

# **AYSGARTH & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023 At Aysgarth Institute at 7.30pm**

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

**In Attendance:** Mrs F Cartwright - Parish Council Clerk

**Members of the public:** 1

The Parish Council welcomed the member of the public to the meeting and explained that the Parish Council would carry out some administrative formalities on the agenda before the Planning Application.

- 1. Consideration of Apologies for Absence** - Apologies were given and accepted from Parish Councillors Cooper and Jones and Website Administrator/Press Release Pip Pointon
- 2. Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on** - The minutes of Meeting held on 7th September 2023 were approved as a true and correct record
- 3. Declaration of interest** - Declarations of interest were made during the meeting (Agenda items 4 & AOB)
- 4. Matters arising from the last meeting**

### **23.09.23 e mailed letter from Bishopdale resident re Declaration of Interest**

#### **Members Interests**

- Following receipt of the e-mailed letter dated 23.09.23, the Parish Councillors and the Clerk had looked into the guidance available re members interests. The Parish Council considered the concerns raised in the letter and discussed the importance of being aware of members interests, and public perceptions, and also the importance of declaring interests under the Declaration of Interests standing Agenda item.
- The Parish Council agreed that no further action was required regarding Cllr Parker as it was deemed his connection with Mr & Mrs Brown being as a result of assisting Mr Brown's employed gamekeeper at occasional seasonal shoots. It was felt that Cllr Parker had remained open and objective during the discussion at the 07.09.23 meeting; there was no sign he had placed himself under any obligation to Mr & Mrs Brown that might try to inappropriately influence him in his duty as a Councillor, and he did not act or take decisions in order to gain financially.
- The Parish Council agreed that no further votes were necessary. It was noted that the outcome of the Parish Council's response to the YDNPA regarding Mr & Mrs Brown's planning application would not have been different had Cllr Parker abstained from the voting at the 07.09.23 meeting.

#### **Publication of Register of Members' Interests**

- Following the 2022 Parish Council elections and at the request of RDC, the completed/signed 'Notification by a Member of a Local Authority of Pecuniary & Other Interests (Parish Council) under the Localism Act 2011' had been e-mailed to RDC. The RDC's instructions stated that 'The Monitoring Officer will publish details of the Registration of Financial and Personal Interest forms on the District Council's website'. There was no instruction to publish on the Parish Council's website.
- The Clerk reported that having researched it, it appears that some guidance has not been updated to reflect the latest legislation, which is where the Parish Council has its own website, its Register of Members Interests must also be published on that website.

- The Parish Council agreed to rectify this issue and publish the Members' Interests on the Aysgarth & District Parish Council website, by providing a link to the maintained register on the NYC website.
- **Action - Clerk to draft a response letter to the Bishopdale resident letter for review by the Parish Council. Clerk to request Website Administrator set up a link to NYC website.**
- Cllr Sayer declared an interest in Planning Application R/53/34A - Full planning permission for creation of an all-weather farm track at Land off B6160, Ribba Hall, Bishopdale Lane, Bishopdale, DL8 3TG which was a new planning item on the agenda at the 07.09.23 Parish Council meeting.

## 5. Highways/Street Lights/Bins

**Historic/Ongoing** - Further updates were not available on the following matters:

- 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 07.09.23 Meeting:**

- Pot hole outside Rookery, Bishopdale - Cllr Sayer reported that the pothole had been repaired.
- Outdated signage which needs collecting - no update available

There were no new matters to report to Highways.

## 6. Financial Matters

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

Date/Inv #/Chq	Payee	£	Description
101071	F Cartwright	169.56	Clerk Pay - October 23
101072	F Cartwright	10.00	Clerk Expenses - October 23
-	HMRC	282.00	PAYE Q/E 05.10.23
<b>Total</b>		<b>£461.56</b>	

The Clerk advised that Cheque numbers 101070 and 101071 on the Agenda should have read 101071 and 101072 as indicated above.

### 6.2 Income Received since the 07.09.23 Meeting:

Date	Remitter/Ref	£	Description
01.09.23	J Dinsdale	110.59	Rock Garden Donations
29.09.23	NYC	4,000.00	2 <sup>nd</sup> Half of Precept 23/24

The Clerk advised that the cheque received from Mr Lancaster in September for £70 for the let of Hawe Lane, Thoraby was dated back in March 23 so could not be banked. **Action - Cllr Cooper to request a replacement cheque.**

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

### **New Applications/ Additional Information Loaded to YDNPA Portal**

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

The applicant said that they were planning to change very little to the outside of the barn. They have off road parking for up to six vehicles so there would be no parking issues. He said that the Parish Council were welcome to come and have a look at the barn. He asked if the Parish Council had any questions.

The Parish Council asked whether it would be used for family residential use, or a holiday let. The applicant confirmed that it would initially be run as a holiday let. Cllr Windle felt that there was a problem with the application. He said that the applicant appeared not to have sought advice from YDNPPA prior to submitting the application, had he done so he may have found that the YDNP Local Plan highlights an area in Aysgarth where there is the possibility of converting traditional buildings (and includes other developments). The barn in question is outside that boundary line.

Cllr Wood asked whether there was an agricultural right of way. The applicant said that it was domestic access. Restrictions re the agricultural grant that the previous owner of Hazel House had received for the roof of the barn was also queried. The applicant was not aware of any restrictions.

Cllr Windle expressed concerns that 6 car parking spaces were included which indicated much increased traffic movement and the egress from the site was narrow and very hazardous. Vehicle access onto the service road and the A684 is very dangerous. So much so, that historically there had been two previous submissions for development in that immediate area both of which had been refused. For example planning permission for the Old Blacksmiths Shop next door to the east was firstly refused by the YDNPPA due to road safety concerns and secondly by a government appointed Planning Inspector who was appointed to enquire into the YDNPA Housing Development Plan, which included land submitted as available for affordable housing to the rear of Aysgarth Institute next door but one and to the west of this application. This land was removed from the YDNPA Development Plan due to road safety concerns as regards egress from the site into the access road and the A684.

The applicant said he would leave the Parish Council to discuss the application and left the meeting.

Cllr Windle said that he could not support this planning application. A discussion was had by the Parish Council.

**Action - Clerk to e mail YDNPA expressing concerns with regards to the access and egress impact on road safety.**

**R/51/25L** - Full planning permission for 14 hotel lodges and facilities, alongside refurbishment of and extension to existing hotel at Aysgarth Falls Hotel, Aysgarth, DL8 3SR - **22.09.23 New information loaded on to YDNPA Portal. Sustainability Statement, Site Waste Management Plan, Guest Management Plan and Amended Proposed Site Masterplan. Planning Committee Meeting scheduled on 03.10.23 at 1pm**

The Parish Council expressed disappointment of the outcome of the Planning Committee meeting and reiterated the previous concerns.

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

**Withdrawn/Final Disposal** - none

**Approved Conditionally** - none

**Approved (S106)** - 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/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.

**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/53/34A** - Full planning permission for creation of an all-weather farm track at Land off B6160, Ribba Hall, Bishopdale Lane, Bishopdale, DL8 3TG

**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

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

- **Thoraby Moss Legal matters** - The Clerk advised that the solicitor had left the firm and Andrew Little had taken over. Letter had been written to third party, awaiting response.
- **Land Registration Thornton Mire and Flout Moor, Aysgarth** - Cllr Dinsdale summarised the Carbon Capture Initiative where a potential payment of £15 per hectare may be available. The land needs to be registered. Payment may go to Lord of the Manor under Mineral Rights. **Action - Cllr Dinsdale to make further enquiries with land agent as to pros and cons.**
- **Yorkshire Peat Partnership (Umbrella Organisation headed by DEFRA)** - Cllr Dinsdale summarised that rehydration work had been carried out on Thoraby Moss in the past. The Peat Partnership would like to do further environmental recovery work to keep the peat wet to reduce Co2 emissions at nil cost to the Parish Council. Two Thoraby Parish Councillors supported along with the other Parish Councillors present at the meeting. **Action - Cllr Dinsdale to obtain further information.**

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

- **Quick Response (QR) Code for Rock Garden Donations** - Cllr Cromey-Hawke updated that he had looked into a QR Code and the Parish Council would need to set up an additional bank account within the Group of Parish Council bank accounts for the sole use of receipts from the QR Code. **Action - Clerk to go into Thirsk HSBC branch to obtain forms for new bank account.**
- Cllr Windle confirmed that the Meter readings had not changed being Water 4,261 and Electric 20696

## **10. Correspondence (Circulated) E mail dated:**

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

- 03.09.23 from Cllr Peacock - Locality funding for dog bin, Thoraby (**It was noted that funding was not available**)
- 06.09.23 from YDNPA - R/51/25L Aysgarth Falls Hotel - Additional information loaded to YDNPA including letter from AMS Planning Consultants and an amended site plan (Item 7)
- 06.09.23 from solicitor - Query (Item 8)
- 06.09.23 from YDNPA - Invitation to Planning Training Seminar via Zoom on 19.10.23 (**Cllr Cromey-Hawke attending**)

- 07.09.23 from NYC - Invitation to webinar - Communities and Place UKSPF 12.09.23 1pm - 2.30pm
- 07.09.23 from YDNPA - Change of site address for Planning Application R/53/27J to read Full planning permission for the erection of a 3-bedroom rural workers dwelling at Land off B6160, Kidstones Gill Bridge, Bishopdale, DL8 3TG (Item 7)
- 11.09.23 from YDNPA - Response to PC request to be updated with information supplied to YDNPA re Planning Application R/51/146 Aysgarth Methodist Chapel (Item 7)
- 14.09.23 from Mr & Mrs Brown - Request for minutes from 07.09.23 meeting
- 16.09.23 from Peat Partnership/Yorkshire Wildlife Trust - Landscape Recovery Scheme Thoralby Moss (Item 8)
- 16.09.23 from YLCA - Blue Plaque for Institute in Aysgarth. **(It was noted that this was in the early stages).**
- 16.09.23 from Cllr Dinsdale - Carbon Capture Swaledale and Wensleydale Environmental Farmers (Item 8)
- 16.09.23 from UDHW - Minutes & Synopsis from September 23 meeting
- 20.09.23 from NYC - Potential BT Payphone and Telephone Box removal
- 22.09.23 from YDNPA - Additional information loaded to portal re R/51/25L Aysgarth Falls Hotel (Sustainability Statement, Site Waste Management Plan, Guest Management Plan and Amended Proposed Site Masterplan) (Item 7)
- 22.09.23 from YDNPA - Planning Committee Meeting on 03.10.23 at 1pm re R/51/25L Aysgarth Falls Hotel (Item 7)
- 28.09.23 from Mr & Mrs Brown re Howesyke & Bishopdale Planning Applications - Thank you letter and confirmation to comply with Parish Council requests.

## 11. Any Other Business

- **Planning Training Seminar** - Cllr Cromey-Hawke reminded the Parish Council that he was attending the YDNPA Seminar on Zoom on 19.10.23. He asked if the Parish Council had any questions for him to put forward. The following questions were suggested:

What weight do the YDNPA put on support/objections from the Parish Council?

How can the Parish Council maximise the value of the Parish Council responses?

Can the YDNPA hold the individual agencies such as Yorkshire Water accountable?

What part do covenants have to play in the planning application?

- **Parish Council Website** - Concerns were expressed about the views of the Editor of the Thornton Rust Bulletin on Thornton Rust News. Cllr Cromey-Hawke declared an interest as Trustee/Treasurer of Thornton Rust Institute. **Action - Clerk to ask the Website Administrator to put the following standing note after the Bulletin heading on the Thornton Rust News section of the Parish Council website. 'The Thornton Rust Bulletin is produced independently and does not reflect the views of Aysgarth & District Parish Council'.**
- **BT Phone Lines** - Cllr Walker wanted to make people aware that in the next 12 months BT are going to cease analogue phone land lines 'copper line' and people will need to make arrangements for Voice Activated Internet Protocol (VOP).
- **Parking on Village Greens** - **Action - Clerk to send letters to West Stone Lea, East Stone Lea and Aries re parking on Village Greens.**
- **Advice Centres** - Cllr Windle said that Advice Centres are coming to TOSH Leyburn Arts Community Centre to provide Citizens Advice, Mind, etc. on the second Friday of every month.

**Date of next meeting - Thursday 23rd November 2023 at 7.30pm at Aysgarth Institute.**

**Meeting closed 9.30pm**