

**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNSDAY, 17th JUNE 2015, 7:00PM
BRAWBY VILLAGE HALL, BRAWBY**

Present

Chairman	Mrs. Sarah Houlston
Councillors	Mr. Duncan Collinson, Mrs. Karen. Garrett, Mr. Richard Metcalfe
Clerk	Mrs. Dorothy Ashton
Treasurer	Mrs. Carolyn Swift
Apologies	Mr. Peter Milner
Guest	Mrs. Val Arnold, Chairman of Ryedale District Council and Vice Chairman of North Yorkshire county Council

Residents joining at 7.30pm

Present

Mr. Jerry Swift, Mrs. Nancy Cookson, MR. Mike Cookson, Mrs. Janet Davis, Mr. Harry Davis, Mr. Andrew Allen, Mrs. Susan Gough, Mr. Peter Gough.

Apologies

Mrs. Karen Allen

Minutes

13. The Minutes of the last meeting held on 2th May 2015 approved and signed.

Introductions

14. Those present were introduced to the Parish Councillors and Officers.

15. The Chairman introduced Val Arnold, newly elected Chairman of Ryedale District Council, and thanked her for attending the meeting.

Mrs. Arnold thanked the Chairman. She said it was a pleasure to be able to visit the meeting and that it is something she likes to do to get to know the Parish Councils.

Offices of the Council

16. Acceptance of Office of Chairman of the Parish Council.

Sarah Houlston signed her 'Declaration' as elected Chairman of the Parish Council for 2015 to 2016. The Declaration was witnessed and signed by Councillors Duncan Collinson and Richard Metcalfe.

The Clerk will send a copy to Bridget Skaife at Ryedale Legal Department.

17. Election of a Vice Chairman.

The Chairman asked for a nomination from the Councillors for a Vice Chairman of the Parish Council. Karen Garret was nominated, seconded and duly elected,

Matters Arising

18. Salt and Grit for Little and Great Barugh. (Min. 2014-33) Karen Garret said that she had sent an email to Mr. Richard Marr, North Yorkshire Highways Department (NYCC), appraising him of the current situation. This included: there being no deliveries to either village; it has been necessary for residents to make private purchase of grit and/or salt during last winter, and that there had been a particular, potentially dangerous skid on the corner in Little Barugh, etc. Karen asked Mr. Marr for clarification of NYCC position on the provision and cost of the necessary salt and grit.

Mr. Marr said that he will look into this and respond.

Parish Council Agenda

19. Working Group – Third Energy plan to frack in Ryedale

The Chairman proposed the setup of a working group regarding Third Energy's plans to frack in Ryedale. Councillors, Karen and Duncan volunteered to organize informative evenings for the Parish. A further suggestion was that a Guest Speaker(s) be invited. It was agreed that this would go a long way to keeping everyone informed.

20. Parish Liaison Meeting. Karen had attended the recent Parish Liaison meeting and gave a presentation to the meeting, by agenda point.

(i) Transparency Code

Nicola from YCLA gave a review of the Transparency Code for Smaller Councils which came into effect in April 2015. Nicola outlined the requirement of Parish Councils to publicise Parish correspondence on a website so that it is available for public view,

Karen explained that Ryedale District Council (RDC) provide a service whereby the information can be uploaded on the Parish page of the RDC website but that their preference was for Parishes to have their own website, where ever possible.

Karen advised the meeting that the National Association of Local Councillors (NALC) has funding of £4.5 million available for digital transparency but that this has not yet been formalised or distributed; but it was assumed that Parish Councils should be able to make retrospective claims.

(ii) Fire Brigade Union presentation

A presentation was given at the Liaison Meeting by the Fire Brigade Union members with the Yorkshire Fire Brigade. They advised the meeting that there is a public consultation paper, expiring 20th July, on the current situation within the Fire Brigade. It was explained that there are 46 fire stations in North Yorkshire and that there cuts to be made and that a recruitment freeze is in place to 2019. Additionally, it has been proposed that first response teams are introduced, as in the Health Service, who would not be able to act in a fire situation due to the safety requirements of 4 firefighters being required to enter a burning building.

This could all potentially result in an increased loss of life of fire fighters and the public, and eliminate the ability to reduce property damage, etc.

Services could be severely impacted.

Karen said that all residents should be aware and should go on line, or write to express their concerns.

(ii) Bus Subsidy Consultation

NYCC gave a presentation on the current Bus Subsidy consultation. Again cuts are being proposed.

It was agreed that the cuts would not directly impact either Little Barugh or Great Barugh.

(iv) Any other business

Mr. Richard Marr, North Yorkshire County Council Highways, was subject to many queries regarding road re-surfacing; potholes and winter gritting.

Richard explained that the lifespan of the recent tarred and gritted re-surfacing had an expected lifespan of 7-11 years. Some present pointed out that roads had been re-surfaced but potholes had not necessarily been filled beforehand.

Richard advised that anyone with road related issues should report them on the NYCC website.

In response to direct questions, Richard mentioned that the winter maintenance budget of North Yorkshire last year was £100,000.

21. Transparency Code

The chairman proposed that a working group be established to help implement the code in our Parish Council. Karen and Sarah agreed to organize. Karen went on to explain that the information must go on to the Parish Website and that Ryedale Council had offered website training, although there is no assistance until 7th July due to holidays. Bridget Skaiffe at Ryedale Legal Department had agreed, in the interim, to accept minutes and correspondence from the past 12 months. She would then load this onto the Ryedale website.

Karen said that she expect Ryedale Council annual maintenance cost for the Parish website would be in the region of £50-£80.

Sarah said she would discuss this with Carolyn, Treasurer, as additional annual precept will be required.

Sarah suggested that the Council collate the email addresses of all residents.

22. Proposal to join Yorkshire Local Council Association (YLCA) The Chairman put forward the proposal that the Parish Council join the YLCA. She advised the annual cost as £43 p.a. and outlined key information:

- Three meetings each year
- Access available to all.
- Casework notes available
- Training
- Pension schemes
- Advice
- Next meeting October 2015

The Chairman proposed that the Parish join the YLCA; the proposal was seconded by Karen. Karen also pointed out the further advantage of escalation of issues, e.g.

Broadband; Legal access, for any questions.

All Councillors agreed.

Planning Applications

23. Hedgerow Notice Number 02-2015. The meeting was asked to consider notice from Ryedale District Council regarding the proposed removal of two hedges from the land at Northfields Farm, Great Barugh.

The Chairman, Sarah Houlston, having direct interest in the application, left the room.

The Councillors discussed the notice and agreed that a letter would be sent to Ryedale District Council with the following comments:

1. No one present had any local or historic knowledge in relation to the notice.
2. The Council supports the proposed consultations with North Yorkshire County Council Heritage and Records section and with the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust.
3. If these authorities find no reason why the hedges should not be removed, this Council has no objection to their removal.

Sarah Houlston then re-joined the meeting.

24. 15/00587/House. The meeting considered a retrospective planning application submitted by Mr. N. Paylor for the constructed wall alongside the property at Bennison's Cottage, Barugh Lane, Great Barugh.

The Councillors discussed the application and agreed that a letter would be sent to Ryedale District Council with the following comments:

1. Once the wall is complete, with planting between the pillars, the structure will appear softer and non-intrusive and enhance the appearance of the property.
2. The wall will provide privacy and security to the property.
3. Once the bricks have weathered, the wall will look in keeping with the structural aspects of property.
4. The house is situated on a busy, and often fast road. The wall will provide the residents with protection and relief from traffic noise.
5. The Council considers that the application should be approved.

25. 15/0582/FUL The meeting considered an application by Mr.P. Allen at Barsdale Farm, Wandale Lane, Little Barugh, for the demolition of an existing farmhouse and the construction of a new farmhouse on the site.

The Councillors discussed the application and agreed that a letter would be sent to Ryedale District Council with the following comments:

1. The proposed new property looks neat and tidy and should enhance the general appearance of the site.
2. The assumption was made that the Council has no issue with the change of use of the land from Agricultural to Domestic.
3. A further assumption is that latest energy saving methods will be complied with in the building of the new house.
4. We request a condition that clearly states the requirement for prompt demolition of the existing farmhouse.
5. The council requests a condition that the new farmhouse will have an agricultural clause.
6. Subject to items 3-5) above, the Council makes no objection to this application.

26. Update on Fracking plans. The Chairman advised the meeting that the planning application for a test frack at Kirby Misperton had not been validated and has been withdrawn. The application has not yet been re-submitted by Third Energy. She further advised that the meeting held at Kirby Misperton Village Hall on 16th June, hosted by officers of the Environment Agency, was well attended, adding that she thought the Agency seemed to understand residents' issues.

The Chairman suggested that the separate borehole application should be included with the main groundwater quality application (NY/2015/0116/FUL)

It was agreed that, as the Public Consultation period ends on 10th July, a Parish information meeting should be arranged.

Correspondence

27. Neighbourhood Watch Information. Information continues to be delivered to the Clerk to Council, and to residents who have requested it. It was suggested that, any residents who are not on the circulation for such information, and wish to be, provide their email address to the local officer, Mr. Peter French.

28. Monthly crime statistics. This information has been received from North Yorkshire Police Safer Ryedale Team. It was suggested that this information be included on the Parish website in future.

29. Public Rights of Way. We have had confirmation that The Rambler's Association, Ryedale Group, has carried out a survey of all Public Rights of Way in Ryedale. Some residents have told us that they have had representatives of the survey visit their land to investigate. The Clerk will request a copy of the actual survey report for our Parish.

30. Councillor Val Arnold. Mrs Arnold has written to the Council to confirm that she has set up her two charity funds. She has decided to Support Macmillan Cancer Support and North Yorkshire Air Ambulance. Any donations to be in the form of cheques made payable to "RDC Chairman's Charity". Mrs. Arnold also advised that, if requested, she would be happy to visit any residents on occasions such as their 100th birthday or their Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

Questions from the floor

31. Mrs. Janet Davis requested earlier notice of the meetings. It was acknowledged, and confirmed that longer notice would be given for meetings in the future. Sarah clarified that notices for the Parish Council Meeting and the EA Public Consultation were put on the two village notice boards 7 days before.

32. Mr. Jerry Swift asked the Council if there was a budget in place. The Chairman replied that she was to arrange a meeting with The Treasurer to discuss.

33. Mrs. Susan Gough asked if it was possible to raise funds from the community by, for example, holding picnics.

Previous experiences were discussed: Fun days; Jubilee party and third party liability insurance stated as a potential issue/cost.

34. Mrs. Janet Davis asked if the cost of a Parish website could be explained, and who pays for it.

Karen Garret explained that funding would be provided although the terms were not clear. Karen said that a letter regarding funding was expected very soon. (Min 21 (i))

35. Mrs. Gough asked if there was any other possible source of funding.

Duncan Collinson replied that it was possible to apply for funding for village events. Mrs. Val Arnold explained that there is to be a Community Fund set up at Ryedale but, as yet, she does not know the details. She said she would get the details.

36. Mrs. Arnold congratulated Karen on her summary and presentation following her attendance of the Parish Liaison Meeting (Min 20, above)

Any other Business

37. The Chairman said she would donate plants and ‘plant’ the two pots at the top of Great Barugh.

Susan Gough said she would do the same for the planter by the notice board in Little Barugh.

38. The Chairman asked the meeting if Ryedale Council is responsible to cut the grass at the top of the hill in Great Barugh. Richard Metcalfe said he normally does this but has been waiting for the ground to dry out. He will do it soon.

39. Val Arnold asked to be advised of the dates of future meetings.

Date of next Council meeting

The Chairman said this would be arranged at a later date.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.00 pm