt Nothing to report
- Councillor Walton Nothing to report.
- Councillor Sleath Suggested the Clerk order the same size Christmas tree as last year.
- Councillor Thwaite It appears that more work is due to be done on the railway bridge on Back Lane.
- Councillor Hugill A parishioner has asked Cllr Hugill if she can replace the old bench outside Ahearns. As this is on CDC land, suggest she contact them.

The meeting ended at 8.50pm
2020

Date of next meeting: 5th November

Signed.....

Dated:.....