

**MINUTES OF RUFFORTH WITH KNAPTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY 5 OCTOBER 2015 IN RUFFORTH VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30pm**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillor Mrs A Powell (Chairman)	Councillor J Flynn
Councillor C Valentine	Councillor Mrs H Butterworth
Councillor A Mate	Councillor Mrs H Beeley

**IN ATTENDANCE:** 9 members of the public and Mrs S Warden (Parish Clerk).

**150 APOLOGIES ACCEPTED:** Councillors Ms H Pasquill and K Clarke, Ward Councillors Chris Steward and Ian Gillies

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

**152 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Cllr Valentine asked for Item 136 under projects on council land to be amended to read dipping “platform” not “pond” and this was accepted. He also asked for the minutes for Item 137 to be rewritten as per his proposed changes he had written. Cllr Flynn said that he could not accept the proposal. Cllr. Valentine queried the Chairman’s Right to vote and was told the Chairman had a right to vote and a casting vote if necessary. The minutes of 7 September 2015 were proposed as written by the Clerk by 4 votes for the minutes and 2 against. The minutes were agreed.

**153 FLOODING IN RUFFORTH/DRAINAGE PROBLEMS:**

Unfortunately Jim Cavanagh (CYC Senior Flood Risk Engineer) was unable to make the meeting as his son was in hospital. Michael Denny (Yorkshire Water) has spoken to Jim to set up a joint meeting with his new engineer w/c 12 October. Therefore Jim and the new engineer will be at the meeting on 2 November to update the council on what they are proposing to do.

As a member of the Ambulance Service was present to talk about defibrillators Cllr Mrs Powell asked that item 162 be taken next. This was agreed.

**162 DEFIBRILLATOR:**

Linda Milsom from the Ambulance Service was introduced by Cllr. Butterworth. Linda said that last year 100 free defibrillators were provided to outlying areas where access to the ambulance service is difficult proving that they are valued. With public access defibrillators when you phone 999 the ambulance service lets you know where the defibrillator is and gives you the access code. Community First Responders have the kit at home and are on call. The cabinet is £625 and the defibrillator is £900 both inc. VAT.

An awareness session is offered by the Service for £175 for as many people as want it. It can go on any outside wall, but needs an electricity supply which will cost about 35pence a year. Linda showed how easy it was to use by demonstrating it. They come with spare pads and if one set is used the ambulance service provides a new set. If the pads are not used and go out of date the parish council would have to pay for them. The battery needs changing every four years. Alistair Macphail has offered to be the Guardian for the defibrillator, to make regular checks and is trained in this. Cllr. Powell proposed that we buy one and Cllr Valentine proposed that those that want one should put some money in. £1000 was offered by a member of the public if it meant one would be bought. All agreed that the parish council purchase a defibrillator apart from Cllr Valentine who abstained.

**154 WARD COUNCILLOR’S COMMENTS:** Cllr Steward and Cllr Gillies had sent apologies.

**155 CLERK’S REPORT:**

- a) Sand Dykes: Cllr Valentine reported that the trees were still overhanging the road and that there was one very large dead tree now visible to the right as you look from the B1224. The Clerk would ask The Tree Fella for a quote to take it down.
- b) Gliding Club: the response to our complaints were that the tugs and gliders were complying with the law and should any individual wish to complain the Gliding Club would be happy to listen to those individuals. A light aircraft had gone out over the village a few weeks ago and had been reprimanded and told not to come back again.
- c) PRO The Avenue to Hutton Wandersley: the Clerk had reported the problem with horse manure being dumped on the footpath and Richard Hoyland (Public Rights of Way Officer) was to investigate.
- d) The Clerk had written to Connexions regarding the 412 proposed cuts to the bus service. This was due to North Yorkshire cutting subsidies. A final decision on whether to cut the service by North Yorkshire has not been made yet.

#### 156 PLANNING:

- a) 15/02031/FUL Land west of Bradley Lane for a Poultry Unit: One councillor was objecting strongly to this, others had comments to make. It was decided that a meeting would take place with Stephen Courcier (Carter Jonas Planning Consultant) and his client and Councillors Butterworth and Beeley, Jane Wright from the Neighbourhood Plan Committee and Bob McLean to look at the application and decide from that what our response to CYC should be.
- b) 15/01951/FUL Wooley Edge Farm for a single storey side extension and double garage: there had been no objections to this application.

#### 136 FINANCE:

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

Invoices for payment: It was agreed to pay the following:

a)	Invoices for Payment: Clerk's salary & burial fees	£341.79 NET
	Clerk's expenses for the last quarter	£106.86
	Grass Cutting D Bush	£167.00
	R Burniston for grass cutting Knapton	£84.00
	Neighbourhood Plan report printing	£300.00
	The Tree Fella for work to Parish Garden and Sand Dykes	£1440.00
	Derek Dunston for a newt survey (cycle track)	£150.00
	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter PAYE to HMRC	£213.27
	Access to Healthcare for the Stephanie Warden	£19.00

The Clerk made it clear that there was money available to those having difficulty accessing doctor/ nurse's appointments. Receipts needed to be kept to claim the taxi fares.

b)	Payments received: Bank interest	£ 0.09
	Burial fees	£1053.00
	2 <sup>nd</sup> instalment precept	£4075.00
c)	Funds available:	£30,428.88
d)	New Councillor Training: Cllr. Flynn said he would look at his diary and get back to the Clerk. Cllr. Mate said that he didn't want to go on it.	

#### Burial Grounds:

- a) There had been two natural burial plots reserved.
- b) Cllr Mrs Butterworth reported moles in the Burial Ground making a mess under headstones. Cllr Mrs Powell would ask a mole catcher for a quote.

#### Projects on Parish Council Land:

- a) Sand Dykes: The tree work had been done (Item 155). The Japanese Knotweed appeared to be dying.
- b) Rufforth Pond: Cllr. Butterworth had been to see John Hall and he was not happy about anyone going on his land. Cllr. Valentine said that he had advised the Parish Council some time ago that the tree in the pond was John Hall's tree. He also said that

trees to the right of the pond on John Hall's land were overhanging the road. The Clerk is to contact Highways re. the trees.

c) Parish Garden: The Oak has now been cut back.

**Knapton Recreational Field:** The field had been cut since the last meeting. Cllr Mrs Powell was talking to the Allotment Group about reforming Friends of Knapton Recreational Field

#### **158 YORWASTE:**

Frank Di Lorenzo said there needed to be a strategy when dealing with Yorwaste. Jane Wright said that Neighbourhood Plan responses had not shown Yorwaste to be particularly high on the agenda.

Cllr. Colin Valentine proposed that the Parish Council should adopt his Yorwaste Analysis as the parish council's basis for negotiation with Yorwaste. The Chairman asked who was in favour and Cllrs. Valentine and Mate raised their hands, the other four councillors present did not raise their hands. At this point Cllr. Valentine was upset and Cllr Mrs Powell suggested a closed meeting of the council the following Monday to find an agreed way forward and a strategy that everyone could be happy with. This was agreed.

#### **159 REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS:**

a) Rural West Ward Committee meeting: the next meeting is on 20 October.

b) York Branch Yorkshire Local Councils' Association: Cllr Mrs Powell reported that the Digital Transparency Fund was available to parish councils to enable them to go electronic. Rufforth with Knapton could apply to upgrade their website.

The CYC Local Plan Working Group had met on 29 September, it was noted that there had so far been no consultation with parish councils for opinion on where developments could be sited. It is hoped all Neighbourhood Plans will be taken into consideration.

Changes to S106 agreements were brought in 2014 resulting in developments of 10 or less homes not having to pay a contribution. There is an exemption for rural areas having a designated status i.e. less than 3000 residents but York have not applied for this so far. Julian Sturdy MP is on the case.

c) Working Together meeting at West Offices: S 106 agreements were discussed as above. There are now 10 parishes working on Neighbourhood Plans and 3 to start soon. A report from Adult Social Care showed they are keen to get communities involved with "looking after" elderly and infirm residents and identifying those at risk of falls etc.

Ward Committees: Charlie Croft gave a presentation on how Wards are working and being funded and how they can prioritise work to be undertaken in their Ward.

c) Yorwaste Liaison Group: Cllr Mrs Powell will talk to Yorwaste to get a date for a meeting in November.

#### **160 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:**

All residents have now had a copy of the report based on responses to the questionnaire. Key issues are: The Green Belt, Traffic (speeding, HGVs and parking), footpaths (extension of cycle path to Rufforth and the underpass at Knapton), bus service, sewerage and drainage, small scale residential development (separate approach for Rufforth, Knapton and outskirts of York), Yorwaste, solar farm and travellers site.

The detail of the plan will be based on these policies and the draft plan will be subject to extensive consultation and then revisions before submission to CYC.

The initial £750 grant from the Parish Council has been spent and a grant application is now being submitted.

Meetings have taken place with a number of landowners and businesses to understand their future plans and any development proposals, these will be evaluated against basic criteria derived from residents' responses. A meeting with Steve Wragg (CYC Flood Manager) has been held to discuss drainage and sewerage and a further meeting will be held with Yorkshire Water. A meeting has also been arranged with Richard Bogg of Highways to discuss issues

coming out of the report. The next meeting with Yorwaste is planned for October and they are scheduled to meet with CYC in October to discuss interaction between the evolving Neighbourhood Plan and the work on the new Local Plan.

**161 EXTENSION OF THE CYCLE PATH:**

The newt survey needed for the planning application showed there to be no newts present. The steering committee are waiting to hear from Mr Squires on the cost of the land. Once this is known a planning application will be put in. Cllr. Valentine asked if neighbours had been consulted and Cllr Mrs Butterworth felt there was little point at this stage in case the project became a non-starter. Cllr Valentine also wanted to know why the path inside the hedge by Algarth was not being considered and it was explained to him that all parties within the steering group were against this as being far too dangerous.

**163 SPEEDING PROBLEMS THROUGH RUFFORTH AND PROBLEMS AT THE SCHOOL CROSSING:**

Cllrs. Mrs Powell and Butterworth are to meet the Community Speed Watch officer Sgt. Ed Simpson tomorrow. He is going to bring with him the results of the pilot scheme of those using hand held speed cameras. There will be a report back to council at the next meeting. The Head at Rufforth Primary had asked Mums in his newsletter to move away from the crossing to chat as drivers could not see whether there were people waiting to cross.

**164 COMMUNICATIONS:**

- a) The next newsletter will hopefully go out in November.
- b) The website has been updated. Cllr Flynn had taken the website to an IT expert and it was thought that it could not easily be changed to make it more user friendly.

**165 CORRESPONDENCE:** None

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

Cllr Valentine had received more work on the Emergency Plan from Dick Syms. The Clerk will go back to Jonathan Pickles re. the white lines on Bradley Lane by the triangle and will get the lights on the school crossing sorted as they are both not working at present.

**167 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be on Monday 2 November 2015 in Rufforth Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Cllr Mrs Powell thanked all those for attending and closed the meeting at 10.12 pm.

**168 PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Bob McLean was unhappy about the proposed Poultry Farm on Bradley Lane as his house was directly down wind of it and it would be very smelly. He was also concerned about safety on the lane with the entrance to the site being so close to the bad bend and the amount of motorcycles using the lane at high speeds. He was to be included in the meeting with Steve Courcier.

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

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