

ASKHAM BRYAN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL (PC)

held on Thursday 19th September 2024 starting at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

PRESENT: Councillor Helen Dawson (Chair)
Councillors Julie Barber Kathryn Smith David Wiseman
Jason Boakes

In attendance: The Clerk.

1. **APOLOGIES.** Cllrs. Peers and Walker (and Ward Cllr. Hook).

2. **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:** None.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were in attendance.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PC HELD ON 15th AUGUST 2024.

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the PC held on 15th August 2024 be approved. The minutes were signed by Cllr. Boakes as he was in attendance at the meeting.

5. PLANNING

a. Planning Applications Received

- i. 24/01511/TCA - Mill Bank, 143 Main Street - Remedial pruning of 4no. trees as per submitted specifications - trees in a conservation area.

It was **resolved** to raise **no objection** to the above proposals.

- ii. 24/01502/AGNOT – Merewood, Askham Bryan Lane - Erection of agricultural building.
The Clerk had replied to this application using his delegated authority, anticipating (correctly as it turned out) that this application would be determined by the local planning authority before the PC meeting. He had raised **no objection** but had drawn attention to the fact that satellite images seemed to suggest an existing structure contrary to what was stated in the application.

b. Planning Decision Notices Received

One planning decision notice had been received as follows;

- i. 24/00998/FUL - Field House, 2 Main Street - Creation of new vehicular access to front. – Refused.

It was noted that the local planning authority had refused this application on the grounds that this property made a significant contribution to the setting of the Village in Green Belt and visual character of the area being located on the edge of the Village and the proposals would introduce a hard edge of development replacing the landscaped setting and resulting in a harmful change of character. The applicant had nevertheless removed some of the hedge and it was **resolved** that although the PC had agreed to raise no objection to this application at its June meeting, the local planning authority should be made aware. A previous application for similar work (23/00105/FUL) had been withdrawn.

6. CRIME REPORT

There were no reported crimes in August. There had been reports on the Village WhatsApp of poaching round fields and of items being stolen, these may appear on the report for September.

7. REPORT FROM WARD COUNCILLOR KNIGHT

There was no report this month.

8. OTHER MATTERS.

8.1 Plans for the 2024 Christmas Event.

The Village Hall had now been booked for the event due to take place from 4pm to 6pm on 1st of December (with additional time allowed for preparation work). The event in the public house would take place on 19th December from 7pm (minute 8.1, page 168 of the meeting of 18th July 2024 refers). Mince pies and mulled wine would be provided for the Village Hall event.

8.2 Annual play inspection report.

The findings and recommendations of the annual play inspection report were considered. Most of the report identified items with a green flag (i.e. low risk and no action needed). A couple of the items were flagged as amber as follows. The crossbar and frame joints of the junior swing were rusting and needed descaling back to the metal and coating with lead free paint. Some of the timber on the kick wall had decayed. The Clerk would email the playground inspector to see if they offered a service to address these concerns and if not, to see if they knew anyone who did.

8.3 Quotation for tree removal at Askham Bryan Play Area.

A quotation had been received for removal of a partially failed willow tree. Earlier, the Natural Environment Committee had met and carried out a visual inspection and had been unable to see any tree which matched the description given and could only find two dead willow trees resting on an ash tree. There was nothing which demanded immediate action and in any case, College students could do this free of charge under supervision as one of their learning outcomes. It was felt that more information was needed and therefore this item was deferred.

8.4 Programme of reviewing Parish Council policies and documents - Standing Orders.

Cllr. Boakes had considered this and queried some of the timescales quoted in section 3.13, e.g. circulation of draft minutes by the Clerk within five clear days of the meeting, Councillor's response to the Clerk within three clear days of receipt and subsequent publication of the draft minutes by the Clerk on the notice board. These timescales were not always met and he suggested using the words "shall aim to" where appropriate and to add two days to each of these timescales. There was also a query about the phrase (in the same section) "both written will take place". It was noted that in an earlier version of the Standing Orders, this phrase had read "In Askham Bryan both written and audio recording will take place" and it seemed that the previous revision had not fully incorporated the revised words. No audio recordings are taken at PC meetings. It was agreed that revision of Standing Orders be an agenda item for the October meeting to allow time to consider any further revisions.

9. FINANCE

9.1 Report of invoices to be paid

It was **resolved** that payment of the following invoices to be approved, all in favour.

- Clerk's Salary 01/08/2024 to 31/08/2024 plus deductions payable to HMRC
- Playsafety Limited – RoSPA - annual play inspection report - £86 + VAT.

9.2 Interest earning account.

It was noted that an interest earning account had been set up and there was discussion about how much of the current account to put into it. There was a concern that the process of taking money back out of the account was unknown with uncertainty about how easy this would be and concern that if it wasn't straight forward, then there could be a shortfall in the current account. It was **resolved** to transfer £6.500 across and to review this at the next meeting giving consideration to transferring a larger amount. This would leave sufficient in the current account to cover costs to the end of the financial year.

10 CORRESPONDENCE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

A list of correspondence had been circulated and the contents noted. Item 747 was from Ward Cllr. Hook regarding the suspected collapse on the surface water sewer outside the Nag's Head public house.

11 ACTION TRACKER

An Action Tracker had been circulated with the agenda papers listing all previously agreed actions and reports on progress.

- Cllr. Wiseman's article for the newsletter to commemorate the eightieth anniversary of the D-Day landings (regarding the only soldier to win a Victoria Cross on that day) had now appeared in the newsletter. This was too late for the anniversary (which was 6th June) but could instead be taken as part of the Remembrance Sunday event.
- Cllr. Peers had put an article in the newsletter regarding trees overhanging the public highway and footway which were less than the required clearance above the kerb of 5.2 metres.
- Cllrs. Dawson and Wiseman were looking at options for phase 2 of the playground development.

12 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The dates of forthcoming meetings in 2024 were;

17th October and 21st November.

The dates for forthcoming meetings in 2025 were;

16th January, 20th February 20th March, 17th April, 15th May (Annual), 19th June 17th July, 21st August 18th September, 16th October and 20th November.

All to be held at the Village Hall at 7:30pm

The meeting closed at 8:19pm.

Signed

17 October 2024