

**MINUTES OF RUFFORTH WITH KNAPTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2018 IN RUFFORTH METHODIST CHAPEL  
SCHOOLROOM AT 7.30pm**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Mrs A Powell (Chairman)	Councillor Ms D Smitten
Councillor A Mate	Councillor Mrs H Beeley
Councillor P Rollings	Councillor Mrs H Butterworth
Councillor Mrs J Wright	

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ward Councillor Chris Steward, 5 members of the public and the Clerk, Mrs S Warden

**020 PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Alison Hodgson and Ben Whiting spoke to ask for support for the beer/music festival on 14 July. There was a committee of 10 people organising the event so far and a number of donations already promised. This event will now be at the Community Hall due to the Village Hall being out of action and will be from 11am until 9.30pm. They asked for a donation of £250 towards a children's entertainer. The beneficiaries would be the Church, Chapel, PTA and Pre-school.

Cllr Mrs Powell said it would be discussed under finance.

Michelle Hills introduced herself and said why she was objecting to the Planning Application at Ashville Farm for 9 dwellings. She was speaking on behalf of several other villagers as well as for her and her family. The reasons for objecting were:

- The application doesn't agree with what was in the Neighbourhood Plan, they are all 3 bedroomed houses.
- Flooding: the Parish Council's response doesn't show specifics and Michelle felt the response needed to be stronger on this.
- She was also concerned about the safety at the junction of Milestone Avenue with the Wetherby Road

She asked for the Parish Council to further respond to the application. The owner of Milestone Cottage was also concerned as her house suffered rising damp during wet weather and had concerns with the drainage. Number 3 Milestone will be overlooked by 7 second storey windows.

A resident of Milestone Avenue was concerned that 3 days before Christmas work started on the cycle track leaving mud all over the road. Cllr Mrs Butterworth said work had not started but work to clear the fly-tipping had been done by Yorwaste to clear 5 tons of rubbish. The Parish Council were very grateful to Yorwaste for carrying out this work. It had taken 12 years to get a safe cycle route to the beginning of the bridleway and was welcomed by many people. The farmer has right of way into the field via Milestone Close. If mud is left on the road it is a police matter.

**021 APOLOGIES ACCEPTED:** Cllr. John Flynn

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

**023 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

The minutes of the 15 January 2018 meeting were proposed as a true record by Cllr Mate and seconded by Cllr Rollings, all were agreed and the minutes were signed.

Cllr Mrs Wright said that the new vicar was being inducted on 5 March and did any councillor want to go. Unfortunately all councillors felt they should be attending the Parish Council meeting which was at the same time. Cllr Mrs Wright would give councillors' apologies.

**024 WARD COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS:** Cllr Steward would comment on items on the agenda as they came up.

## **025 CLERK'S REPORT:**

- a) Unfortunately a letter back from CYC on the Modification Order Grange Lane rejected some of our objections but were interested in our comments regarding the investigation of the PROW as part of the outer ring road project and asked for further information. The Clerk would ask Roger Lee if he was aware of anything on the subject as had fairly recently done the archiving and Peter Brown of Acomb Grange might be able to give more information.
- b) The Clerk had reference numbers from the police and the insurers following her reporting of the knocking down of the Bradley Lane Village signs. She would ask the Atkinsons and Andy Thomas for a quote. To go on next agenda.

## **026 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:**

A copy of Cllr Rolling's report is in the minute file.

All documents have been prepared for submission subject to a final meeting with Rebecca Harrison on 7 February. Once signed off these will be circulated to councillors, there is a large amount of documentation representing a huge amount of work over the last two months. Cllr Rollings wanted to thank Liz Craven, Nick Murray, Jane Wright and Margaret Lee in particular for their commitment and contribution. The Consultation Statement details the responses received and revisions made to the plan.

The aim is to formally submit the Plan to CYC within the next couple of weeks, who will conduct a final consultation before submitting the Plan for independent examination. Changes will be made if required as a result of the examiner's report and the Plan will then be put to referendum.

The York Local Plan Publication Draft will go out for consultation within the next two weeks. This will be in general conformity with our Plan with exception of the Milestone Avenue housing allocation.

## **027 RUFFORTH:**

- a. **Telephone Box:** The signed agreement of the purchase of the payphone is now in the Clerk's files. It will take time for BT to get round to decommissioning the box.
- b. **Pinfold:** Mike Burdett from York College is keen to use the Pinfold as a work related conservation project as part of the curriculum. It may be that the parish council have to pay for the materials.
- c. **Update on Institute:** The builders' tenders are in. There will be a meeting this week to decide on the contractor. It is hoped work will start by the end of February. The Trustees have decided that the Institute will not open until there is some kind of safety barrier in place. Professor Tony May may be able to help with advice. Chris Steward would speak to Highways. The Institute are happy to pay for any barrier.

## **028 PLANNING:**

17/02984/FUL Land to East of Ashville Farm, Milestone Avenue, Rufforth: The site was recommended by officers for the York Local Plan but rejected by councillors along with all other additional sites. As neither the Local Plan or Neighbourhood Plan have yet been formally adopted the application will be judged against current planning guidelines. It is supported in principle in the Neighbourhood Plan, but some concerns remain. The application does not provide a sufficiently robust drainage plan. The emerging Neighbourhood Plan will have less weight than the Local Plan. It is supported in principle in the Neighbourhood Plan but there are inconsistencies between the extent of the site in the Plan and the Planning Application. The plans also do not provide for sufficient drainage. There were floods in 2015 and two more since. Much work has been done to improve drainage since then and is sufficient to deal with what we have now but possibly not for more housing. Though there is no right to a view, overlooking is a planning objection.

Cllr. Chris Steward would ask for it to go to Planning Committee and the Parish Council would write in further on drainage and lack of bungalows.

Ash Farm Scaffolding Business: This application has been refused. Chris Steward will speak to enforcement.

Car Valeting and the Dyno business: the Clerk will email Chris Steward to see if he had managed to find out whether they had licences/permissions. They are both in agricultural buildings.

Chris Steward is looking into the stables at Bland Lane, Knapton.

18/00096/FUL Land to West of 15 Lochrin Place, York for change of use from agriculture to domestic garden: no objections

17/02332/FUL 13 Trenchard Road for single storey side and rear extension: this had been approved

### **029 FINANCE:**

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

a.	Invoices agreed be paid: Clerk's salary	£ 268.68
	Clerk expenses for Website	£ 87.11
	T Backhouse & Son Ltd for NBG bench	£ 288.00
	Rufforth Methodist Church meeting hire	£ 10.00
b.	Payment ratified: Burn & Co for Cycle track lease	£ 190.00
c.	Payments received: NBG bench payment from G Nicklin	£ 240.00
d)	Funds available:	£48,945.67

### **Burial Grounds:**

- a. There was to be a burial in the NBG 23 February at 10am.
- b. Maintenance: A new bench had been placed in the NBG by kind donation of the Nicklin family..

### **Projects on Parish Council Land:**

**Knapton Recreational Field:** None to report

**Beer Festival:** The Clerk would get advice on this as she wasn't sure it was an appropriate use of public funds. She was to order more Good Councillor Guides as some councillors did not have a copy. It was agreed the decision would be made at the next meeting.

### **030 UPDATE ON THE RUFFORTH ALLOTMENTS' POSITION:**

A letter has now gone to Geoff Wilson via his land agent. Cllr. Rollings had rung Mr Wilson but he had not yet received it from his land agent. He has promised to ring Cllr. Rollings once he's read the letter.

### **031 CYCLE PATH:**

The boardwalk is now in on the extension to the path, it looks very good. Northern Power Grid don't want any digging between the pole and the supports. Nick Squire has served a notice on a resident of Milestone Avenue to move his fence as he has taken some of his land. If the fence is moved the path can go there. A boardwalk could go over where wires go underground. If the path has to come around the pole the lease could become null and void.

There was no update on the Knapton end of the cycle path.

Treemendous: there had been no official authorisation for hedge/tree planting from CYC and Yorwaste had not formally given approval or committed to maintain it. Cllr Rollings had looked and it was not obstructing the bridleway to under 4m. The Parish Council were still very concerned that they had not been advised of the specific planting and it would restrict the open vista of the bridleway.

A meeting was to take place between councillors and Philip Crowe, chairman of Treemendous.

### **032 SPEEDWATCH:**

Alistair Briggs had replied on putting a 40mph speed limit before the 30mph limit at the Wetherby end of the village saying: "there is guidance on what speed limits to set based on what a driver is likely to be doing depending on the surrounding environment. That is; a driver will respond to what they can see such as the start of a built up area, sharp bends (maybe?) much more than the posted speed limit. So if there was a 40mph buffer speed limit there'd almost certainly be no actual change in the speed a driver, especially a regular user of the route, chooses to drive at. Difficult to know

what's best to suggest at this point but things like gateway features at a point where a driver can see the start of the village would probably have more effect on vehicle speeds.”

The Clerk would ask Alistair to let us know when he comes again so someone can meet him from the Parish Council, either Cllrs Wright, Mate or Rollings.

The Clerk would also report the Belisha beacon not working on the zebra crossing in Rufforth.

### **033 REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS:**

- a. Rural West Ward Team: None.
- b. YLCA: Clls Anne Powell and Deborah Smitten attended the last meeting. Data Protection officers (DPOs) were discussed but there is still no clear advice on this. Craven District have appointed a DPO and he will be working with Parish Councils within the district also. There was also a long discussion on Burial Boards.
- c. Yorwaste: 19 January meeting- work has started on the entrance, they are now waiting for N Power to move lines. There have been very few reports on the reporting site on Neighbourhood Plan website. Willow will be planted for biomass on the front field. They are not going to divert the Foss for the foreseeable future. Landfill to finish by September. As it closes Gulls are likely to come over the village, residents are advised not to feed them. Yorwaste may place a phone mast on the top of the tip. All should encourage residents to report litter coming from HGVs on the Neighbourhood Plan website.  
Clerk to email CYC saying that the waste transfer station is theirs and they should be regularly litter picking from Tinker Bridge to the ring road.

### **034 POLICE REPORT:**

There had been no reports this month. Cllr Mrs Wright met the Deputy Commander for York, PCSOs and their leader. It had been a useful meeting. They are currently working on Operation Collaborate. Cllr Mrs Wright asked that they let her know when PCSOs are in the village. There were lots of people from villages around us at the meeting. Reports are done by volunteers. Police had come to Mr Kirby as someone has gone with loppers and a saw and cut his leylandi to make 1m wide holes. The police are describing it as local vandalism. If there is a big event in either village it would be good to invite the police.

A Facebook site for the Parish Council would be useful. Cllr D Smitten would look into it and it would go on the next agenda.

### **035 COMMUNICATIONS:**

The links on the website would be checked.

The Clerk would write to Sarah Day re issues brought up in her email.

### **036 CORRESPONDENCE:** None to report.

### **037 MINOR MATTERS AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA:**

Next agenda – Institute update, Welcome Pack

**038 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be on Monday 5 March 2018 in the Rufforth Methodist Chapel Schoolroom at 7.30pm

Cllr Mrs Powell thanked all those for attending and closed the meeting at 9.40 pm.

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

Mrs SFE Warden, Parish Clerk      Tel: 738751      Email: rufforth.parish.council@hotmail.co.uk