

AYSGARTH & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 11th January 2024 At Aysgarth Institute at 7.30pm

Present: Parish Cllrs: John Dinsdale (Chair), Linda Cooper, Rob Cromey-Hawke, Chris Parker, Robert Walker, Sandra Wilman, Peter Windle, David Wood

District Councillor: Yvonne Peacock

In Attendance: Mrs F Cartwright - Parish Council Clerk

Members of the public: 3

- 1. Consideration of Apologies for Absence** - Apologies were given and accepted from Parish Councillors Jones & Sayer and Mrs P Pointon, Website Administrator/Press Release
- 2. Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on** - The minutes of Meeting held on 23rd November 2023 were approved as a true and correct record
- 3. Declaration of interest** - Cllr Cooper declared an interest in Item 7 Planning Application R/58/96B Rear of the Reading Room, Westfield Lane, Thorlby and Item 11 Grass Cutting. Cllr Dinsdale declared an interest in Item 7 Planning Application R/57/45E.

Conclusion of Assessment of Standards Complaint from NYC (Circulated)

The Clerk read out the e mail dated 19.12.23 which Cllr Parker had received from the Policy & Governance Manager at NYC confirming that Jennifer Norton, NYC Deputy Monitoring Officer, recently assessed the standards complaint made against Cllr Parker, in consultation with the Independent Person for Standards.

It was concluded that no action should be taken in relation to the complaint as there was no evidence to suggest a breach of the relevant code by Cllr Parker.

- 4. Matters arising from the last meeting** - none
- 5. Highways/Street Lights/Bins**

Further updates were not available on the following matters:

Historic/Ongoing -

- Bridge at Bishopdale
- Spickles Lane - Aysgarth & Burton-Cum-Walden
- Mill Lane, Aysgarth
- Dangerous Tree Thornton Rust Road
- Water/ice at Kelspring, Aysgarth Thornton Rust Road
- Solar Lights nr Doctors Surgery, Aysgarth
- White lining Parking Bays in small layby in Aysgarth
- Plans for revisiting Church Bank, Aysgarth

From 23.11.23 Meeting

- 10 Ft tall 3 ft wide shrubs obstructing the road at Fern Lee, opposite Village Hall, Thorlby
- Narrow Footpath outside Colman's Aysgarth

It was suggested that representatives attend the Area 1 Highways Workshops which were taking place on various dates in January & February 24. Cllr Dinsdale said that he would attend.

- Cllr Windle updated the meeting about a conversation he had with the proprietors planting outside their property on the left handside of Church Bank as you come into Aysgarth from Leyburn direction. The proprietors feel that it did not cause a problem to pedestrians as most cross beforehand as the footpath starts on the other side of the road. The proprietor had rebuilt their wall and moved it in by two feet so were primarily planting on their own land and want to make the area look presentable. The Parish Council were satisfied providing the area wasn't developed further.

New from 11.01.24 Meeting

- Concerns were raised about the gritting of Newbiggin and the road up past The George Inn, Thorlby (though it was acknowledged that the gritters do grit through Thorlby village). Farmers were willing to do the gritting but were struggling to obtain the salt/grit and authorisation from the Council re budgets. **Action - Clerk to e mail Karl Battersby, cc Yvonne Peacock.**
- Cllr Windle said that the flood sign near the Aysgarth Falls Hotel had been left down well into the New Year when the flooding had stopped. **Action - Cllr Peacock to put it on the agenda for the Area Committee meeting.**
- Cllr Cromey-Hawke reported that the emergency plan sandbags had to be used during the festive period to prevent water flooding into properties in Thornton Rust, as a result of the roadside drains not functioning properly during the heavy rains. It was identified that two drains are blocked and the next one along the road is being overloaded with the surface water running down the road instead of draining via the blocked drains.

Cllr Cromey-Hawke poked through the drain covers with a drain rod to see if it was just silt/gravel build-up that had blocked them, which it seems it is, but it is not known if that is just the chamber where the cover is or whether it is the whole length of underground pipe between drains/discharge point as well as the chambers. The one functioning drain keeps blocking as the discharge pipe is only a 4in pipe that seems to be easily blocked by twigs, leaves, etc.

The action taken so far is that the blockages have been cleared by residents using drain rods, but professional intervention is now required as this is not safe and is happening more frequently.

Priority action is required because the road through Thornton Rust is the main diversion route when the A684 between Aysgarth and Bainbridge is closed due to flooding, and therefore leaving this issue unresolved risks closing off the diversion route and increases the likelihood of damage to residents' vehicles; the matter is further exacerbated by residents having to park on this narrow road as they cannot park on the village greens which border this road.

The location of the blocked drains is:

#1. 2m West of the bus stop sign outside the Thornton Rust Institute (approx what3words location:

///upward.topical.bearable)

#2. 5m West of the gravel driveway outside Penny Acre (approx what3words location: ///attic.blotches.milk)

Location of overloaded drain: right outside the Mission Room building, above the culvert carrying West Beck (approx what3words location: ///tablet.bronzed.reprints)

Cllr Cromey-Hawke suggested that once the blocked drains have been cleared, assumed through high-pressure jetting, could preventative action be considered by Highways such as replacing the 4in discharge pipe with a larger one or exploring the options of discharging the surface water straight into the culvert that carries West Beck, which is almost directly beneath the overloaded drain.

Action - Clerk to report to Highways. Cllr Peacock to follow it up.

6. Financial Matters

6.1 The council resolved to authorise the following payments:

Date/Inv #/Chq	Payee	£	Description
101077	F Cartwright	169.56	Clerk Pay - January 24
101078	F Cartwright	10.00	Clerk Expenses - January 24
Q/E 05.01.24	HMRC	338.40	PAYE Q/E 05.01.24
04.01.24	P Pointon	266.10	2023 Fees plus domain renewal
Total		£784.06	

6.2 Income Received since the 23.11.23 Meeting:

Date	Remitter/Ref	£	Description
01.12.23	RPA	£2,006.79	Re Thoraby Moss
06.12.23	RPA	£5,109.10	Re Thoraby Moss

22.12.23 Cheque for £227.08 made payable to Mr Aysgarth & District Parish Council received from British Gas re Rock Garden Electricity account in credit.

The payment of £70 for the let of Hawe Lane, Thoraby 2023/24 remains outstanding. Cllr Wilman would provide the Parish Council bank details again for cheque or bank transfer.

7. Planning - To consider the following Planning Applications:

New Applications

R/57/6Z - Full planning permission for decked area with fencing, used for outdoor seating and tables in conjunction with the business (**retrospective**) at Street Head Inn, Newbiggin, DL8 3TE

The close date had been 29.12.23 and the Clerk had received no response from the planning application circulated on 12.12.23. The Parish Council had no comment to make.

R/57/45E - Full planning permission for the installation of approximately 140m of 450mm twin wall HDPE pipe and the construction of a stone pipe intake (**retrospective**) at land adjacent to East Lane Farm Buildings, Bishopdale, DL8 3TF

The close date had been 04.01.24 and the Clerk had received no response from the planning application circulated on 14.12.23. The Parish Council had no comment to make.

The previously considered planning applications are showing on the YDNPA Citizens Portal as:

Approved (Conditional)

R/51/146 - Full planning permission for change of use of no more than 30% of the gross internal floor area to be used as accommodation for caretakers, artisans and exhibitors involved in the primary community use in the remainder of the property. This involves the change of use of elements of the building from class F1 to class C3 at Aysgarth Methodist Chapel, Chapel Lane, Aysgarth, DL8 3AE (**Approved conditional 21.11.23**)

R/51/149 - Full planning permission for conversion of barn/store to 1no. holiday let at Hazel House, Aysgarth, DL8 3AD (**Approved conditional 15.12.23**)

R/57/8G - Householder planning permission for demolition of existing front porch and rear conservatory, erection of front two storey and rear single storey extensions, alterations to fenestration and internal layout alterations at Bishop Garth, Newbiggin, DL8 3TD (**Approved Conditional 15.12.23**)

Approved (S106) - none

Withdrawn/Final Disposal - none

Under Consideration

R/59/50C at Hardbanks Barn, Thornton Rust, DL8 3AS (**Reg date 20.04.20**)

R/51/54M at Birkbeck House, Aysgarth, DL8 35R (**Reg date 30.11.20**)

R/58/49A - Full planning permission for change of use from agricultural barn to short term holiday let, including rebuilding of lean-to in local stone; installation of ground and roof mounted solar PV panels, package sewage treatment plant, borehole and subterranean LPG tank at Marion's Barn, Westfield Lane, Thoraby

R/58/96B - Full planning permission for erection of single storey dwelling for local occupancy, together with installation of air source heat pump and solar panels at Land to the Rear of the Reading Room, Westfield Lane, Thoraby, DL8 3SU

R/58/65G - Full planning permission for erection of 1no rural workers dwelling, conversion of barn (Barn C) to short term holiday lets with associated garages (as approved under application reference numbers R/58/65C and R/58/65F), extension of existing site office (Barn F) to provide kitchen facilities (as approved under application reference numbers R/58/65C and R/58/65F), erection of 1no agricultural barn (Barn D) and provision of new internal site access road at Howesyke Farm, Bishopdale Lane, Bishopdale, DL8 3TG

R/53/27J - Full planning permission for the erection of a 3-bedroom rural workers dwelling at Kidstones Farm, Bishopdale, Leyburn, DL8 3TG

R/57/49A - Full planning permission for proposed extension and conversion of holiday let to form 1no. local occupancy dwelling at Bishopdale Bunkhouse, Cross Lanes, Thoraby, DL8 3TB - **The Parish Council had no comment to make.**

R/53/36 - Full planning permission for the installation of a 25m lightweight lattice mast with 3no. radio antennas, 3no. transmission dishes, radio equipment housing, solar array comprising of 36no. solar panels and 2no. ground-based cabinets along with ancillary development and proposed access track (circa 145m) for the purpose of telecoms at Gilbert Lane (NGR: E394078 / N481344), Bishopdale, BD23 5JB

8. Thoraby Moss and Thornton Mire (*Standing Item*)

- **Thoraby Moss Legal matters** - The breakdown of the solicitor's work carried out re interim invoice # 106151 was discussed. **Action - Clerk to request that the new solicitor advises the Parish Council before the equivalent cost is reached. Clerk to request an update and confirmation documentation and advise re next steps.**
- Cllr Dinsdale to approach a new potential grazier for Thoraby Moss.

9. Edwardian Rock Garden, Aysgarth (*Standing Item*)

- There was no update on maintenance until the weather improved.

- **Quick Response (QR) Code for Rock Garden Donations** - Clerk updated that she had visited Thirsk HSBC branch to obtain forms for the new bank account, but the application process is now online only. **Action - Clerk and Cllr Cromey-Hawke to have a look on the online portal.**

10. Insurance Renewal 2024 – Pre-Renewal Questionnaire (Circulated)

- The Parish Council discussed the Pre-Renewal Questionnaire. **Action - Clerk to return it to insurers.**

11. Grass Cutting 2024 (Circulated)

The clerk referred to her e mail of 15.12.23 which relayed a conversation with Mr Cooper re increasing the grass cutting cost to £500 plus VAT per cut up to a maximum of 10 cuts. It was noted that a response would be received from Mr Cooper in due course confirming the increase in writing.

12. Correspondence (Circulated) E mail dated:

The Parish Council considered the correspondence received and commented as indicated below:

- 13.11.23 from HSBC - Changes to banking terms and conditions
- 20.11.23 from Dream Heritage CIC - Apologies for not attending Nov 23 meeting
- 22.11.23 from NYC - Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Consultation
- 27.11.23 from Claire Cooper - Photograph of minutes from an Annual Parish Meeting in 1978 re ownership of Thoraby Moss
- 27.11.23 from YDNPA - Latest News from YDNPA
- 28.11.23 from UDHW - Synopsis of the minutes of the meeting held on 21.11.23
- 05.12.23 from NYC Area 1 - New council services - parish/ town council consultation
- 05.12.23 from YDNPA Planning Enforcement Officer - Response to PC e mail re George Public House, Thoraby
- 05.12.23 from Clerk to the Parish Council Forum - Response to the Draft Housing Strategy which has been put together following the meeting of the Parish Council Forum on 22.11.23 sent to NYC. **It was noted that Cllr Windle and Cllr Jones attended the meeting.**
- December 23 from British Gas - Forecast increase in annual energy costs of c£1.76 per year (old account)
- 06.12.23 from British Gas - Out with the old system in with the new - change in account number
- December 23 from British Gas - Forecast increase in annual energy costs of c£1.79 per year (new account)
- 07.12.23 from British Gas - Statement 18.10.23 - 07.12.23, cheque for £227.08 will be issued
- 07.12.23 from YDNPA Planning Officer - Response to PC e mail re Traffic Management Plan & S106 re Chapel, Aysgarth
- 07.12.23 from NYC - Recording of 21.11.23 Webinar - North Yorkshire & York Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)
- 19.12.23 from Policy and Governance Manager NYC - Conclusion of assessment of standards complaint - no evidence of breach of the relevant Code, no further action **(Item 3)**
- 20.12.23 from UDCP Ltd - A Good Life Community Support update
- 02.01.24 from AJG - Insurance Pre-Renewal Questionnaire Information Request **(Item 10)**
- 02.01.24 from YLCA - Website log in details
- 04.01.24 from YLCA - Apology re Website log in details
- 03.01.24 from Area 1 - Invite to Workshops various dates in Jan & Feb 24 **(Item 5)**

13. Any Other Business

Two PCSO's were welcomed to the meeting. They advised that crimes in the area were mainly farm equipment. They encouraged Cllrs to sign up to the Community Messenger service.

Date of next meeting - Thursday 15th February 2024 at 7.30pm at Aysgarth Institute.

Meeting closed 8.45pm