

# AYSGARTH & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 13th January 2022 At Aysgarth Institute at 7.30pm

**Present:** Parish Cllrs: John Dinsdale (Chair), Margaret Jones, Robert Walker, Sandra Wilman, Peter Windle, David Wood

**In Attendance:** Mrs F Cartwright - Parish Clerk  
Mrs P Pointon - Website Administrator/Press Release

**Members of the public:** 0

- 1. Consideration of Apologies for Absence** - Apologies were given and accepted from District Cllr Peacock, and Cllrs Cooper, Freer, McGregor and Sayer.
- 2. Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on** - The minutes of the Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021 were approved as a true and correct record.
- 3. Declaration of interest** - none
- 4. Matters arising from the last meeting** - none
- 5. Highways/Street Lights/Bins**

The Clerk updated re e mails dated 13.01.22 from Area 1 Highways:

### Historic

- **Feedback from Highways site meeting with Cllrs Dinsdale & Windle in Aysgarth from 2021** - Highways apologised for not providing feedback since the meeting. Highways advised that the lining in Aysgarth has been checked and is fully compliant with current regs so there are no plans to change it. However, the sections of lining which are failing is currently under investigation with contractors. **Action - Cllr Windle to look at the regulations. Clerk to thank Highways for the holding e mail and to request further feedback on Aysgarth site meeting.**
- **Long standing Bridge issue at Bishopdale** - The Maintenance Manager advised that a site inspection was completed on 17.12.21 to look at best way forward with retaining wall rebuild. Engineers are currently working on producing a design for the most appropriate repair and once this is complete an order for the work can be raised.
- **Potholes in middle of the road on Church Bank, Aysgarth** - The Highway Officer inspected Church Bank again on 12.01.22 and advises that it is a case of surface wear rather than actionable pot holes. A link to the criteria used by Highways Officers was supplied to Councillors.
- **Fallen branch resting on lower branch at Low Gill on the Thornton Rust Rd from Aysgarth to Thornton Rust** - The latest update was that Highways have taken action to remove one branch which was deemed to be an immediate hazard. The matter has been referred to Highways Tree Specialist for a survey to establish what further action is needed. In the interim there is no need to believe the tree is dangerous, but the Highway Officer will monitor.
- **East Field Lane (Spickles Lane), Thoralby/West Burton** - Cllr Peacock is still trying to arrange a date for the relevant parties to meet on site.

From 25.11.21 PC Meeting

- **The Old Corn Mill, bottom of Mill Hill, Thorlby - overgrown ivy vegetation which is obstructing the road view** - The Highway Officer inspected the site on 12.01.22 and did not identify anything that he would deem a highway safety issue so they have no powers to approach the property owner.
- **Tarmac on the entrance to the large car park outside the Falls Motel, Aysgarth** - Highways had not received any reports on this matter. Highways inspected it on 12.01.22 and confirm that the defect is not within the Highway, they are within the apron of the access to the car park, so they are the responsibility of the landowner to repair.

New

- **Brown 'Aysgarth Church' Sign, Aysgarth - Action - Clerk to enquire to Highways as to process and whether there would be a charge for a Brown Sign stating 'Aysgarth Church' to be placed with the other Carperby sign at the junction outside Aysgarth Falls Hotel turning down Church Bank. The Parish Council were not in a position to pay for signage but the information may be of interest to the Parochial Church Council.**
- **Richmond Gate Lane, Aysgarth to Thornton Rust** - Cllr Dinsdale reported that in the last two months there have been four delivery vans going down the very narrow Richmond Gate Lane. **Action - Clerk to ask for a sign saying 'Unsuitable for road vehicles' at the top of Richmond Gate Lane.**
- **Speed Limit Dyke Hollins Lane, Aysgarth** - The current speed limit on this very narrow single-track lane is National Speed Limit. Reports of vehicles travelling at unsafe speeds have been received from local residents. **Action - Clerk to ask whether a 20MPH Speed limit could be introduced.**

## 6. Financial Matters

### 6.1 The council resolved to authorise the following payments:

Chq #	Payee	£	Description
101019	F Cartwright	112.92	Clerk Pay - January 22
101020	F Cartwright	10.00	Clerk Expenses - January 22
101021	HMRC	225.60	PAYE re Clerk Pay Q3 ending 05.01.22
<b>Total</b>		<b>£348.52</b>	

### 6.2 Bank Charges (Circulated)

The Clerk summarised the Business Current Account Charges which had been received for 22.11.21 - 21.12.21 being £8.00 Account Maintenance for the month and £1 per cheque x 7 cheques £7 for the month. **Action - Clerk to speak to HSBC to ascertain options and if needed obtain forms for signing to move to on-line banking.**

## 7. Planning - To consider the following Planning Applications:

New

**R/57/6X** - Full planning permission for demolition of existing WC block and construction of 2 storey bedroom accommodation, bin store and general store, to include: 2 No ground floor en suite bedrooms with disabled access and facilities, 4 No first-floor bedrooms (2 en suite), 2 No single storey stores, parking area and installation of sewage treatment plant at Street Head Caravan Park, Newbiggin, DL8 3TE - **The Parish Council had no comment to make.**

**R/57/6W** - Full planning permission for construction of two single storey buildings to provide 6 No letting rooms and 2 No staff accommodation rooms; removal of existing staff caravan; demolition of part of existing store; extension of existing car park and installation of sewage treatment unit at Street Head Inn, Newbiggin, DL8 3TE - **The Parish Council had no comment to make.**

**R/57/3K** - Full planning permission for erection of glass fused steel slurry store with cover at West Lane Farm, Bishopdale DL8 3TG - **The Parish Council had no comment to make.**

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

**Approved Conditional - none**

**Under Consideration**

**R/59/50C** at Hardbanks Barn, Thornton Rust, DL8 3AS

**R/53/27G** at Kidstones Bridge, Bishopdale, DL8 3TG

**R/58/96A** - Full planning permission for erection of a single storey local occupancy dwelling and provision of parking area 50m south-west of main site (adjacent to Stanley House) at Land to rear of the Reading Room, Westfield Lane, Thoralby, DL8 3SU

**Awaiting Legal Agreement**

**R/53/32** at Big Laithe, Bishopdale

**R/51/54M** at Birkbeck House, Aysgarth, DL8 35R

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

Cllr Dinsdale said that Mr Fawcett was liaising with PWC re clarification on some queries.

**9. Ownership of Land/Rights of Way (*Standing Item*)**

Cllr Dinsdale would go back to the solicitor to say that the Parish Council had exhausted their investigations. He would enquire whether a 'cautionary note' could be advised to Land Registry.

**10. Natural England Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) agreement expires in 2021**

The Basic Payment Scheme Claim Statement 2021 for £5,865.98 was reviewed by the meeting. The Clerk confirmed that £5,865.98 had been received into the bank account on 01.12.21.

**11. Methodist Chapel, Aysgarth (*Circulated*)**

The meeting considered the e mail and presentation dated 24.12.21 from Quest Property Ltd/ Brook Group Ltd/ BR Aysgarth Ltd. The Parish Council had not considered any proposals prior to the 13.01.22 meeting. The 24.12.21 proposal outlined plans for the owners of the Aysgarth Falls Hotel to purchase and convert (subject to planning) to provide up to 10 self- contained ancillary accommodation for hotel guests. The Parish Council had serious concerns about paragraphs 3 and 4 on page 5 of the Presentation which were not factually correct given the Parish Council had not considered the proposal. **Action - Clerk to respond in writing to 24.12.21 e mail asking them to remove paragraphs 3 and 4 and to make any recipients of the presentations aware of their error.** The Parish Council will consider the proposal in the event that a Planning Application is submitted.

**12. Rock Garden, Aysgarth - Water Leak and Business Stream Invoice (*Circulated*)**

The Clerk updated that she had spoken to Business Stream and the reading was an actual reading and their flow data suggested a leak. Business Stream had put a hold on disconnection, charges, etc. Clerk to update them once the nature of the leak has been established/repaired.

Cllr Dinsdale and the Clerk had since inspected the metre again and water/dirt had got under the reader so you cannot read the numbers (an electronic reader had been installed in the past to facilitate Business Stream reading it remotely). A replacement metre would be chargeable, and the Parish Council decided to hold off on this expenditure. Cllr Dinsdale had asked a local maintenance person to look at the water feature and provide a quote to repair. **Action - once the nature of the problem is established/repaired, clerk to contact Business Stream again to advise that metre readings could not be taken and to ascertain whether there was any assistance available towards the £409.26 bill for the period 29.07.21 - 19.11.21.**

### 13. Correspondence (Circulated)

The Parish Council noted and commented on the correspondence received as follows:

- E mail dated 28.11.21 & 29.11.21 from Thornton Rust resident - Lawned area & gravelled driveway at the front of Lime Laithe Cottage, Thornton Rust - **The clerk read out the e mail received from the local resident and Cllr Freer's/Dinsdale's response e mail.**
- E mail dated 29.11.21 from RDC - Newbiggin bin collection - **Cllr Jones confirmed that the bin was now being collected by RDC.**
- E mail dated 05.12.21 from Askrigg resident - A684 route of the through Sunday Dales Bus 856 re letter published on page 20 of the Darlington and Stockton Times on 03.12.21
- E mail dated 06.12.21 from NYCC - copy of the presentation given at the briefings on 1<sup>st</sup>/3rd December, on the transition to a new unitary council for North Yorkshire
- E mail dated 06.12.21 from RDC - Parish Precept arrangements for the Financial Year 2022/23 re decision not to charge for Parish elections
- E mail dated 07.12.21 from BAWB Governors - letter to the Community re the BAWB Federation
- E mail dated 10.12.21 from owner of Aysgarth Mill - works to tarmac the path from the church steps down to the bottom steps and take down the nearest tree to the mill on the east side of steps at owner's expense - **The clerk confirmed that she had responded that the Parish Council did not have any objections to the proposed works.**
- E mail dated 13.12.21 from Mr Poole Lead NYCC Leyburn & District Community Support Organisation
- E mail dated 14.12.21 from NYCC - questions and answers from 1<sup>st</sup>/3rd December briefings on the transition to a new unitary council for North Yorkshire
- E mail dated 13.12.21 & 14.12.21 - issues with Thornton Rust Defibrillator following Storm – Cllr Dinsdale thought that the organisation which could supply the new floor had been in touch with the Thornton Rust defibrillator contact before Christmas. This did not happen and has now been rearranged. The cost will be circa £125.00 and the Parish Council will be invoiced.
- E mail dated 15.12.21 from PWC - fee proposal of £750 plus VAT for extension of the stewardship agreement (Item 10) - **The Parish Council agreed the fee.**
- E mail dated 21.12.21 from RDC - confirming Grant Application for Hearing Aid system has been 'accepted'
- E mail dated 22.12.21 from RDC - offer Letter re Hearing Aid system (recalled)
- E mail dated 24.12.21 - enquiry for information re legal ownership of the lower steps going from the mill up to the church lane, Aysgarth - **The Parish Council agreed that the Mill owner should make his own enquiries re legal ownership.**
- E mail dated 24.12.21 (received 07.01.22) from The Brook Group/ Quest Property Ltd / BR Aysgarth Ltd re plans for Methodist Chapel, Aysgarth **(Item 11)**
- E mail dated 06.01.22 from PWC - Basic Payment Scheme Claim Statement 2021 confirming £5,865.98 **(Item 10)**
- E mail dated 07.01.22 from RDC - confirming Grant Offer letter received/recalled on 22.12.21 is bona fide/correct - **The Chairman signed the Grant Offer Acceptance Form. Action - Clerk to submit the form to RDC and order the hearing aid.**

#### **14. Any Other Business**

Thoralby Councillors advised that following recent works to the underground electricity supply, repairs were being carried out on the village green in Thoralby.

The e mail received on 13.01.22 from comments@postoffice.co.uk re the closure of Thoralby Post Office was discussed. **Action - Clerk to e mail advising there is a community need for Post Office services and ask what the Post Office is going to do to ensure that the needs of the local community are met.**

#### **15. Items for next Meeting Agenda**

**Date of next meeting - Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 7.30pm at Aysgarth Institute**

**Meeting closed 9.00pm**