

**Minutes of the Great Ayton Parish Council meeting
held on Tuesday 5th November 2019 at 19:00**

Present: - Cllr Ron Kirk, Cllr Angela Taylor, Cllr Tessa Snowdon, Cllr Sarah Botez, Cllr Judith Brown, Cllr John Fletcher
Andrew Snowdon (Parish Council Clerk), Cllr Heather Moorhouse (NYCC)
John Robinson (Cooks Family Memorial Garden), Sgt Ross (NY Police)

No.	Business
1	<p><u>Members of the Public invited to address the Council.</u></p> <p><u>Cooks Family Memorial Garden</u> Former councillor John Robinson gave an update with regards to the satisfactory completion of the outstanding turfing and layout marker stones and the successful visit by the Cooks Society who have >500 members worldwide. Having managed the refurbishment project from concept to completion Mr Robinson requested that the Parish Council (via the management trust) looks to maintain the garden in a manner befitting of such an important historical tourist asset. It was confirmed that maintenance of the garden was to be included within the annual service activities of the Parish Council.</p> <p>Mr Robinson reminded the councillors that magazine articles & two books had been written about the garden including Ian Pearce's history of the garden 1755 – 2019 which would be completed after research of the Grimwade archives in Australia. It was unanimously agreed that Mr Pearce's research should be fully endorsed by the Parish Council as being their approved historical publication for the garden.</p> <p>Sincere thanks were expressed to Mr Robinson for his tireless enthusiasm and hard work as a 'champion' of the Cooks Family Memorial Garden and it was resolved that he should be invited to become a trustee so that his drive to maintain the garden for future generations was not lost. Mr Robinson was pleased and surprised to receive the nomination and confirmed that he would give very serious consideration of this positive request.</p>
2	<p><u>NY Police Report.</u></p> <p>Sgt Ross clarified that a new report format was now being used by NY police and due to time constraints, this meant that the level of information contained was reduced to statistical data only.</p> <p>There had been 8 reports of anti-social behaviour, 0 reports of auto crime, 0 reports of burglary (inc attempted), 4 reports of criminal damage, 3 reports of theft, 3 reports of violence, 11 other crimes (inc drugs) detailed in the NY Police report in the period 29th September to 4th November 2019. Noted</p> <p>Councillors expressed concerns that the lack of information within the new report meant that there was no opportunity to review and ascertain whether any patterns were present nor was there information regarding arrests or solved crimes which could be used to give re-assurance to residents.</p> <p>Sgt Ross re-assured councillors that there were no significant matters of concern though Frankfield Mews & the Ex-TIC car park still saw gatherings of teenagers & young adults. Having recruited a youth team officer from the Met a new approach including wider community engagement and positive interaction had led to a 37% reduction in reports of anti-social behaviour in 2019. 2 PCSO's were currently in training and Sgt Ross confirmed that funding for 2 new beat officers had been applied for.</p> <p>Cllr Kirk thanked Sgt Ross for taking the time to attend the meeting in order to provide updates and clarifications. The Parish Council is aware that due to other commitments it is not always possible for an officer to attend meetings hence a detailed written report becomes the only reliable source of update as the statistics on their own do not provide sufficient information.</p>

	<p><u>North Yorkshire Police Updates:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation Bright Over the next few months, Stokesley Neighbourhood Policing Team along with Police Support Volunteers will be out on high-visibility foot patrols in the local areas as part of Op Bright. Officers will be leaving crime prevention packs with homes left in darkness and are a potential target to burglars. • Stokesley Farmers Market Officers from Stokesley Neighbourhood Policing Team along with Police Support Volunteers will be at Stokesley Farmers Market on Saturday 7th December and the Christmas Farmers Market on Sunday 15th December from 9am. • Dot Peen Property Marking Dot Peen Marking involves using a tungsten carbide-tipped pin to indent an object with dots to create a visible, permanent unique number. The unique number will be entered onto the National Immobilise Property Register Database. It can be used on farm equipment, on garage and garden tools, power tools, computers and electrical devices, mobile phones and tablets, equestrian tack, golf clubs, musical instrument cases, cycles and much more! If anybody has equipment that requires FREE marking please email snastokesley@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk
3	<p><u>HDC Councillor Report.</u></p> <p>On behalf of HDC, Cllr Kirk confirmed that although the planning application for a soil bund had been rejected the status of the 'Ponderosa' camp site on the B1292 was not yet resolved and the matter was to be investigated by the HDC legal department.</p> <p><u>NYCC Councillor Report.</u></p> <p>Cllr Moorhouse confirmed that NYCC had confirmed that a number of main thoroughfare roads in Great Ayton were to be resurfaced to overcome deterioration. Additionally the PROW footpath from Easby Lane to Suggitt's field would receive additional surface improvements as would the footpath along Station Road. Unfortunately, proper resurfacing works to the Park Rise access road to the rear of the High Street shops and resurfacing of the west side of Newton Road was not picked up for the forthcoming financial year though Park Rise would be monitored for parking congestion & over-use by delivery drivers.</p>
4	<p><u>Apologies for Absence.</u></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received in advance from Cllr Nick Walther and Cllr Richard Hudson (HDC). Noted.</p>
5	<p><u>Declaration of Interest in items on the Agenda.</u></p> <p>Cllr T Snowdon declared an interest in a matter to be discussed under item 14 (Parish Clerk hours of work). Noted.</p>
6	<p><u>Minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council.</u></p> <p>The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 1st October 2019 were approved and signed. Agreed.</p>
7	<p><u>To Consider Planning Applications Received.</u></p> <p>Following discussion, it was agreed that formal response to planning applications should be as follows;</p> <p>19/02071/FUL - Cooks View, Pannierman Lane Retrospective application for siting of flood lights, change of use of land to mixed agriculture and domestic curtilage and siting of new agricultural/domestic storage building. Great Ayton Parish Council objects to the excessive nature of the floodlighting which is out of keeping with the location / setting.</p> <p>19/02083/FUL - Bank Flow Farm, TS9 6QQ Formation of hardstanding and erection of new entrance gates (Partly retrospective). Great Ayton Parish Council objects to the excessive size of the proposed hardstanding area which has no apparent agricultural purpose.</p>

	<p>19/00846/FUL - Land adjacent to Ayton House, Easby Lane Amended plans for construction of a single storey dwelling. Great Ayton Parish Council objects to application 19/0846/FUL as follows; (objection submitted 23/10/19)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The proposed application will have a detrimental effect on veteran/specimen trees within the conservation area. - The proposed structure is not in keeping with others in the vicinity within the conservation area. - The proposed structure would lead to the eradication of an important (& acknowledge) open space within the conservation area. - The proposed application would interfere with the grounds of the adjacent grade 2 listed building. <p>19/02111/FUL - 12A Greenacre Close Single storey extension, alterations to front dormer & internal alterations. No objections / no observations</p> <p>19/02153/FUL - Garden House, Station Road Proposed detached garage No objections / no observations</p> <p>19/02155/FUL - 10 Greenacre Close Proposed single storey infill extension to rear, dormer extension and ramps to front & rear. No objections / no observations</p> <p>19/02137/FUL - Great Ayton Cricket & Football Club Two extensions to create a larger bottle store & a general storage. No objections / no observations</p> <p>19/02283/TPO - 100 Guisborough Road Works to trees covered by Tree Preservation Order 19/00009/TP02. No objections / no observations</p>
8	<p><u>Correspondence and Information:</u></p> <p>Thompsons Hardware - Request to sell Xmas trees on the High Green 07/12/19. Following discussion, it was agreed that Thompson's hardware be allowed to sell Xmas trees which were mainly for the purchase by residents. It was acknowledged that should other vendors request permission to sell their products then consideration should be given and in future years a fee may also become applicable.</p> <p>2nd Great Ayton Guides - The local Girl Guides have written offering some suggestions as to how the village might be improved. The Clerk was asked to write and thank the Girl Guides for their interest/ideas and suggest that they might like to support the BUGs volunteers who's work includes the Village Hall, the chapel steps, flower-tubs, Waterfall Park the riverside flood field as well as assistance to develop the pollinator trail alongside Moor Sustainable CIC.</p>
9	<p><u>Council Services / Working Group Reports</u></p> <p>PC Chairman Cllr Kirk confirmed that in accordance with the Parish Council's financial regulations, the various Working Groups were able to purchase goods/services from within the formally agreed budgets up to £1k per item with written authorisation from Chair & acknowledgement by the RFO/Clerk. General email discussions regarding proposed work to be undertaken by the Working Groups did not need to include the Clerk or other Councillors not in the WG unless there was a specific need for other opinions / involvement. Noted</p> <p>Cemetery: - Refreshing gravel to paths, cleaning up areas along fence-line, remove excess soil mound, inspection of trees and other matters would be discussed at the upcoming WG Meeting and recommendations made. Noted</p> <p>Cook Family Memorial Garden: - It was unanimously agreed that John Robinson should be invited to become a trustee of the Cooks Family Memorial Garden which had been in trust since 1934 when it was originally donated to MBC following removal of the buildings to Australia. Agreed</p> <p>Whitbread / Waterfall Park Memorial Bridge: - Due to an oversight when approving the Beaver Bridges quotation, the VAT element had not been included as this will be recovered from HMRC. It was agreed that the additional 20% would form part of each payment in addition to the budget amounts. Agreed</p> <p>HDC Planning & NYCC Highways approval has been received however the EA permit remains outstanding, it was agreed that the payment of £446 should be made for the same as an extension to budget. Agreed</p> <p>The order for manufacture/installation would be placed on BB once the grant funding had been sought. Noted</p>

Public Conveniences: - It was agreed at the Dec 18 PC meeting that the refurbishment works should be deferred until such time that works to Cook's Garden & the replacement to the Whitbread bridge have been completed. **Ongoing (B/F)**

Allotments: - Work to reclaim abandoned allotments, improved housekeeping, control the rodent infestation was continuing with the PC Handyman appointed to the area. Due to issues with fly-tipping installation of security gate was to be undertaken. The access roads were becoming pot-holed and hence a delivery of road chippings would be required. Outstanding matters to be discussed at a WG meeting with recommendations to follow. **Noted**

Village Hall: It had been previously agreed that a standard peppercorn lease should be prepared by the PC's solicitor with the buildings Working Group and Village Hall Trust to meet to discuss the division of maintenance responsibilities. **Ongoing (B/F Oct)**

Play Park: - The Play Park Working Group confirmed that they had met and that work priorities were to be clarified. Simple maintenance/painting was to be carried out in-house while other technical repairs would be passed to Henry Thompson it was of note that the RoSPA report did not highlight any safety critical matters. Cllr Kirk confirmed that the Playpark Trust required 2 new trustees so that it could become dormant or wound up. The retiring trustees should be asked to acquire a charity commission code. **Noted**

Xmas 2019: - The Great Ayton Christmas Fayre has been organised for Saturday 30th November 2019 with the event starting at 2.30pm and finishing at 5pm with the lights being switched on. Circa 25 stall holders were being sought from local vendors and craft sellers. Cllr Botez & Cllr Fletcher would visit Maynard's Nursery to select a suitable tree. Organisation of the Xmas Event was well in hand with Cllr Botez although a covered trailer was considered an urgent matter as a platform for the band. **Noted**

Following concerns regarding the weather and water-logged ground it was agreed that the new cabling works should be postponed to the new year rather than causing unsightly damage to the surface of the green. **Agreed**

High Green: - An order for the tarmac repairs to the metalled surface which forms part of the High Green has been placed with Tom Newton. It was confirmed that prices for painting of the numerous green benches had been sought from a local contractor. The price for the bench around the tree on the High Green remains outstanding. **Noted**

Grounds Maintenance Supervisor: - A draft Job Description had been circulated for the proposed full-time position of Grounds Maintenance Supervisor to oversee & act upon the various service activities for which the PC were responsible. Through discussion it was agreed that the salary would be set at SCP11 or above to attract good quality candidates though ultimately remuneration would depend on qualification/experience. **Agreed**

Formal approval of the recruitment would be discussed at the December Parish Council meeting as part of the 2020/21 budgeting process with the option of approving expenditure from reserves should there be a decision to employ an individual prior to April 20. The Clerk was asked to build a suitable cost into the draft budget for consideration. **Noted**

10 **Councillor's Reports**

Endeavour Way (Cllr Fletcher): - No further update though landowners were known to still be keen. **Noted**

Brighten Up Great Ayton 'Action for pollinators' project (Cllr Taylor): - Work activities were ongoing with the new trellis & two recycled plastic benches for the Village Hall now in place. **Noted**

Marwood School (Cllr Botez): - Having met with Marwood School, it was noted that NYCC Highways had seemed positive with regards to possibilities for the A173 crossing point. **Noted**

Great Ayton Discovery Centre: - Cllr Taylor, Cllr Walther & Cllr Kirk had met with the trustees of the GADC with a view to discussing the ongoing financial requirements for the proper operation of the community facility. Cllr Kirk clarified that the running costs of the GADC were not envisaged to fluctuate compared to previous years and as such it was recommended that the annual donation of £25k would remain applicable. The Parish Council unanimously agreed that donations of £25k per annum would be made for the duration of the current council, though a review of the GADC accounts and formal resolution within the minutes would be appropriate each financial year. **Agreed**

11	<p><u>Clerk's Report</u></p> <p>Village Hall: - A standard Law Society Lease is to be prepared for the Village Hall tenants following review of the recommendations of the Building Working Group. Ongoing (B/F)</p> <p>Yatton House: - The 21-year lease will be prepared by the Parish Council's solicitor for approval. Ongoing (B/F)</p> <p>Parish Precept: - Having received notification from Hambleton District Council that the precept submission was due at the end of the year it was agreed that this matter should be discussed at the December Parish Council meeting. Ongoing (B/F Oct 19)</p> <p>Parish Council Website: - It was previously agreed that 3 quotes should be sought to establish cost for replacing the current website with a more up-to-date product, the Clerk would seek quotes from local suppliers Catch Design, SqueasyWeb & Studio Botez. Noted</p>
12	<p><u>Accounts Report</u></p> <p>The total payments made were £17,747.44 The total income received was £15,121.18</p>
13	<p><u>Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman, should, by reason of special circumstances, be considered as a matter of urgency.</u></p>
14	<p><u>Exclusion of the Press and Public</u></p> <p>In accordance with Paragraph 1 (2) of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Parish Council RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting.</p> <p>Following review of the Clerk's ongoing workload it was agreed that the contractual hours of work should be increased from 16 to 20 (average per week) from November 19 onwards. Agreed</p>