

**MINUTES OF THE RUFFORTH WITH KNAPTON PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD IN RUFFORTH VILLAGE INSTITUTE ON MONDAY 8
JANUARY 2024 at 7.30pm**

PRESENT: Cllr Peter Rollings, Chairman (PR); Cllr Nick Murray, Vice Chairman (NM); Cllr Helen Butterworth (HB); Cllr Linda Young (LY); Cllr Frank Di Lorenzo (FD); Cllr Terry Edmonds (TE); Cllr Suzie Flynn (SF); Cllr Gary Thompson (GT):

IN ATTENDANCE: Ward Councillor Emilie Knight (EK); The Clerk, Stephanie Warden (SW); 1 member of the public:

001 Public Comments: No one had registered to speak.

002 To receive the apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting: None

003 To consider the approval of reason given for absence: There had been no apologies.

004 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (not previously declared): There were none to be declared.

005 Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 4 December 2023: FD required an amendment to Item 204 to state that there had been a vote taken on the decision. This was to be shown on the minutes as a second paragraph in the minutes to item 204 marked by an Asterix. NM proposed the minutes to include the amendment, TE seconded the proposal and all were agreed.

PR proposed that Item 220 was taken next as FD had to leave the meeting within the hour. This was agreed.

006 Budget/Precept 2024/25:

The Finance Committee had been through the budget line by line and it was agreed that it would have been preferable for a written report to have come with the report to explain the changes.

It was agreed that Training should be of a benefit to the Parish based on need and agreed by full council.

CYC would only pay double taxation next year with invoices to substantiate the costs. There had been a strong implication from an Executive Member that CYC would be cutting back on grass cutting and so it was likely that the parish council would look to taking on grass cutting currently done by CYC. Double taxation would be payable on work that would normally be undertaken by CYC but only at the cost budgeted by CYC.

The budget was approved and it was agreed by a show of hands that all agreed the Precept should go up by 3% to £12670

007 Ward Councillors Comments and Reports:

EK said that the Transport Strategy Consultation was due to finish on 24 February and that the public should be encouraged to respond.

EK had a meeting with the Fire Service and reported that they were keen to engage with the community. EK could arrange for them to attend either a parish council meeting or a Ward wide one.

The City of York Council's budget meeting is coming up. There will be some Ward funding but not a lot.

EK would check whether there had been any updates to the Local Plan. The only remaining issue surrounded the location of one traveller's site. Otherwise the Plan was agreed by the Inspectors.

008 Clerks Report:

The Clerk had sent out a report to councillors previous to the meeting.

NM proposed and TE seconded and all agreed to Alasdair Downie cutting up the tree in the pond as per the quote of £45 + VAT and stacking it in an environmental pile away from the water flow.

Litter would be discussed at the Yorwaste Liaison meeting on 22 January.

The signpost at the far end of Bradley Lane had not yet been replaced.

009 Planning Matters:

- 23/01937/FUL 1 Westview Close for elevational alterations: approved by CYC with conditions.
- 23/01019/FUL Fleur House Wetherby Road Rufforth (revision of planning permission to revise garage extension): approved by CYC with conditions.
- 23/01774/FUL Wooley Edge Farm for reconstruction of agricultural access (retrospective): approved by CYC with no conditions.
- Yorwaste Harewood Whin and Solar 2 Solar Farm updates: there was not a lot more to report other than PR was meeting with Sean Gibbons on 16 January. Many people from all over York walk the bridleway. There will be a site visit and people should be encouraged to attend once a date is published.
- Paver's extension is likely to come back to committee, possibly in March.

010 Finance: Monthly report

a) The following payments were noted:

Clerk December salary + burial fees	£ 833.90
Clerk's expenses last ¼	£ 113.66
PAYE last ¼	£ 859.15
Clerk repayment of website email mailbox	£ 6.52
Farm & Land Services Ltd for work to pond	£ 117.60
Knapton Tree	£ 84.98
Cameo Engraving Invoice	£ 71.25
Aleksander Slodki x 2 invoices work to burial grounds	£ 120.00

It was also agreed to pay £132 for ANBG SUBS and to pay £859.15 to HMRC for the last quarter PAYE

b) Payments Received:

Invoice 305 for NBG burial plot and interment	£ 1680.00
Invoice 306 for Memorial Plaque	£ 250.00
Invoice 307 for NBG burial plot and interment	£ 1418.00

c) Funds Available £14335.08

011 Burial Grounds:

- a) Report on Burials: There had been one burial on the 3rd January and one to take place on 16 January, both in the Natural Burial Ground. There will be a report from the Burial Grounds Committee at the next meeting.
- b) Maintenance in Burial Grounds: There had been a lot of tidying up done and bulbs planted behind the children's graves.

012 Knapton Issues: Cllr Linda Young

- Community Woodland: More roads have gone in. LY will chase up the York Councillors on the Woodland but will liaise with SF and GT.
- SF had met with Ed Bland, CYC. He is newly appointed and very keen and wants to help. Bollards and locks have been replaced, an additional bin and a latch on the gate have been agreed and will go in in Spring. The siting of the memorial tree has been agreed. SF will chase Ed Bland up for a contact in Highways who will advise on the options for a potential accessible pathway from the side gate to the play area. SF, PR and SW will look to meet up with Ed Bland and PR will write towards the end of January re. meeting up in February. This is to discuss us taking over the grass cutting, as well as overgrown grass on the bridleway on the cycle path adjacent to the Knapton Recreational Field and a broken handrail at the underpass.
- LY would speak to Tom in The Knapton Lion regarding the defibrillator.
- There is a need for a streetlight outside Knapton Grange as there is no street lighting beyond Back Lane and it is very dark and not easy to see the Give Way sign at the junction with the A1237. SF would follow up on that.
- Residents are concerned over the activity in the Field by Knapton Grange. This is in the Local Plan for development. The owner of the field is to be contacted by PR asking to be kept informed of any potential development/forthcoming planning application.

013 Grass Cutting: Councillors agreed that the PC should take on grass cutting in the villages to ensure tidiness. The PC agreed to accept AJT's quote for grass cutting, maintenance work in the burial grounds and the cycle path (Milestone to cattle crush section). The Parish Council would carry out a survey across Rufforth and Knapton to see what areas needed to be cut.

014 6 June 2024 D Day Celebrations: LY had nothing to report and would ask the Clerk to put it on the agenda when necessary.

015 Representatives' Reports: To receive reports on meetings councillors have attended:

- a) Rural West York Team and residents Forum Meetings: nothing.
- b) York Branch Yorkshire Local Councils Association: The liaison meeting with CYC took place on 20 December at which the Election process was discussed. Lindsay Tomlinson is the new deputy returning officer, she assured those present that she would go back to the previous process of involving Clerks. There is a proposal to have a review of Local Governments in time for the next elections. There was also a debate on the budget and a passenger liaison group had been set up on which PR would represent YLCA.

- c) Yorwaste Liaison Group: 22 January with a tour at 2pm first.
- d) Rufforth Playing Fields Association: nothing to report.

016 Website and Key Communications:

- It was agreed to plug the Transport Consultation on the website. The Park and Ride now closes at 6 o'clock. There is a diminished 412 bus service and in the buses on Beckfield Lane.

017 Minor Matters and Items for the Next Agenda: It was agreed to build a newsletter around the Annual Meeting of the Council and should go on the March agenda.

018 Date of next meeting: Monday 5 February 2024 in Rufforth Village Hall starting at 7.30 p.m.

PR thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 9:30pm

Signed_____ Date_____

Mrs Stephanie Warden, Parish Clerk: Tel: 738751 Email: clerk@rufforthwithknapton-pc.gov.uk