

**MINUTES OF RUFFORTH WITH KNAPTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2020 IN RUFFORTH VILLAGE INSTITUTE AT  
7.30pm**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr P Rollings (PR) Chairman    Cllr Mrs J Wright (JW)  
Cllr Mrs A Powell (AP)            Cllr N Murray (NM)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ward Cllr Anne Hook (AH), 1 member of the public and the Clerk

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**258 APOLOGIES ACCEPTED:** Cllr A Mate (AM), Cllr Mrs H Butterworth (HB), Cllr J Flynn (JF) and Cllr M Reynolds (MR)

**259 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST (not previously declared):** None

**260 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

The minutes of the 13 January 2020 were proposed as a true record by NM and seconded by PR, agreed by all and signed as a true record.

**261 WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:**

The Post Office grant had been signed off.

Leaflets would shortly be being posted to residents with budget details. There is a council meeting this month to approve the budget.

AH would try to get a Ward Committee meeting by the end of the financial year.

AH asked whether councillors would be interested in "We chat benches" as there was money for them. It was felt that Rufforth had opportunities for people to meet and talk and it was understood that a coffee morning was held on Thursdays in the Red Lion, Knapton, for people to catch up with each other. It was suggested the bench on the green could be designated as one.

**262 CLERK'S REPORT:**

- The Clerk had reported the litter on the B1224 to CYC and Yorwaste and asked for a clean up. There had been lots of discussion on litter at the last liaison meeting with Yorwaste. The policy on litter picking remained the same but there is currently no site manager so things may have slipped a little.
- Rats were causing a nuisance and a health concern in Knapton and were coming from the field where someone has lots of pens for chickens, duck and geese. Andy Blain (CYC Enforcement Officer) had been to investigate and had spoken to the owner after contact from the Clerk. There is no need for planning as it is agricultural, he was selling eggs locally but not on a commercial basis. The owner is putting poison and traps down and is aware of the problem. Andy Blain made it quite clear that there was an environmental issue.
- The Clerk had reported the missing sign at the end of Low Moor Lane/Bradley Lane.
- If residents in Yew Tree Close were still concerned about chickens getting onto their properties they could contact Environmental Health as it could become a health hazard.
- AH would follow up on whether the Community Pay Back scheme could help with litter picking on the verges of the B1224 that are CYC's responsibility. Should anyone see lorries, not netted properly scattering litter along the road they should report to the Parish Council with the time of the incident and what company the lorry was from, if possible, a registration number would be helpful. The Parish Council would then liaise with Yorwaste.

**263 FINANCE:**

The Clerk produced a monthly financial report, a copy of which is in the minute file.

a. Invoices agreed to be paid: Clerk's salary + Burial fees £ 646.28

Payments ratified: BG pruning invoice from AJT Garden Services £ 360.00

b. Payments received: Inv. 213 Interment + plot NBG £ 1164.00  
Inv 214 purchase 2x plots NBG £ 1746.00  
Double taxation claim from CYC £ 460.00

c. Funds available: £13,222.42

The Clerk explained that she had put 40% of the £2910 fees from the NBG funds into the Burial Ground Future maintenance fund.

d. A memorial to Roger Lee for long service to the council was very well received by his widow. She preferred the idea of a bench. PR asked councillors to come up with alternative sites for positioning a bench which would come to the next agenda.

#### **264 BURIAL GROUNDS:**

- a. There had been 1 burial in the Natural Burial Ground.
- b. HB had said there was more work to do pruning/cutting back shrubs in the burial ground. The flowers left on the new grave in the Natural Burial Ground were not acceptable but the undertaker had not let mourners know that simple posies tied with a biodegradable twine could only be placed on graves. HB would clear them as soon as she was able.
- c. The Clerk would check on how much interest we were actually getting on the 14 day account. It was agreed that the future maintenance fund should not be put into stocks and shares or equivalent. JF had looked into accounts with varying rates from 1.3% to 1.9%. There were higher rates but we would need to confirm the amount we were setting aside and the length of time we wanted to commit to. HB and the Clerk were to look into how much land we would need to extend the NBG, how many plots that would take and how much money that would make taking it on CYC resident rates. This would come to the next meeting.

#### **265 GRIEVANCE AND DISCIPLINARY POLICIES:**

Councillors had been sent through the draft policies to councillors for their approval. Both policies were proposed by JW, seconded by NM and agreed.

#### **266 PLANNING:**

19/01515/FUL Land to The South of Northminster Business Park for variation in condition 2 and Condition 11 of permitted development 18/02158/FULM: this application had been withdrawn. The consultation on proposed development on Boroughbridge Road "Wheatlands": NM had been along to the consultation meeting which was for 66 affordable homes between Trenchard Road and the ring road. It would have access onto the Boroughbridge Road opposite the Civil Service site entrance. It was in the Greenbelt and also in the Poppleton and Rufforth with Knapton Neighbourhood Plans as Greenbelt. The developers were trying to push it through as CYC had not enough affordable homes and therefore there were "exceptional circumstances". The site is in both our parish and Poppleton's. All student houses in York have now been designated as affordable housing.

It is unlikely that Inspectors will accept York's Local Plan until April 2021 as Inspectors are asking supplementary questions that need time to answer.

#### **267 CYCLE PATH:**

Rufforth end: It was suggested the gaps in the hedge at the Rufforth end be filled with a few whips and now was a good time to plant or whatever HB thought appropriate and council gave the HB the go ahead to get it done.

Knapton end: Hopefully the sign would be arriving soon and CYC can get them up. Andy Vose (CYC) is looking at an official launch ceremony in mid-March.

There are a few humps and bumps in the part of the track that goes over the top of the landfill. This will be sorted by CYC/Yorwaste.

### **268 RUFFORTH:**

**Allotments:** Soil testing has started with nothing untoward found so far. There is a meeting on 5 February with PR, the allotment holders and CYC to decide on lay-out, size of plots etc. The Allotment holders will be leasing directly from CYC.

**Pinfold:** JW reported that they had been out finding reclaimed coping stones that could be cut to fit. Things were happening but slowly at present.

**Pond:** When work has been done by CYC to the drainage in the pond then work can get started on the pond.

**Southfield Lane:** This lane is adopted highway as far as the playing fields and then owned by the Playing Fields with rights over it by the Gliding Club and a local farmer. The Rights of Way come with the responsibility to maintain the path in the condition it was in. So if someone with a Right of Way gives permission for someone else to use it the maintenance is still down to the person with the right of way. The PROW Officer has referred the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the adopted highway to Highways. HB had spoken to the farmer concerned and he has offered to level it out. If he decided to improve the lane he would have to agree that with the PROWO and Highways.

### **269 KNAPTON:** Knapton Recreational Field

This would go on the next agenda but meanwhile JF had made initial investigations into a possible play area for children in the field. He will meet with David Meigh (CYC) at his office but it is unlikely to be for a while. Fund raising will be key and JF requires support for this.

### **270 PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE:**

NM had spoken to the parishioner who had helped on the Neighbourhood Plan website and she had looked into accessibility and agreed to look at the council website. Escrick had a good website that was worth looking at. The Neighbourhood Plan website is due for renewal in June and it was thought that the two websites could now become one. A member of the public present at the meeting offered to help NM at look into a suitable website that would meet accessibility criteria.

### **271 REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS:**

- a. Rural West Ward Team: no meetings scheduled.
- b. YLCA: The next meeting would be 6 February 2020. Neil Ferris (CYC Corporate Director of Economy and Place) would be attending to talk about Council efficiency.
- c. Yorwaste: Litter had been discussed as it was an issue at present, vehicle movements had been in line with predictions, wood processing had stopped and compost was now of a much better quality. Kevin Smith of Yorwaste would bring up the Site entrance at the coming Board meeting and PR and Kevin Smith would continue to press CYC for action on this. David Mercer (CYC) had set a provisional date for starting work as 30 March and PR had requested monthly updates. Reclamation had slowed down as it was just too wet to carry on the work. The old permissive path would open late Spring/Summer and the picturesque path with viewing spot in 2021.
- d. There was to be a Parish Liaison meeting with CYC at the Mansion House on 4 February, PR and the Clerk would attend.
- e. Transport Forum Meeting: JW would attend and asked for it to go on the next agenda.
- f. Traffic: NM had chased CYC for traffic data collection. CYC had stated that evaluation of the data showed that it was appropriate that CYC would not be funding a 40 mph buffer zone at the Wetherby end of Rufforth or on Bradley Lane. NYP have agreed to use the safety camera van in the area. NM is going to dispute the findings and he will ask people if they have seen the safety camera van.

**272 POLICE REPORT:** There were 2 reported incidents of anti-social behaviour. There had been an incident in Rufforth shop resulting in 6 stolen bottles of gin. It would be interesting to see if that appeared in the next report.

**273 CORRESPONDENCE:** None to report

**274 MINOR MATTERS AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA:**

Update Risk Assessments

**275 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be on Monday 2 March 2020 in the Rufforth Village Institute at 7.30pm.

PR thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 9.50 pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date

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