

Skelton Parish Council

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Skelton Parish Council held on Thursday 25th July 2024 in Skelton Village Hall at 1930.

Present:

Councillors: Cllrs. J. Watson, C. Linfoot, J. Linfoot, K Hayton, T. Stead, N. Lansell and L.Mansell.

Ward Councillor: Cllr. E.Knight

Members of the Public 5

Clerk: Colin Ellis

24/032 Chair's welcome.

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming all present.

24/033a To receive and note apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting.

None, full complement of Councillors assembled.

24/033b To consider the approval of reasons given for absence.

None, full complement of Councillors assembled.

24/033c To consider the co-option of any eligible candidates to a vacancy on Skelton Parish Council.

The two prospective candidates who previously had shown interest had not come forward.

24/034 To receive any declarations of interests not already under the Council's Code of Conduct or a member's Register of Disclosable Pecuniary interests.

None declared.

24/035 To resolve to adjourn the meeting to hold the Open Forum to include: (Please note this will be limited to 30 minutes)

1.To receive any latest incident reports from North Yorkshire Police.

The Clerk had circulated the report for June. Only two incidents reported, ongoing issues with neighbours smoking drugs in a garden in Arthur Place and theft of a carrier bag containing electrical items from a room at Fairfield Manor.

2.To receive a report from the Ward Councillors.

a. York City Football Kickabout in the Parks programme – Use of Skelton Football Field 2nd, 16th, and 30th August 1.30pm and 4.30pm. This had been confirmed would take place on the dates and times mentioned.

b. The Ward Councillor reported on a number of outstanding issues with City of York Council either raised by herself and/or the Clerk. James Gilchrist, Director of Transport, Environment and Planning apologised for the slow progress on these issues but would now follow up namely 1. Loose footpath chippings down Brecksfield 2. Verge damage corner of St Giles Road/Church Lane 3. A19 layby north of Skelton bin requirement

3.To receive the Litter Picker's report.

Litter Picker reported on a number of issues, by far the worst, the amount of litter in the playground, had removed broken plastic goal post and crossbar in the play area, issues at No 12 The Dell (later on the agenda) and that a sunken area had developed at the side of the rotary see saw approx 3 to 4 inches deep becoming a possible trip hazard which the Chair thanked Cllr. Stead for volunteering to infill. It was also reported that the centre pivot on the rotary see saw was becoming loose. The Clerk mentioned that a playground annual inspection by ROSPA was due in August/September.

4.To receive resident's questions.

a. To receive any update on the untidy driveway at 2 Grange Close and environmental health issues

It was RESOLVED to note no further communication from Planning Enforcement Officer. Clerk to follow up.

b. To receive any update on the provision of refuse bin stickers for residents of Moorlands Road.

It was RESOLVED to note no further reply received from City of York Council and that this would be left in abeyance.

c. To receive any updates on the provision of a waste bin for the A19 Layby North of Skelton.

It was RESOLVED to note no further reply received from City of York Council and that the Ward Councillor was following up.

d. To receive any updates on the request to CYC to sweep the loose footpath chippings down

Brecksfield.

It was RESOLVED to note no further progress on this request and that the Ward Councillor was following up.

- e. **Resident reported concern over further verge damage corner of St Giles Road/Church Lane.**
It was RESOLVED to note that the Clerk had reported through City of York Council portal and that the Ward Councillor was also following up.
- f. **Cllr Lansell had been approached by a number of residents about overgrowing/overhanging hedges obstructing public footpaths. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk should be informed of any specifics that need attention that should be reported to City of York Council.**
- g. **Philip Butler reported that the frontage to the post office/store was becoming an eyesore and as this is used by many residents the appearance is not in keeping with the character of the village. The vegetation needs to be cleared and replaced by suitable plants. The landlord was aware but was undecided what to do so the Clerk was charged with discussing with him various options including contacting the Village Gardening Club for advice.**

24/036 To approve and sign the minutes of the Annual and Ordinary meetings of Skelton Parish Council held on 23rd May 2024 as a true and correct record.

It was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Annual and Ordinary Meetings of Skelton Parish Council held on 23rd May 2024 as a true and correct record of the proceedings and were signed by The Chair.

24/037 To receive information on the latest ongoing issues and decide further necessary action on village and playground matters to include: -

1.To consider and decide to improve the village appearance by providing additional planters/s, replenish plants and plant new bulbs/trees.

It was RESOLVED to note that the plants had been replenished in the existing planter but still no reply from City of York Council regarding a licence for an additional planter on the corner of Fairfields Drive/A19. The Ward Councillor offered to assist. It was RESOLVED to purchase 2 trees to replace dead and felled trees. The Chair thanked the SVT for offering to support the Parish Council by funding the purchase of plants and bulbs for the newly proposed planter at the junction of Fairfields Drive/A19.

2.To receive update and consider any necessary actions to replace the path at the pond and to provide lighting with progress on any grant funding options.

It was RESOLVED to note no further progress on either CYC funding or on an application submitted to the National Lottery.

3.To consider and decide on a date for the first walk around the village by councillors/clerk.

It was RESOLVED to arrange the first walk around the village by Councillors/Clerk on Thursday 15th August meeting at St Giles Church at 6pm.

4.To review and ratify the quote for moving the galvanised seat further up The Village to prevent bird fouling.

It was RESOLVED to ratify, that in between meetings on a majority vote, that the quote from LJD Construction Services Ltd totaling £640 be accepted. This work will be undertaken shortly.

5.To consider dog fouling notices “There is no Poop Fairy” “Clean up after your Dog” for erection around the village.

It was RESOLVED, in the first instance, that a supply of Dog Fouling adhesive stickers be purchased for displaying throughout the village even, with permission, on private gates/fences. Other measures would be considered on the walk around the village by Councillors/Clerk that had been arranged.

6.To consider and decide on any action regarding the No 12 The Dell – house condition and hedge encroaching footpath.

It was RESOLVED to note that the Clerk had reported this through the City of York Council portal, the current status was unresolved awaiting an inspection. Because of the urgency the Ward Councillor offered to assist.

7.To consider and decide on any action on traffic incident caused by geese crossing from pond to pond over A19 – road signage.

It was RESOLVED to note that road signage on the A19 did exist.

24/038 Financial Matters and Governance

1. To receive the bank reconciliation and budget monitoring reports as of 30th May and 28th June 2024

It was RESOLVED to approve the financial reports as of 30th May and 28th June 2024.

2. To note the following receipts

a. Bank Interest March to June	£ 202.69
b. Emerson Memorials – Elsie Eastwood – Addtl inscription	£ 90.00
c. J.G. Fielder & Sons – Interment of Ashes Ann Palmer	£ 140.00
d. Peter Bebb – EROB for Maureen Bebb – Memorial Garden	£ 300.00
e. HMRC Refund VAT April – June 2024	£ 998.90
TOTAL	£ 1731.59

3. To confirm the following payments of invoices: -

a. Salaries, oncosts, and mileage- May	(BP) £ 1145.74
b. Home working allowance Clerk- May	£ 26.00
c. Giffgaff monthly charges- May	(DC) £ 6.00
d. Clerks' printer contract allowance - Additional printing	£ 33.50
e. Microsoft Business Basic 365 monthly charge – April 24	(DC) £ 12.36

f. Sleightholm Landscapes – Grass Cutting 4 th & 18 th April	(BP) £ 936.00
g. LJD Construction Services Ltd – Installation of notice board	(BP) £ 696.00
h. City of York Council Cemetery NNDR Charge	(DD) £ 61.00
i. Harrison Flagpoles Ltd – Flagpole for The Pasture	(DC) £ 179.95
j. Salaries, oncosts, and mileage- June	(BP) £ 1675.75
k. Home working allowance Clerk- June	£ 26.00
l. Giffgaff monthly charges- June	(DC) £ 6.00
m. Clerks' printer contract allowance	£ 11.50
n. Microsoft Business Basic 365 monthly charge – May 24	(DC) £ 12.36
o. Screwfix – 2 bags of post concrete	(DC) £ 12.98
p. Amazon Business – D-Day bunting	(DC) £ 69.90
q. YLCA – Training Webinar Clerk	(BP) £ 26.30
r. Amazon Business – 50pcs Heavy duty ties	(DC) £ 28.40
s. City of York – NNDR Cemetery Charges Final payment	(DD) £ 61.00
t. YLCA – Training Webinar Chair	(BP) £ 35.10
u. Sleightholm Landscapes – Grass cutting 30/4, 13/5 & 29/5	(BP) £ 1500.00
v. Leaf Seeds (Groundscare) Ltd – Playground summer clean	(BP) £ 576.00
w. Skelton Garden Centre – various plants for Planter	(DC) £ 138.79
x. Information Commissioner – Data Protection fee	(DD) £ 35.00
TOTAL	£ 7311.63

It was RESOLVED to confirm payment of the above invoices.

4. To approve the following payments:

a. Salaries, oncosts, and mileage- July	(BP) £ 1139.53
b. Home working allowance Clerk- July	£ 26.00
c. Giffgaff monthly charges- July	(DC) £ 6.00
d. Clerks' printer contract allowance	£ 11.50
e. Microsoft Business Basic 365 monthly charge – June 24	(DC) £ 12.36
f. Village Hall Annual Donation	(BP) £ 500.00
g. City of York Council – Cemetery Waste Charge	(DD) £ 52.38
TOTAL	£ 1747.77

It was RESOLVED to approve payment of the above invoices.

5. To consider the appointment of an internal auditor for 2024/25.

At the May meeting it was RESOLVED to again appoint Accountant-ant(Yorkshire) Ltd providing a satisfactory quote was obtained. The quote received is £178.50 including an inflationary increase of only 2% on the previous year. On this basis it was RESOLVED to accept the quote and appoint Accountant-ant(Yorkshire) Ltd as the Internal Auditor for 24/25.

6. To consider insurance renewal quotations for 2024/25.

The Clerk had thoroughly explored different insurers. There were only 2 who specialises in insurance for Councils which are used by most councils.

Existing insurer BHIB Council Insurance now called Clear Councils. Renewal invite £935.33 (paid £797.79 last year). Challenged the 17% increase. Reply best premium that they can offer as the Council had been protected over the last 3 years from price increases.

Zurich Municipal - The quote is measured on the precept amount - very easy to understand and for Skelton PC have quoted £632 including playground equipment.

Both include Public and Employers Liability £10m,

The Council included an estimate of £830 in the 2024/25 Budget

Following discussion, it was RESOLVED to move the Council insurance cover for 24/25 to Zurich Municipal and accept the quote of £632.

.24/039 Planning

1. To consider a response to the following planning applications: -

a. **24/00973/FUL – 129 Brecksfield, Skelton, York YO30 1YE. – Two storey extension with front and rear dormer – No objection.**

b. **24/01184/FUL – 42 Fairfields Drive. Skelton, York YO30 1YP – First floor rear extension – No objection.**

2. To note details of planning applications decided by City of York Council and decide on any necessary action:

a. **24/00556/FUL – Pennels Cottage, 17 Moorlands Road, Skelton, York YO30 1XZ – Installation of air source heat pump to side – Approved 23rd May 2024**

3. Other planning issues.

a. **Public Bridleway Skelton 12 Modification Order 2021. Decision on the making of a definitive map modification order recording a public bridleway from Shipton Road to Skelton public footpath 8.** It was RESOLVED to note this decision.

24/040 To consider correspondence received and decide action where necessary to include: -

1. **To receive emails from YLCA: -**

a. White Rose Updates, Law and Governance and E-training bulletins.

b. Training Programme April-September 2024

c. Councillor Development Framework Training 2024

2. **To receive emails from NALC.**

3. To receive emails from City of York.

- a. Residents update – July 2024.
- b. Business update July 2024.
- c. York Environment weeks – festival - 14th September – 12th October 2024

4. To receive emails from other organisations.

24/041 To receive reports from the Council's representatives on external bodies and to consider any action.

- a. York YLCA Branch Meeting - No attendance.
- b. Kyle and Ouse Internal Drainage Board – Representation to the next meeting on 2nd December was left in abeyance.
- c. Village Hall - Philip Butler thanked the Parish Council for the annual donation which would be put towards replacing the electric circuit board.

24/042 To receive Councillors request for items to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Council.

The Chair reminded Councillors to advise the Clerk of any suggested agenda items for the August meeting as soon as possible before the closing date.

Agenda item – Crooking Green – shrubbery encroaching – consider cutting back and/or include in contract.

24/043 To confirm that the next meeting of Skelton Parish Council will be held on Thursday 15th August at 7.30pm.

It was RESOLVED to confirm that the next meeting of Skelton Parish Council will be held on Thursday 15th August at 7.30pm.

The Chair closed the meeting at 20.40.

J.D.Watson

Signed -----Chair Skelton Parish Council

15/08/24

Date-----