

**MINUTES OF THE RUFFORTH WITH KNAPTON PARISH COUNCIL  
MEETING HELD IN RUFFORTH VILLAGE INSTITUTE ON MONDAY 4  
MARCH 2024 at 7.30pm**

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

**In Attendance:** Ward Cllr Anne Hook (AH); 1 member of the public; Stephanie Warden, Clerk to the Council:

As Cllr Peter Rollings (PR) was absent Cllr Nick Murray took the Chair.

**036 Public Comments:** nobody had registered to speak.

**037 To receive the apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting:** Cllr. Peter Rollings (PR), Chairman.

**038 To consider the approval of reason given for absence:** the reason for absence was approved.

**039 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (not previously declared):** there were no declarations of interest on items below.

**040 Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 5 February 2024:** The minutes were agreed as a true record proposed by FD and seconded by GT.

**041 Ward Councillors Comments and Reports:**

AH reported that a charge will be made for Green Bin Collections by CYC. The Charge will be £46 per bin, per annum. Charges for this year would be on a pro-rata basis as it is not certain of the start date. Residents will have the option to opt out and make their own arrangements for disposal of green waste. The funding for Libraries has been cut and AH would be finding out more about how it might affect the Library Bus..

Jim Cavanagh (CYC Highways Drainage) was sorting the flooding in Knapton. Gulleys needed cleaning in Rufforth also. TE would provide photos and locations to AH.

**042 Clerks Report:**

Ben Grabham had been told about the overflowing bin by the cattle crush. The Clerk had not received a reply from Ed Bland on the request for a combined litter and dog bin by the Cattle Grid on the Rufforth to Knapton Bridleway.

**043 Planning Matters:**

- 23/02169/FUL Land and Buildings lying to the North West of Moor Lane and forming part of Oakwood Farm for Variation of Condition 25 (BREEM requirement) of 22/02605/FUL: this had been approved but with many conditions.
- Harewood Whin Green Energy Park: NM presented a brief summary of the situation. CYC have agreed a £243.500 budget from the new

combined mayoral fund to undertake a feasibility study to create a Green Energy Hub at the Yorwaste site. Several schemes are proposed and it was agreed that PR would invite the CYC Head of Carbon Reduction, Sean Gibbons, to present the scheme to the PC at a special meeting, date TBA. This will be part of the consultation process.

- 23/01732/FULM Yorwaste Harewood Whin: nothing new to report
- 23/00626/FULM Solar 2 Solar Farm: PR, as a resident, has written to the Secretary of State asking him to Call it In. Approval for the plant would be held up by the Secretary of State until April. If it were to be approved then there would be conditions placed on it.
- York Local Plan update: The Travellers Site is still a problem and holding up final approval.

#### **044 Finance: Monthly report**

##### **a) To note the following payments:**

Clerk February salary + burial fees (£22.50)	£ 620.30
Clerk repayment of website email mailbox	£ 8.46
York Bus Forum Subs	£ 15.00
A Slodki for work to NBG	£ 50.00
Falon nameplates for memorial plaque	£ 182.12
Cllr. Helen Butterworth for NBG expenses	£ 5.76
Mrs SE Goodwill for Christmas Tree	£ 135.00

It was agreed to repay the Clerk £27.56 for the .gov email address hosted by Fasthosts. Also an invoice from A Slodki for £60 work done to the Burial Grounds. It was agreed to accept A Slodki's request for his payments to go up from £10 an hour to £13 an hour.

There was a need for a meeting with Ed Bland as soon as possible re. grass cutting.

##### **b) Payments Received:**

Invoice 309 for memorial Stone fee	£ 150.00
VAT reclaim from HMRC	£ 1192.10

c) Funds Available £ 10644.38

#### **045 Burial Grounds:**

a) LY had produced a report which showed that getting more land was not necessary at present with up to 44 years left to go at the present rate of burials in the Natural Burial Ground. Some concern was raised as to the capacity of the formal burial ground and the clerk agreed to e-assess the number of plots available.

Questions were raised about the terms of reference of the burial ground committee and it was agreed that this would be reviewed at the Annual meeting of the Parish Council in May, along with the normal appointment of representatives.

- b) Maintenance in Burial Grounds: The skip had been emptied
- c) There had been no burials during February.

#### **046 Knapton Issues:**

- **Community Woodland:** GT reported that tree planting in the woodland during half term had been well attended with lots of enthusiastic youngsters. It had been well organised. All three Knapton Councillors attended the tree planting sessions and 180k of the planned 230k trees to be planted were done. GT said that there was already a good amount of wildlife coming into the area.  
Concerns about parking & other issues: The two CYC councillors had produced a sustainable travel map. There would be 20 hard standing parking places with 20 others on grass. The plan was based on 50,000 car visits a year. There has to be a balance between sustainable travel & car parking.  
GT will ask Nick if he can do some planting trees with Rufforth school.
- **Report on meeting of Knapton Councillors and Cllr Rollings re. the field at the corner of Back Lane and Main Street, Knapton:** All Knapton residents had received leaflets on the proposed development, there were issues with drainage and the fact that the plan consisted of 6 large houses with not enough car parking and no visitor parking off street. So far generally villagers were for development on the site but the houses were too big and there were too many houses. A meeting between Knapton Councillors and residents has been arranged to gauge opinion.

#### **047 Litter on the B1224:**

Ben Grabham had come back to PR saying that the litter would be attended to every 8 weeks. It was agreed that PR will push for a meeting as soon as possible as every 8 weeks is not enough. The issue around the problems of overgrown hedgerows impeding litter collections to be on the same agenda. CYC had found asbestos in one of the lay-bys necessitating removal by specialist contractors.

#### **048 Rufforth Playing Fields Association quarterly update meeting:**

Cllr Di Lorenzo reported that they had completed putting solar panels on the Clubhouse roof. Various sporting organisations can now apply for grants for any future projects. They had gone to the Charities Commission to register as a charity and were in the process of getting the land registered.

The Constitution will not go against the Deeds of Trust and a representative from the Parish Council will always be welcomed.

Management Committee and Trustees have adopted the new Constitution.

#### **049 Representatives' Reports:**

- a) Rural West York Team and residents Forum Meetings: none
- b) York Branch Yorkshire Local Councils Association: next meeting in April and PR will bring up the lack of responses, or poor response times with correspondence with CYC in particular the installation of a 20mph zone in Rufforth.
- c) Yorwaste Liaison Group: we are looking to have a meeting in April.

#### **050 Website and Key Communications:**

NM, SF and Charlotte had met and separated out the Community Network Groups, worked on News and created a tab for past projects. Links to the Community Network were added.

The Burial Ground and leaflet need to be looked at. The website is now much better and easier to navigate.

It was decided to create a Newsletter for both villages in Spring and Autumn after looking at the mock up for future newsletters.

It was decided to keep information on the Shop and Knapton Lion pointing to their websites but generally they would not help businesses to advertise themselves,

**051 Minor Matters and Items for the Next Agenda:**

TE reported that Speedwatch had been out 4 times during February and caught 18 drivers speeding in that time.

TE had removed tree protectors away from trees from the woodland on both sides of the cycle path leading to the cattle grid. All agreed how much tidier this now was.

**052 Date of next meeting:** Monday 8 April 2024 in Rufforth Village Hall starting at 7.30 p.m. This will be the Annual Parish Meeting followed by an Ordinary Meeting of the Council.

NM thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 9.40 pm

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

Mrs Stephanie Warden, Parish Clerk: Tel: 738751 Email: [clerk@rufforthwithknapton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@rufforthwithknapton-pc.gov.uk)