

Rainton with Newby Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 14 May 2024 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room at Rainton Village Hall.

Present: Cllr S Speed (Chairman)
Cllr C Egerton (Deputy Chairman)
Cllr S Campbell
Cllr J Edwards
Cllr J Harwood
Cllr O Jones
Cllr J Williams

Clerk: Mrs S Adamson
In Attendance: One Parishioner

11/2425 To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence: none.

12/2425 To receive Councillors' declarations of interest and consider any requests for dispensations: there were no declarations of interest.

13/2425 Parishioners' Representations: none.

14/2425 County Matters

To receive a report following the meeting on 08 May with Area6 Highways attended by the Chairman and the Clerk: representatives from Area6 were the Area6 Highways Manager, Melisa Burnham, and the Maintenance Manager, Mike Wickens.

The Clerk reported that she would only be outlining the issues discussed as the report from Melisa Burnham had not yet been received.

The following general problems were identified and acknowledged: poor communications with parish councils; design and performance of the parish portal; and the improvement needed in some internal processes at Area6.

Ms Burnham did commit to the following:

1. She hoped to be able to schedule work to repair the edges of Dishforth Lane next year and look at surface dressing if inspection showed this needed to be done.
2. Siding on the grass verges would be done in the centre of the village to widen the footpaths; make safe an area where root heave was lifting the pavement and a drain cover had sunk into the grass.
3. Various redundant signs would be removed; she would also ask the IT department to correct part of the parish portal to differentiate between signs and illuminated signs, so that reports reached the correct dept.
4. An order would be raised to repaint the rumble strips and 30mph roundels on Sleights Lane, which had been a planning condition of the Robinson Avenue development.
5. Contact would be made with street lighting so that Rainton could be prioritized in the transfer to LED street lighting, which was due to take place within the next month. Ms Burnham did not know whether an audit would be carried out before this work started but would find out.
6. An order to repaint the white lines at the junction of Carr Lane and Dishforth Lane would be raised.

Ms Burnham added that liaison with National Highways following the flooding on Sleights Lane was continuing, and she expected to be told that the attenuation pools would be cleaned out in the near future. They were also continuing to engage with the landowners.

At the meeting Cllr Speed had emphasized that parish councils should receive a better service:

- he was surprised to learn that calls and emails were registered and jobs allocated within 24 hours of being received, whilst local councils merely received an automated reply saying that Area6 aimed to respond within 20 working days, with no further updates;
- he pointed out that NYC would send a detailed and quick reply when problems were raised by the local MP but had to be chased multiple times for a response when local councils raised matters;
- he asked whether parish councils could have a more direct way to contacting Highways. Area6 said that they were much busier than five years ago and if the matter was urgent parish councils should phone the police on 101 who would pass it to Highways.

15/2425 Minutes of the Meeting held on 09 April 2024: it was resolved to approve the Minutes as a true record of the proceedings and they were signed by the Chairman.

16/2425 Matters Arising

Min 143 (c): Public Footpath 15.110/2 - correspondence from the landowner:

the landowner confirmed that he had been in touch with NYC and said that the owners of Tithe Barn were also dealing directly with NYC. Subsequently he had emailed to say that he had weed treated the footpath and would continue to do so over the summer as per usual.

The Clerk said she had reported to NYC Public Rights of Way Officers that the pedestrian gate was broken and that there were a lot of branches overhanging the section of footpath adjacent to Tithe Barn, whose fence was also leaning over. She had asked them if they usually inspected footpaths before lifting emergency closure orders; and had also asked for the dates when the seasonal vegetation cuts would take place.

It was agreed that as NYC had taken the lead on this problem, they should continue to do so by engaging directly with the owners of Tithe Barn.

17/2425 Planning Matters

a. Applications

ZC24/01157/PBR Proposed conversion of an agricultural building to two dwellings, with associated building works, at Brakehill Farm, Rainton YO7 3PH, under the provisions of Schedule 2, Part 3, Class of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended). *The Council objected on the grounds that the infrastructure could not support a further two dwellings. The proposed foul water drainage into existing sewers would exacerbate the problems of flooding and sewage overflows which Yorkshire Water seem unable to remedy. The Parish Council noted that although it had requested that Yorkshire Water be consulted during the previous planning application (ZC23/03940/FUL) at this site, Yorkshire Water had not responded. There was a serious issue of capacity in the drains in Rainton which cannot accommodate the waste water which would be generated by the proposed two new houses, in addition to the five for which planning permission has already been granted at this location.*

- b. Decisions
1. ZC24/00625/FUL Installation of glazed canopy over an enclosed yard area at Beech Tree Barn, Church Lane, Rainton YO7 3PE. *Permission granted subject to conditions.*
 2. NY/2023/0230/FUL Proposed development for the purposes of installation of an Electrocoagulation Unit at the existing operational Rainton Sewage Treatment Works at Carr Lane, Rainton YO7 3PS. *Permission granted subject to conditions.*

Cllr Speed expressed a concern that about 15 trees which had formed a screen between the STW and the village had been chopped down at the site, which did not seem to comply with Section 5 of the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal by Arap Partners, nor with the condition of producing a Construction Management Plan. The Clerk to investigate when this happened and whether a report by a qualified ecologist had been received if the work had been done during the bird-nesting season.

- c. To note the commencement of the Call for Sites by NYC in preparation for the North Yorkshire Local Plan: there would be a consultation process after the Call for Sites had concluded.
- d. To receive Guidance on the Neighbourhood Portion of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL): the CIL would run alongside the S106 developpers' contributions. It could be spent on infrastructure or to enhancing existing infrastructure and had a timeframe of five years for expenditure.

18/2425 Financial Matters: it was resolved to approve the following for payment:

- a. Accounts:
 1. CE&CM Walker Ltd, Grasscutting 22 April 2024 £196.80 inc VAT
 2. Clerk's expenses, travel, postage printing £44.27 inc VAT
 3. Ripon 4x4 Ltd, powder coating of benches, £480 inc VAT
 4. Clerk's salary (28 May 2024) Gross £283.50 Net £233.50
 5. Zurich Municipal, Insurance renewal £342.67
- b. Receipts: noted.
 1. Precept (first instalment) £3,900
 2. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Neighbourhood % in respect of development at South View, Sleights Lane, Rainton, Planning Ref: ZC23/01328/FUL. £79.72.
- c. Following ineligibility of the council's Lloyds bank account for the switch scheme, to authorise a cheque to transfer funds to the new Unity Trust account: it was resolved to transfer £12,000 to the new bank account at Unity Trust.
- d. To agree how the amount of S106 Commuted Sums (£774.20) allocated to the Village Greens and that has a deadline of January 2025 should be spent, possibly on the new sundial and the maypole: It was agreed that the first priority for spending this should be the maypole, the condition test and then painting.

19/2425 Council Business

- a. To receive two further quotations for testing condition of maypole: both quotations were considered and it was resolved to accept one of the options suggested by Barnes Associates, namely a basic sonic assessment using a microsecond timer and Resistograph of the lower section at a cost of £275 + VAT.

- b. To agree shape of new horizontal sundial and inscription: there was one design by Holehan Sundials which had a buttressed gnomon which the Clerk had identified as being suitable, but Mr Holehan had suggested an anti-vandal mount whereby the gnomon projects below the sundial plate and is bonded into the stone. However as this would require a socket being cut into the plinth, it was agreed that Cllr Jones should investigate this further as he didn't want the stone plinth to suffer any damage. The Clerk said she would circulate a list of quotations for the motto for a majority decision.
- c. To draft agreement for loan of one bench to the Recreation Ground: the necessity for this was discussed and it was agreed that its location should be noted on the Asset Register and that the Council would continue to maintain it. It was also agreed that the Recreation Society should arrange to transport it and that they should take the one which was situated under the tree at one corner of the Village Green.

20/2425 Correspondence

- a. To receive the NYC Standards Bulletin: this contained some useful information about predeterminism, the Online Safety Act and declaring interests.
- b. YLCA White Rose and Law & Governance Bulletins, including changes to Employment Law from April 2024: noted.
- c. To note that at 10.00am on Friday 17 May, the office for Policing, Fire, Crime and Commissioning will host an online public meeting where the Chief Constable will be held to account on behalf of the electorate. Available live on their website, Youtube and Facebook <https://bit.ly/opm17may2024>. noted.

21/2425 Exchange of Information

- a. There was a brief exchange about the No70 bus and the official bus stop by the Village Green. One of the drivers had said that as the bus could not usually turn left past the stop because of parked cars, it was more usual for passengers to adopt a 'request' stop.
- b. Cllr Jones said he would carry out some repairs to the corner of the verge to the right of the bus shelter when he was next reseeding.

22/2425 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting: Tuesday 11 June 2024 at 7.30pm.

The Meeting closed at 8.55pm