MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RUDBY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 8 JANUARY 2024 IN THE HUB, METHODIST CHURCH, HUTTON RUDBY AT 7.30PM

In attendance: Councillor Mortimer (Chairman), Councillors Barker, Horvath, Puttick, Saxton, Simpson, Stones, Tate, Titterton. North Yorkshire Councillor Hugill, one member of the police, one member of the public.

- 1. **To approve apologies for absence.** It was RESOLVED to accept the apologies of Councillors Jopling and Voke.
- **2. Declarations of interest.** None were declared.
- **3. Minutes of the meetings held 11 and 21 December 2023.** It was RESOLVED to accept the minutes subject to one amendment to item 9.
- 4. Meeting open to the public. None wished to speak. Meeting closed to the public.
- 5. Police Report and Neighbourhood Watch. Report 1-31 December 2023 and local news. A member of the police reported one attempted burglary. Councillor Mortimer thanked the police for coming as it some time since the police were in attendance. The Police officer advised that the Community messenger service available to members of the public on request at https://www.northyorkshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/wsi/watch-schemes-initiatives/as/ny/north-yorkshire-community-messaging
- 6. Matters arising.
- a. **Neighbourhood Plan**. Nothing to report.
- **b. Footpaths.** Nothing to report.
- c. Sports Areas
 - i. Station Lane.
 - ii. Middleton on Leven.

Nothing to report.

d. Village Green. Hutton Bank ownership.

An email has been received from a resident regarding the removal of the sign at the Church car park for the tennis club and also the First Responders sign on the village green. The Clerk will advise the resident that the tennis club sign is not on Parish Council land, and they will need to contact the landowner or the tennis club. The First Responders sign is temporary. More First Responders and people to inspect the defibrillators around the village are needed. The sign could be moved to a different location in order to draw it to the attention of different residents.

With regards to the retaining wall at Hutton Bank there was a discussion as to whose land this is, the maps considered to date do not provide a definitive answer; however, it is believed that Highways will have installed the retaining wall, possibly when the bridge was widened. It was RESOLVED to investigate with more senior residents of the village and to seek advice from Jacksons Solicitors as to whose land and whose responsibility it is likely to be.

e. Speed limits signs.

Nothing to report.

7. Planning applications.

The following applications have been received by the Council. Full details of any responses are available on https://planning.hambleton.gov.uk/online-applications

- a. **21/02719/FUL Paddocks End, Hutton Rudby.** Application for 50 new dwellings. Update. Nothing to report.
- b. **ZB23/02574/FUL 26 Doctor's Lane, Hutton Rudby.** Retrospective permission for fence to the front of the property. Councillor Tate proposed that the Council object on grounds that it is dangerous in terms of visibility and to protect the street scene. Seconded by Councillor Titterton. 7 in favour, two abstentions.

8. Decisions of North Yorkshire Planning.

- **a. 28 Doctor's Lane, Hutton Rudby.** No further action to be taken in relation to fencing installed more than four years ago. Noted.
- **9. Allotments.** Division of allotments, work to the tip, creation of compost stores. Revised rules.

It was RESOLVED to obtain quotes to improve the tip with a view to creating a further wildflower area, to divide the two spare allotments into four, and to create some compost areas but with a view to encouraging allotment holders to do their own composting. Funding is available from the allotments account. Also, to revise the rules to make clear the requirement to keep the allotments well used and tidy. All of this work to be delegated to the allotments committee and the Clerk.

10. Bio diversity duty policy for adoption.

It was RESOLVED that the policy be adopted.

11. Dignity at work policy.

It was RESOLVED to adopt the policy subject to the removal of the reference to an equality and diversity policy as RPC does not have such a policy.

12. Social media policy

It was RESOLVED to adopt the policy subject to re-ordering it to move the policy to the start and the notes to follow on.

13. Scheme of delegation.

It was RESOLVED to adopt the policy as previously circulated, subject to merging the Trees for Tomorrow and pollinator groups.

14. Grass cutting contract – invitation to tender.

Councillor Simpson has prepared an invitation to tender with options to tender for one and/or three years and it was RESOLVED to approve it. Ideally three invitations to tender will be sent out, last time only two tenders were received. Councillor Hugill will provide the name of the person who cuts the verges as he may be interested in tendering.

15. Village Event – dates and working group.

It was RESOLVED to hold the village event on the last weekend of June or first weekend of July, subject to consultation with other groups around the village. AR Entertainments to be asked to provide a quote for games and inflatables as in previous years. The cricket club to be asked to host evening music again.

16. Recording and dissemination of emails.

There was a lengthy discussion about emails received by the Council via the Clerk, as to which should be circulated to Councillors and/or included on the agenda. Some Councillors wanted as few as possible to be circulated but placed on the agenda, others preferred that more be circulated but that they then not be included on the agenda unless a decision was needed. It was RESOLVED to delay a decision until the new Clerk is in post.

17. EV charging points.

Councillor Tate, Voke, Mortimer, Barker have carried out an initial possible site inspection. They were approached by one resident who indicated support for alterations to the village green to enable charging points to be installed. Once the draft drawings are ready there will be more a more detailed Council discussion in order to decide if there is a scheme that could be consulted on with residents. The Council would want any consultation to enable all views to be gathered including opposition to any change and any suggested changes to the scheme size and location. If leaflets promoting the consultation, Survey Monkey, and paper surveys are all used the likely costs of consultation will be around £600.

18. Chappies Field.

A resident has emailed regarding the footpath being moved to the wrong location and in a poor state. RPC has attempted to resolve the matter both with NYCC and with the landowner. Councillor Hugill agreed to have another look and see what further action could be taken.

19. Steps across the village green to Church House tender.

Councillor Tate is still waiting for both quotes. Councillor Horvath questioned whether the matter should go any further given that RPC does not have the budget for the work. Councillor Mortimer said that will be a matter to decide once the tenders have been received. Noted.

20. Road closure training funding.

To be organised if possible before the village event.

21. Christmas tree.

Many thanks to all those who helped to take it down on a very cold and icy day. The tree was removed by Stokesley Scouts in return for a donation to Sarcoma UK.

22. Reports from the County Councillor.

Councillor Hugill said that there will be a boundary review in time for the next elections in 2027. NYC are meeting to discuss budgets currently and there should be a decision by February. NYC has set aside £8m to repair potholes, it was national pothole day on 5 January.

23. Finance.

a. Employer's summary December 2023. Noted.

b. 3rd quarter accounts. Councillor Horvath said that there has been a lot of expenditure in this quarter but generally everything is within or under budget so far. However it is likely there will be a call on the general reserve budget by the end of the year. The budget monitoring report is below. It was RESOLVED to approve the third quarter accounts.

	DESCRIPTION	BUDGET 2023/24	QTR to END JUNE 2023	QTR to END SEPT 2023	QTR to END DEC 2023	TOTAL to END DEC 2023	VARIANCE
EXPENDIT URE	Grounds Maintenance	20,500	1,544	7,013	6,766	15,323	-5177
	Footpath Improvements	1,500	1,250	840	0	2,090	590
	Tree Planting	500	0		780	780	280
	General R & M	3,000	44	500	2,363	2,907	-93
	Subscriptions	836	796		36	832	-4
	Insurance	300	331		0	331	31
	Employee Expenses	10,000	1,562	3,073	4,625	9,260	-740
	Office Expenses	3,050	136	188	2,957	3,281	231
	Audit Expenses	500	0	120	315	435	-65
	Legal Expenses	500	0		0	0	-500
	Neighbourhood Plan	2,000	0		0	0	-2000
	Allotments	500	64	62	0	126	-374
	PWLB	11,000	0		5,583	5,583	-5417
	Donations	200	0	0	370	370	170
	Village Event	6,000	3,234	0	0	3,234	-2766
	Fireworks	2,000	0	1,456	100	1,556	-444
	Christmas Tree and Lights	500	0		350	350	-150
	Misc	750	5,011	457	418	5,886	5,136
	Total Expenditure	63,636	13,972	13,709	24,663	52,344	-11293

	DESCRIPTION	BUDGET 2023/24	QTR to END JUNE 2023	QTR to END SEPT 2023	QTR to END DEC 2023	TOTAL to END DEC 2023	VARIANCE
INCOME	Precept	47,500	23,750	23,750	0	47,500	0
	Interest	50	215	263	332	810	760
	Donations	100	565	350	100	1,015	915
	Grants	2,150	0		1,000	1,000	-1150
	Allotment Rents	350	0		95	95	-255
	Fireworks Collection	1,000	0		1,692	1,692	692
	Misc		378		0	378	378
	Total Income	51,150	24,908	24,363	3,219	52,490	1,340
NET BUDGET	Deficit/Surplus	12,486	-10936	-10654	21,444	-146	-12633
RESERVE	CIL	12,820					
	Mill area restoration and Landscaping	4,000			525	525	
	Burial Ground	7,000					
	Refurb Old Mill Wall	4,000					
	Defibrillators	6,000					
	Sports Area R & M	8,000					
	Church House Steps	20,000			1,234	1,234	
	General Cash Reserve	33,600					
	Total Reserves	95,420				1,759	

24. Accounts

Clerk's salary November 2023, paid in accordance with contract.		
Ink payment HP November 2023	£	9.99
Room hire Johnson room Village Hall	£	65.25
The Hub room hire July to December 2023	£	212.00
TP Jones 3 rd quarter payroll preparation	£	64.40
HMRC 3 rd quarter tax and national insurance	£	927.69

Christmas lights batteries 2022	£	27.16
Christmas lights batteries 2023	£	44.28
YLCA biodiversity webinar	£	33.40
Flower box	£	50.00
John Lewis voucher	£	100.00

Money received.

Allotment fees	£	100.00
Barthrams Funeral Services interment fees Robb	£	360.00
Barthrams Funeral Services interment fees Mann	£	280.00

25. Correspondence

- a. Email 5, 12, 19 December 2023 Rural Service Network The Rural Bulletin. Noted.
- b. Email 5 December 2023 NALC events. Noted.
- c. Email 5 December 2023 YLCA webinar training sessions December 2022 to March 2023. Noted.
- d. Email NYC Area 2 consultation 11 December 2023. Noted.
- e. Email 5 December 2023 YLCA Environmental news. Noted.
- f. Email 6, 20 December 2023 NALC newsletter. Noted.
- g. Email 7,14, 21 December 2023 NALC Chief Executive's bulletin. Noted.
- h. Email 7 December 2023 LNRS introductory webinar recording link. Noted.
- i. Email 8 December 2024 YLCA information bulletin and training. Noted.
- j. Email 11 December 2023 from a resident who has invited Tescos to open a shop in the village. The Clerk has replied. Noted.
- k. Email 11 December 2023 Parish Online newsletter no 46. Noted.
- I. Email 13 December 2023 YLCA Nimble e-learning programme. Noted.
- m. Email 13 December 2023 SLCC news bulletin. Noted.
- n. Email 15 December 2023 YLCA White Rose bulletin and training and discussion forums and bulletin. Noted.
- o. Email 16 December 2023 NY Police priority survey. Noted.
- p. Email 18 December 2023 CPRE request for additional donations. Noted.
- q. Email 18 December 2023 Northern Powergrid transparency in network planning webinar 9 January 2024. Noted.
- r. Email 19 December 2023 Northern Powergrid distribution future energy scenarios webinar 1 February 2024. Noted.
- s. Email 19 December 2023 NYC confirmation of no further action in relation to 28 Doctor's Lane. Noted.
- t. Email 21 December 2023 Clear Councils update. Noted.
- u. Email 21 December 2023 YLCA law and governance bulletin plus guidance on funding works to a church or ecclesiastical building. Noted.
- v. Email 21 December 2023 NYC local plan launch event presentation and recording. Noted.
- w. Email 28 December 2023 NYC confirmation of closure of Doctor's Lane between 9.30am to 3.30pm on 27 January 2024 for BT pole replacement works. Noted.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50pm.

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