

**BURTON-CUM-WALDEN PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON**  
**TUESDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2024**

A Parish Council meeting was held in the Village Hall, West Burton on Tuesday, 5 November 2024

Present: Miss Jane Ritchie, Mr Andrew Landau, Mr David Dent, Mrs Sally Sahin and Mrs Victoria Whitehead, Councillors, Mrs Susan Ryding, Clerk and Mr Richard Nolan, Assistant Clerk

Also present: Mr Peter Wheeler

**1. Apologies**

There were no apologies, all the members being present

**2. Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1 October 2024, having been circulated to all Members, were confirmed as a true copy, and duly signed by the Chairman.

**4. Clerk's Report**

The Clerk reported on the following matters:

- Welcome packs
- Email from Yorkshire Water
- Information on WhatsApp and Facebook
- Council finances

**5. Solar streetlights**

The Clerk reported that she had sent an email to Mr Ian Dawson asking for information about a solar light near the Front Nook, but had not yet heard back from him.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk should continue to try to get in touch with Mr Dawson and should report back to the Council at the next meeting.

**6. Precept**

The Clerk reported that she had received information from North Yorkshire Council that enabled her to calculate what the impact would be if the Precept was raised by various amounts. She also confirmed that there appeared to be no limit on how much the Precept could be raised. This was considered by the Members who noted that some of the suggested extra amount would not increase the overall Band D Council Tax, as other aspects of the tax were lower this year than in previous years.

**RESOLVED:** That the Precept should be raised by £800.00 to £7,400.00 and that the Clerk should notify North Yorkshire Council accordingly

**7. New motor mower**

The Clerk reported that she and the Assistant Clerk had been to Simon Winstanley Limited to investigate how much longer the existing mower could last, and the cost of a new mower. They reported that the mower was estimated to last for about another five years, but that if it was part-exchanged for a new mower, in its present condition it would be worth about £4,500.00. A new mower of the same standard would cost in the region of £12,000.00. The Clerk also reported that Simon Winstanley did not operate a leasing service for mowers. The Council received further information that it could set up an Earmark Reserve that could be used to accumulate the extra funds needed without incurring censorship from the Internal Auditor regarding excessive reserves.

**RESOLVED:** That an Earmark Reserve for a new mower should be set up and that this should be reported to the Internal Auditor in due course. Also, that the Clerk should continue to investigate the

possibility of obtaining a grant, and should obtain two further quotes for a new mower and report back to the Council at the next meeting.

#### **8. Donation from West Burton Social and Fundraising Group**

Councillors considered whether they wished to receive the offer of a donation of £223.65, being the Council's share of the remaining May Fair takings, or leave the money in the West Burton Social and Fundraising Group account.

**RESOLVED:** That the offer of a donation of £223.65 should be accepted and put towards the cost of the new mower

#### **9. Offer of a grant of £500.00**

The Council considered the offer of a grant of £500.00 from the Localities Fund held by County Councillor Yvonne Peacock, and what was the best ways to use these funds.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council should accept this kind offer and use the funds for an in depth renovation of the Play Area, including the cleaning of the safety surfaces and filling in the gaps around the edges, repainting the frame and renewing the shackles and seats as required. The Clerk was asked to notify Councillor Peacock of the Council's plans

#### **10. New rates of pay for Clerks**

The Clerk tabled the new rates of pay for Clerks, back-dated to 1 April 2024, which had been published recently. She also drew the Council's attention to the slight change of thresholds which meant that the Assistant Clerk should be on SCP8 not SCP7. She reported that the new rates had been sent to Yorkshire Accountancy pending a decision from the Council.

**RESOLVED:** That the new rates of pay are accepted and approved, that the Assistant Clerk should now be on SCP8, that the Clerk should remain on SCP20 and that Yorkshire Accountancy should be notified accordingly

#### **11. Community Anchor Organisation**

The Clerk reported that, following comments made at the recent YLCA meeting by a representative of the Leyburn Community Anchor Organisation, she had investigated whether West Burton belonged to the Leyburn organisation or the one at Hawes. She reported that she had been in touch with Mrs Julie Greenslade who had confirmed that West Burton came under the Upper Wensleydale Community Anchor Organisation in Hawes. The Clerk also confirmed that there was no statutory requirement for parish councils to have an Emergency Plan in place, but that this was encouraged. The Assistant Clerk had also investigated the legal position, and confirmed that contingency planning for emergencies was the responsibility of North Yorkshire Council. Councillors were also informed that a representative of the Parish Council had been invited to attend a Community Emergency Conference in Bedale on 20 March 2025.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk should write to the representative of the Leyburn Community Anchor Organisation to thank him for his offer of a presentation on emergency planning, but to let him know that West Burton considered itself part of the Upper Wensleydale organisation and that the Parish Council had had an emergency plan in place and in use since 2007.

#### **12. Law Commission consultation on cemeteries**

Councillors considered a consultation request from the Law Commission on cemeteries.

**RESOLVED:** That this should be passed on to the Clerk to Aysgarth Cemetery Joint Management Committee, Mrs Pip Pointon

#### **13. Review of policy on recording meetings**

Councillors reviewed the policy on recording meetings.

**RESOLVED:** That, with one amendment, the policy is accepted and approved

#### **14. Invoices**

An online payment was authorised for the following invoice:

- J W Alderson – petrol for mower - £43.01 (VAT £7.16)

#### **15. Notice of meetings and reports of meeting and events attended**

Councillors received reports from meetings attended and noted the dates of forthcoming meetings and events. In particular, Councillors noted that the Chairman and the Assistant Clerk had attended an information meeting on the progress of the Catterick Integrated Care Centre. Mr Peter Wheeler reported on the Bonfire Night event and how it could be funded in the future.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council should consider ways to increase the amount available for the purchase of fireworks in the future, and that next year the event should take place on Saturday, 1 November

#### **16. Items for the next agenda**

**RESOLVED:** That in addition to any matters mentioned above, the following items should be brought forward to the next agenda.

- Land near Flanders Hall
- Items for the next Newsletter

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm

Date of the next meeting, **Tuesday, 3 December 2024 at 8.00 pm** in the Village Hall.

Chairman: *Jane O Ritchie*

Date: 3 December 2024