

RUFFORTH WITH KNAPTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN RUFFORTH VILLAGE INSTITUTE ON MONDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2024 AT 7:30pm

PRESENT: Cllrs Peter Rollings, Chairman (PR); Vice chairman Nick Murray (NM); Linda Young (LY); Terry Edmonds (TE); Suzie Flynn (SF); Gary Thompson (GT); Victoria Kirk (VK):

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

164 Public Comments: None

165 To receive the Apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting:
Cllr Frank Di Lorenzo (FD)

166 To consider the approval of reason given for absence: Absence approved

167 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (not previously declared):
none were declared on any items of interest below.

168 Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 7 October 2024:
The minutes were proposed as a true record by NM, seconded by LY and agreed and signed as a true record.

169 Review of Policies, Standing Orders and Financial Regulations:

- Lone Working Policy: **ACTION TE** would send out within the week.
- Co-option Policy: this was approved for adoption. **ACTION: SW** will add it to the policies already on the website.
- SW will bring the Data Protection Policy to the meeting for adoption.

171 Clerks Report: SW had sent out a report to councillors and added that there had been a second lot of fly tipping on Bland Lane in Knapton which SW had reported to CYC.

172 Planning Matters:

- Hessay Solar Farm: Hessay PC would like to work with our parish council on Hessay Solar Farm. It was agreed that PR would propose that funding through the Community Fund would be appropriately split between Hessay and Rufforth with Knapton.
- Middlewood Close – there has been a planning condition application regarding drainage, this is on the CYC Planning portal.
- York Local Plan: this is back with the Inspectors and hopefully will come back to CYC Executive in March/April.

The Government target for York is for 1,250 homes per year to be built whereas there are only 800+ in the plan at present. It could mean York having to review the Plan earlier than the usual 5 years and could potentially result in changes to the Green Belt. Applications:

24/01781/FUL 9 Portal Road York for erection of single storey detached annex to rear: there were no objections to this application but we would ask that a condition be placed on it that materials would have to be similar to those of the main dwelling.

173 Finance: Monthly report
a) The following approved payments for October were noted:

Clerk: October salary and back pay to 1 April	£ 787.80
Grass Cutting AJT Garden Services inv4751	£ 732.00
Mr N Squire Rufforth Permissive Path Lease	£ 550.00
Invoice 78405707 Website Mailbox	£ 8.46
Inv4917 Path over Knapton Green AJT Garden Services	£ 120.00

To approve funding the Christmas Tree at the Institute: this was approved as there was £150 in the budget for it.

Invoice 000013 for £104 for work done to burial ground borders was also approved. Both proposed by TE and seconded by LY and all agreed.

b) Payments Received:

Invoice 321 for donation of 1 bench for NBG	£ 396.00
Invoice 322 for headstone in Burial Ground	£ 140.00

c) Funds Available: £13,379.72

d) Budget Process: PR asked councillors to bring specific projects to the next meeting.

ACTION SW to organise a date for the December budget meeting.

Budget group: Chairman, Vice Chairman, LY and Clerk.

174 Website and Key Communications:

- There had been two updates to the website, a notice about allotments and about Pension Credit.
- Autumn newsletter: PR thanked SF, NM and Charlotte for their work putting it together and for those that posted them through doors.
- Online Portal: There will be some training by Zoom needed for councillors on an early evening once the portal has been populated.

175 Rufforth Issues:

- Events on Airfield: Cllrs. Rollings and Di Lorenzo: repeat ACTION
- Grass Cutting: CYC are not going to pay for double taxation for grass cutting over and above what we are already claiming for. NM proposed and all agreed in principle to cutting all sensitive areas to keep the two villages tidy.
- Traffic Management: SF had found the cheapest quote for producing notices to go on wheelie bins in the 20mph zone for £170 per 100 excluding VAT. It was agreed to just do the 20mph zone to start with and see if they reduce speed. CYC are reviewing speed limits and are using Bishopthorpe as a test for reducing speed throughout the village to 20mph.

All agreed to 120 of each of the two designs, one for green bins and one for black.

ACTION SF would circulate the response from school re. parking.

176 Knapton Issues:

SF and LY still had not had data logging back on speeds through Knapton and would look at a possible 20mph zone through Knapton once they had the data. They also need the data to find the best time of day to do Speedwatch.

GT had a response from Forestry England, Nick reported that there was a plan to cut the hedges on the B1224 and would get back to GT when they were certain of a date. Fly-tipping in Knapton especially Bland Lane – it was agreed where possible to send photos to EK and SW.

177 To decide date for permissive path closure (usually 21 December): As the 21st was a Saturday it was decided to close the path on 23rd December and we would publicise that a good week before.

170 Ward Councillor's report: EK had been delayed and so this Item had been moved for when she could attend. Our Ward Councillors are working hard to get CYC to recognise that York does not just cover Central York but all the parishes around it. EK also reported that drain covers were being stolen from around the villages, which was extremely dangerous and to report any missing straight away.

PR reported that the 412 bus service's current contract was until 2025/26. There was provision to extend for up to three years to March 2028. A recommendation will be made to the Executive Member to enact this extension period.

178 Projects Councillors would like to see considered for the future:

SF had this day met with a ground worker to look at costs for a disabled path to the play area in Knapton. He will come back to SF on this.

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

a) Rural West York Team and residents Forum Meetings: EK reported there would be a meeting shortly.

b) York Branch Yorkshire Local Councils Association: YLCA are putting together a response to the Government on hybrid meetings/zoom meetings and are wanting views. Councillors had already put their views forward and PR would respond to YLCA.

c) Allotments: there are some plots available. CYC has undertaken to move the compost heap for safety reasons.

180 Minor Matters and Items for the Next Agenda: for the next agenda: VE Day, 8th May 2025 and Burial Ground Report.

181 Date of next meeting: Monday 2 December 2024 in Rufforth Village Hall starting at 7.30 p.m.

PR thanked all those for attending and closed the meeting at 9:35pm

Signed by _____ Date _____