

**Minutes of the Great Ayton Parish Council meeting
held on Tuesday 1st December 2020 at 19:00**

Present: - Cllr Ron Kirk, Cllr Angela Taylor, Cllr John Fletcher, Cllr John Robinson, Cllr Tessa Snowdon, Cllr Judith Brown
Cllr Heather Moorhouse (NYCC), Cllr Richard Hudson (HDC),
Andrew Snowdon (Clerk)

No members of the public

No.	Business
1	<p><u>NY Police Report.</u></p> <p>There had been 16 reports of anti-social behaviour (inc 7 x COVID related, 1 x motorbikes on Gribdale Hillside, 1 X personal, 2 X neighbour issues), 0 reports of auto crime, 0 reports of burglary, 3 reports of criminal damage inc farm gates, 1 report of theft, 4 reports of violence against person , 4 other crimes briefly detailed in the NY Police report in the period. Noted</p>
2	<p><u>NYCC Councillor Report.</u></p> <p>Cllr Moorhouse confirmed that NYCC had submitted a proposal for a unitary authority to replace the County, District and Borough Councils in line with the current combined area of responsibility. NYCC considers it impractical & inefficient to split services into 2 authorities as had been proposed by the combined Borough/District councils. The proposal would not include the city of York who would continue with their current unitary structure. Noted.</p> <p><u>HDC Councillor Report.</u></p> <p>Cllr Hudson confirmed that neither of Hambleton’s local District councillors had sought to influence the debate with regards to the potential of a unitary structure in North Yorkshire. Both of Great Ayton’s district councillors can see the opportunity of saving that can be reinvested into public services should a unitary authority come into being. Noted</p> <p><u>Gribdale Gate Car Park</u></p> <p>Cllr Moorhouse described resident complaints that the area around the Gribdale Gate Car Park was becoming inundated with visitors cars at peak and overspill of vehicles was causing a nuisance. A meeting had taken place with NYMNP and Forestry England as the tenant of the land and it was confirmed that the area considered locally as a car park was not formally designated as such with the land registry & it was therefore agreed that in the first instance this should be resolved with the landowner thus allowing the potential for improvement. Yellow lines were not considered appropriate for the area as this would require policing / enforcement and the pressure on car parking spaces could well reduce after the current lockdown restrictions come to an end. Noted</p>
3	<p><u>Apologies for Absence.</u></p> <p>None</p>
4	<p><u>Declaration of Interest in items on the Agenda.</u></p> <p>None</p>
5	<p><u>Minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council.</u></p> <p>The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tues 3rd November 2020 were approved. Agreed.</p>

6 **To Consider Planning & Licensing Applications Received.****PLANNING**

Following discussion, it was agreed that formal response to planning applications should be as follows;

20/02502/FUL - 8 Oaklands Great Ayton North Yorkshire TS9 6BB

Single storey rear extension, first floor rear extension and alterations to form access to the loft space to create habitable accommodation on the second floor

No objections / No observations

20/02431/FUL - 3 Addison Road Great Ayton North Yorkshire TS9 6AP

Demolition of Sunroom and construction of a single storey extension to rear of dwelling as amended on 11 November 2020

No objections / No observations

20/02393/CAT - Hollybrook Easby Lane Great Ayton North Yorkshire TS9 6JT

Works to trees in a Conservation Area

No objections / Works to be carried out with sensitivity towards conservation area.

20/02484/FUL - OS Field 3541 Yarm Lane Great Ayton North Yorkshire

Revised application for the construction of a single dwelling. (See 20/00491/FUL - which was withdrawn)

Great Ayton Parish Council formally objects to planning application 20/02484/FUL and requests that the matter be referred to the planning committee as is appropriate for such a contentious application.

Specific objections to the application are as follows;

- The proposed site is a formally designated flood plain the loss of which would have a detrimental effect and development should be avoided in accordance with the prevailing PPS.
- The proposed development is outside of natural boundary of the village.
- The proposed development is outside the area for permitted development.
- The proposed building is out of keeping with others in the conservation area.
- The proposed building is out of proportion and not in keeping with others in the vicinity.
- The proposed site was considered as unsuitable for development as part of the HDC Local Plan (see below) .

The OS Field 3541 has been rejected for consideration as part of the HDC Local Plan with several sustainability issues (see pages 187 – 188 of LP04.4, location S/058/012)

"A greenfield site south of Yarm Lane, north of the River Leven. Great Ayton is rural and sparsely developed in this location, development here would negatively impact the character of the area. The site lies entirely within flood zones 2 and 3, residential development would require an exception test. Due to being on the edge of Great Ayton the site is distant from services and amenities. The site performs poorly against five, seven and nine."

LICENSING

No licensing applications had been forwarded for GAPC representation / review.

7 **Correspondence and Information:**

HDC / GAPC / NYMNP Proposal to supply 240l dog waste bin for Gribdale Gate car park at circa £600 + associated costs. Though the car park is not designated as such and is in fact the responsibility of Forestry England, it was unanimously agreed that GAPC should fund the dog waste bin to help the NYMNP volunteer rangers and others to try to overcome the issue caused by inconsiderate dog walkers. It was noted with thanks that the HDC Waste & Street Scene team would empty the bin every fortnight on a favour basis 'winter weather permitting'. **Agreed**

Non-resident / Funeral Director Request for a former resident be allowed to be buried in the parish cemetery as an exception to the stated cemetery regulations. It was concluded that the matter could not be heard since the cemetery regulations were clearly written and no extenuating circumstances had been forthcoming from the Funeral Director. **Noted**

Non-Resident Request to affix double sized plaque in memory of loved ones to replace the single standard plaque already on memorial wall. **It was agreed that the double plaques should not be affixed and that the dimensions stated within the regulations should stand. Agreed**

8 **Council Services / Working Group Reports**

NB: Actions towards improvement & day-to-day works carried out from within agreed budgets are dealt with by Parish Council Working Groups whereby all expenditure is made in accordance with published regulations. Previously agreed or outstanding matters can be found in the Council Services report and any formal actions or decisions requiring the Parish Council's attention appear below.

Cemetery – Cllr Angela Taylor gave an update on behalf of the Cemetery Working Group.

- It was agreed that repairs to the cemetery wall should take place once the new Cemetery & Services Superintendent is in place from 01/01/21. **Agreed**
- It was agreed that an 'A' board could be purchased for the cemetery entrance for funeral information. **Agreed**

Cook Family Memorial Garden – Cllr John Robinson presented a written statement to the Parish Council.

- The Cook Family memorial garden has been held in trust under the same deed since 1934 after the land was donated to M'boro Borough Council following the sale of the Cook Family Cottage. **Noted**
- The trust was transferred to Great Ayton Parish Council in 2004, however the 1934 trust deed remains in effect and as such declares that the council remains the owner and trustee without any other outside influences or responsibilities. **Noted**
- Though there had been reference made to the Public WC's on the charities commission website & a lease continues in existence, Cllr Robinson (Trustee) confirmed that the WC & Memorial Garden should not have been linked as the wording of trust deed is specific. As such any contractually implied link with the WC's should be formally severed ASAP. **Agreed**
- The Clerk was asked to seek GAPC Solicitor advice to ensure that the prevailing lease was legally rescinded thus returning to the status quo as described by the trust deed. **Agreed**
- It was agreed that a Working Group should be formed to prepare an updated trust deed / constitution for consideration (RK/JR/AT/Clerk). **Agreed**

Public WC's – It was agreed that a Working Group meeting should take place to make proposals to the Parish Council with regards to the refurbishment of the Public WC's. **Agreed** The scope of work will dictate the level of funding for the Infrastructure Project and as such should be included as part of the review process for 2021/22. **Noted**

Allotments – The major waste removal project on the parish allotments was now considered complete after circa 9 months of activity between the parish council's Handyperson Paul Wood & significant support from Marc Chipchase (HSG Plant). **Noted**

Yatton House – The Clerk was asked to write to Yatton House to request payment of £500 rent that becomes due irrespective that the 21-year lease remains outstanding for the time-being. **Agreed**

ExTIC Building – It was agreed that the foodstuffs currently being stored in the building should be given to charity (Eg Hambleton Foodshare or Methodist Church) so that refurbishment works to the internals of the building could commence. **Agreed**

High Green – Cllr Fletcher confirmed that some potholes had developed on the metalled surface around the High Green. Though designated a PROW (not a road) the tarmac surface remains the responsibility for GAPC to maintain in a safe condition. It was agreed to revisit the potential cost of resurfacing as part of the Infrastructure Projects list which would be updated as part of the 2021/22 review process. **Agreed**

	<p>Memorial Benches. – It was agreed that as a general rule donations towards memorial benches should be requested to cover the initial cost of bench purchase as well as memorial plaques. Agreed</p> <p>The memorial bench which was commissioned for the front of the Discovery Centre in 2018 had now been completed by Mr DR Barker who has contributed much of his time FOC as a kind contribution to the family who had been offered the bench in memory of loved ones. It was agreed that though the bench had cost more than £1200 a donation of £600 would be requested, this being the cost of a ‘normal’ galvanised steel bench. (It had been the parish council’s decision to order the bench to match those already in place outside the Library.) Agreed</p> <p>Parish Council Recruitment – The interview panel made proposal for employment of the candidate selected through a full and formal recruitment process with final interviews having taken place on 04/11/20. It was agreed that Lee Marley should be confirmed as the new full-time Cemetery & Services Superintendent to commence work in January 2021, (the salary being as previously approved for the position.) Agreed</p> <p>Xmas 2020 – It was noted that thanks to the hard work of Cllr Fletcher, volunteers, and contractors the Xmas tree and other decorations were looking quite magnificent and it was noted that positive feedback had been received via social media and in person. Noted</p>
9	<p><u>Councillors Actions & Reports</u></p> <p>Endeavour Way Cycleway – Cllr Fletcher confirmed that progress was slow but heading in the right direction. Noted</p> <p>BUGS Volunteer Group – Cllr Taylor confirmed that the pollinator volunteer group were due to restart work on 03/12. Noted</p> <p>Footpath closure – Stokesley – Great Ayton Cllr Robinson confirmed that the footpath from Stokesley to Great Ayton via the water treatment works had been closed without any obvious notice having been placed at the Great Ayton end of the PROW path. It was agreed that Cllr Fletcher would liaise with local landowners to ensure that a sign could be placed for the avoidance of any further confusion. Noted</p>
10	<p><u>Clerk’s Report</u></p> <p>Whitbread Memorial Bridge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The application for funding through Impetus had been successful up to £23,504. Noted - Impetus is a licensed ‘Environmental Body’ as part of the ENTRUST Landfill Communities Fund. Noted - The funding terms are such that the 10% 3rd Party donations are to be made up front to Highfield Environmental and as such donations have been committed by the Stokesley & Villages Community Partnership of £500 & the HDC ‘Making a Difference’ fund of £2000. Noted - It was agreed that the Clerk should arrange payment of £1851 from GAPC funds to the Stokesley & Villages Community Partnership to add to their donation of £500 which becomes the £2351 3rd party donation payable to Highfield Environmental Services as part of the Impetus grant funding terms. Agreed - A grant of £2000 has been awarded from the HDC ‘Making a Difference’ fund to GAPC from which the £1851 donation to SVCP is effectively to be paid. Noted - It was agreed that the order is to be placed with Beaver Bridges once 3rd Party funding has been processed Agreed <p>Banking – The clerk was asked to investigate alternative banking arrangements that would potentially allow simple standing orders for online subscriptions and to act as a debit account for transactions with a limited balance of £500 to act as if petty cash. Agreed</p>

11	<p><u>Accounts Report</u></p> <p>The total payments made were £1,999.24 The total income received was £2,145.00</p>
12	<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> <p>Cllr Sarah Botez – The parish council wishes to express sincere thanks to Sarah Botez for all her hard work as a dedicated Parish Councillor and for her enthusiastic commitment to the village over many years prior to joining the council. Councillors & Clerk wish the family Botez all the best for success and happiness on their new adventure. Agreed</p> <p>Email decision making – Cllr Kirk requested that when urgent decisions were required then the council could discuss matters via email and then request the Clerk to act with the formal minute appearing at the next meeting. The Clerk confirmed that since his delegation of authority was necessarily limited any significant decision made outside of a formal parish council meeting could be considered ultra-vires if not otherwise covered by policy, regulation, or legislation. Cllr Kirk further requested that names of people should be removed from emails by councillors & Clerk especially where matters were of a sensitive nature. Until such time as guidance was received to the contrary (ICO/NALC/YLCA/SLCC/HDC) the Clerk confirmed that he would continue to provide persons names within emails to councillors so as to avoid withholding pertinent information. It remains appropriate that Cllrs perform their duties in accordance with the published Code of Conduct, the (Nolan) Seven Principles of Public Life and other good practice guidance so as to avoid inappropriate discussion of otherwise private matters. Noted</p>
13	<p><u>Exclusion of the Press and Public</u> 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>