

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Kirby Misperton Parish Council

Wednesday 17th January 2024

The meeting was held at Kirby Misperton Village Hall

Present:

Cllr Peter Winter – Chairman
Cllr Jacqueline Cray – Vice-Chairman
Cllr Helen Brotherton (& Volunteer Clerk)
Cllr Sarah Barker-Wyatt
Cllr Mark Atkinson

No Members of the Public were in attendance.

1. No apologies were received – full Council in attendance.
2. There were no Declarations of interest:
3. It was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the following meetings, as a true and correct record:

3.1 KMPC Ordinary Meeting 29th November 2023

4. Matters arising

All ongoing issues were covered elsewhere on the Agenda.

5. Planning

No new applications received.

5.3 Cllr Cray and Cllr Brotherton updated the Council on the meeting on 15th January with the Chairman of Pickering Town FC, Jamie Hopwood on the plans for the new stadium and facilities planned for Flamingo Land. The marketing video and the likely actual plans are quite different. The main concern of the entrance to the new stadium onto a bend on the narrow rural road has already been addressed with the now planned utilisation of the Main theme park entrance with a slip road and car parking to the left. The plans are not yet ready to submit to NYC and issues with Highways, drainage and the underground stream are likely to delay any development going ahead for this current year. The proximity to the back of the cemetery remains a concern, with grandstands and banks of seating, changing rooms and an upper entertainment area. Cllr Cray will advise the Diocese of the plans. Chairman Jamie has agreed to keep the Council fully in the picture and in the conversation as plans progress and evolve.

6. Financial Matters

6.1 The RFO shared all Bank & Cheque Book reconciliations and showed how all the payments in and out were all correct. There was a small overspend on the roundabout plantings and maintenance against Budget of £63.72. It was agreed that the ongoing maintenance of the roundabout was essential.

6.1.2 The Virgin Money new Mandate Form was completed and signed. It was agreed that the following signatories were sufficient and that the current system of two signatures for all cheques was sufficient for an authority of this size. Internet banking will be reviewed at a future date.

Signatories:
Helen Brotherton
Peter Winter
Jacqueline Cray

The following cheques were approved:

- i. Chq# 548 £24.97 Additional Xmas Tree Lights (*retrospective approval given – see Minute Ref 7.4.2 below*)
- ii. Chq# 549 £40.00 Village Hall Hire of Committee Room for 2023
- iii. Chq # 550 £16.70 YLCA Training webinar

6.2 Training Budget

The RFO advised there were still funds available for any Councillor to utilise. The current Training Budget funds available are £61.00. Cllr Cray expressed interest attending the next YLCA Basic Understanding of Planning webinar when one is scheduled.

6.2.1 Cllr Winter updated the Council on his recent webinar on Biodiversity.

7. KMPC representatives / project co-ordinators – updates

7.1 KM8 / Third Energy – it was noted with extreme concern that there had been messages & rumours & reports on social media of unpleasant odours in the last 24 hours. Cllr Cray had received a response from the CEO of CeraPhi Energy, Karl Farrow. The odours are definitely NOT Gas! Part of the decommissioning process of the site has involved vents being opened and flushed out and have released unpleasant “mercaptans”. Apologies were given alongside a reiterated commitment to pre-warning residents if there are any works scheduled which might result in more disruptive odours. Cllr Cray updated the Council on the positive news from Third Energy / CeraPhi regarding heating systems, the Pickering site, new wells and the viability of geo-thermal energy. There is a possibility of shared prosperity fund and an application via KMPC to apply for funding to heat public buildings i.e. the Village Hall, the church and any other viable commercial uses. It was AGREED that the Council would be open to further discussions and talks on this idea and that a Site Visit should be arranged.

7.2 North Yorkshire Council:

7.2.1 NYC Local Plan:

The webinar on 5th December, attended by Cllr Brotherton & Cllr Cray was not a participation exercise, but rather a presentation. Plenty of commitments to do good things ref housing, infrastructure etc but not much by way of timescales nor funding. KMPC did manage via a “chat” option, to reiterate that planning and our involvement was critical.

7.2.2 – NYC Local Transport Plan:

Cllr Brotherton confirmed attendance at a Teams meeting later in January. To report & update at the next meeting.

7.3 YLCA – Cllr Brotherton advised that the YLCA had circulated information and notice that the new NYC would not support / host the Parish website beyond 31st March 2025. The announcement came after the meeting to agree the Precept for 2024/25 and therefore no budget has been allocated to this new requirement. Hosting, plus a new domain name, potentially including the more secure, but more expensive “.org” or “.gov.uk” suffix will need to be organised before the end of the next financial year. Cllr Winter agreed to research, get quotes and to ask other Clerks what their plans are to solve this unexpected challenge.

7.4 War Memorial & Roundabout project:

- 7.4.1 the Clerk advised that there would be a delay in preparing the War Memorials pre-grant application due to time constraints and work pressures.
- 7.4.2 The Chairman thanked everyone who had been involved in the erection and decorating of the Village Xmas Tree and APPROVED the spend on additional fairy lights to make a bigger impact.

7.5 NYCC Highways & Pavements

- 7.5.1 It was AGREED that the response from NYC regarding the LED upgrade was unacceptable and that “hopefully in the next couple of months” was not a satisfactory timescale. The Clerk was asked to continue chasing and to copy Cllr Steve Mason in and to push for the reported as non-functioning streetlights, currently at three “out of order”, to be fixed in the interim as the new LED replacements could not be relied upon.
- 7.5.2 The Clerk advised that she had booked herself and Cllr Cray on to a Highways Workshop event at the Area 4 depot on 29th January and would report back at the next meeting.

8 Village Matters & Matters requested by Councillors:

8.1 Flamingo Land plans for Notice Board for FL Villagers – Cllr Cray advised that thus far she had no luck in raising a response. The Clerk was requested to pick up the chase so that potentially the residents would have their own Notice board before the 2024 season at FL gets underway.

8.2 “20 is Plenty” – the Clerk advised she would pursue an update regarding the local and national policy on 20 mph zones from Highways at the Workshop at the end of January.

8.3 The issue of the “closed” inaccessible public footpath near Gt Habton continues to be a problem. NYC have advised it is not a priority. Cllr Winter has involved Cllr Mason in the quest to be heard.

8.4 Having attended the Biodiversity webinar, Cllr Winter was able to advise we do not have a duty, as a small local authority, to have a Biodiversity Policy but that we have a duty to “consider” having a policy. Most template Biodiversity objectives suppose that we have land that we are responsible for, which is not the case with KMPC. Cllr Winter offered to draft some ideas and wording for a Policy and review it at the next meeting. The possibility of some Public Information leaflets for distribution was raised. Cllr Cray offered to get a price for a flyer. The Council continues to support the work of the Environmental Group and re-wilding projects. Cllr Winter advised that more volunteers were coming forward and that the activities could be increased.

8.5 Community activities:

8.5.1 Traffic Management Training by NYC Highways for future community events (i.e. Remembrance Sunday): as there may be some funding for this via Cllr Steve Mason, more information about the training should be sought at the Highways workshop on 29th January.

8.5.2 VE Day Anniversary 6th June 2024 – Cllr Brotherton suggested liaising with the same parties involved in the Coronation event planning by email to elicit interest / willingness to mark the anniversary with a community event. As the main activity is linked to the beacon lighting, the Village Hall own the land and the beacon and so should be leading the planning. KMPC can contribute but not be the main funder of any activity.

8.6 Dog fouling issue – the Clerk advised that she was still chasing to find out how often the bin new is on the rota to be emptied. It has proven a successful siting for a new bin, but unless Streetscene have it scheduled for very regular emptying, the solution will turn into a problem.

8.7 St Laurence’s church clock: the Clerk confirmed that the recent amendment to the 2023 Levelling Up and Regeneration Act meant that the Council could and should continue to finance the service and maintenance. The clock is currently not in use, as until the church project is underway, there is a safety issue for anyone to re-set and wind the clock. It is likely the clock will become an automated winding one, as part of the church refurbishment. The Clerk was tasked with contacting Smith of Derby to seek advice on delaying the biannual servicing and if there would be any implications to not servicing as usual in March / April 2024

9. Other Council Matters

The dates for the next meetings in 2024 were agreed as follows: the Clerk should check availability for these dates immediately and arrange alternatives where necessary:

KMPC Ordinary Meetings:

13th March 2024 (for appointing Auditor etc)

24th April 2024 (for AGAR review)

18th May 2024 – Annual Meeting of the Parish Council & Elections

18th May 2024 – Annual Parish Meeting with refreshments & guest speakers

There being no other business, the Chairman thanked those present for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 20h35

Signed.....

CHAIRMAN

Date:.....