

**Minutes of the Great Ayton Parish Council meeting  
held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2021 at 19:00**

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

PCSO Donald, Dr Tim Ryan (Chair - Great Ayton Tennis Club), Caryn Loftus (Climate Action Stokesley and Villages). No members of the public were present

No.	Business
1	<p><b><u>NY Police Report.</u></b></p> <p>There had been 7 reports of anti-social behaviour including (3 reports complaining about the rave, 1 report of an off road bike – police attended but no bike found, 1 report of youths causing issues at waterfall park – police attended but nobody found, 1 report of 7- 8 people causing a nuisance at the pond Little Ayton - police attended and removes), 1 report of commercial burglary, 1 report of residential burglary, 1 report of criminal damage, 2 reports of theft, 5 reports of violence against person, 1 report of fraud. PCSO Donald reported that incidents of ASB were low compared to previous children’s holidays.</p> <p>Councillor Kirk enquired about the best approach to deal with bogus phone calls whereby PCSO Donald confirmed that personal details should not be given across the phone. It was suggested that the phone numbers of bogus or scam callers should be blocked and that a ‘book of scams’ leaflet was available. Cllr Taylor requested that copies of the leaflet be placed in the library.</p> <p>PCSO Donald confirmed that the local team of PCSO’s had been expanded from 2 to 6 since the start of Covid. Cllr Fletcher thanked PCSO Donald for attending the meeting and giving advice/explanations in person.</p>
2	<p><b><u>NYCC Councillor Report.</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Moorhouse (NYCC) confirmed that a meeting had taken place with the resident of Roseberry Crescent who had created the obstruction on the nearby PROW path. It was understood that the work had been undertaken in memory of a loved one and hence NYCC hoped to reach a sensitive compromise. <b>Noted</b></p> <p>Cllr Moorhouse advised that North Yorkshire’s councils will restructure into a unitary authority which is to incorporate expanded responsibility &amp; increased budgets compared to the current Borough, District &amp; County councils. Cllr Hudson (HDC) suggested that the unitary approach would allow Parish &amp; Town councils the opportunity to take on additional responsibilities and also remove current confusion as to which services HDC provides &amp; which are provided by NYCC. The transition process will include elections for the new unitary authority taking place in May 2022 &amp; then new authority will come in to being in April 2023. <b>Noted</b></p> <p><b><u>Hambleton Councillor Report.</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Hudson (HDC) advised that pressure had been exerted on the B1292 ‘Ponderosa’ site to implement the remedial actions. <b>Noted</b></p> <p>Cllr Hudson acknowledged that several complaints had been received regarding the Roseberry View (Strawberry Fields) outdoor music event as well as a separate event across the border from Hambleton. It was confirmed that noise nuisance in both HDC &amp; M’boro could be reported via the HDC Enviro Health team and noise meters could be utilised as part of the investigation. <b>Noted</b></p>
3	<p><b><u>Apologies</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Tessa Snowdon, Cllr Daniel Matuszak</p>

4	<p><b><u>Declaration of Interest in items on the Agenda.</u></b></p> <p>None declared</p>
5	<p><b><u>Minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council.</u></b></p> <p>The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13th July 2021 were approved. <b>Agreed.</b></p>
6	<p><b><u>To Consider Planning &amp; Licensing Applications Received.</u></b></p> <p>Following discussion, it was agreed that formal response to planning applications should be as follows;</p> <p><b>21/01618/FUL - 66 Roseberry Crescent Great Ayton</b> Delegated Decision - Single storey rear extension &amp; raised deck to rear. <a href="#">No Objection / No Observation</a></p> <p><b>21/01751/FUL - 79 Newton Road Great Ayton</b> Delegated Decision - Single storey one room extension to rear elevation of existing private house. <a href="#">No Objection / No Observation</a></p> <p><b>21/01690/FUL - 78 Wheatlands Great Ayton</b> Delegated Decision - Extension to garage at front of house. <a href="#">No Objection / No Observation</a></p> <p><b>21/01593/FUL - Great Ayton Tennis Club Mill Terrace Great Ayton</b> Delegated Decision - The installation of new low level LED floodlighting to three existing outdoor tennis courts (Nrs 1 to 3 inclusive) <a href="#">Great Ayton Parish Council has no objection to the installation of the new low-level lighting and is pleased to note that the proposed LED fixtures will be of an environmentally sensitive type, installed at a suitable height/angle to reduce localised 'glare' and only activated on an 'as required' basis with a 10pm limit of use.</a></p> <p><b>21/01696/MBN - Manor Grange Farm Great Ayton</b> Delegated Decision - Application to determine if prior notification is required for the proposed conversion of agricultural building into 2no larger dwelling houses and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion. <a href="#">Great Ayton Parish Council has no objection to the application however it is appropriate to highlight that the proposed conversion is very close to an operational farm.</a></p> <p><b>NYM/2021/0556/FL - Aireyholme Cottage, Aireyholme Lane, Great Ayton</b> Application for siting of shepherds' hut for domestic purposes at Aireyholme Cottage. <a href="#">No Objection / No Observation</a></p>
7	<p><b><u>Correspondence and Information:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Climate Action Stokesley and Villages</u></b></p> <p>Caryn Loftus thanked Great Ayton Parish Council for the £200 donation which had been received in 2020 and shared details of the leaflets, A-board, banners &amp; flags which it had helped to purchase. It was hoped that further funding might be forthcoming for future project materials.</p> <p>Caryn updated the Council on the regional carbon reduction plans of the Local Enterprise Partnership, North Yorkshire County Council and Hambleton District Council. She outlined the activities of CASaV's five sub-groups on energy, food, nature, transport, and waste and what has been achieved since the group started in 2019 e.g. enabling the planting of 1,700 trees on land on the outskirts of the village and co-ordinating work on the proposed Endeavour Way active travel route between Great Ayton and Stokesley.</p> <p>The group will be holding events in the run up to COP26 in November and asked the Council to work with CASaV to publicise the work the Council are already doing to mitigate and adapt for climate change and explore further actions such as declaring a climate and nature emergency.</p>

8 Council Services / Working Group Reports

**Cemetery Buildings:** The Clerk confirmed that the electricity meter for the cemetery building was due to be installed on 24/08. **Noted**

**Captain James Cook Memorial Garden:** It was agreed that the proposed 'Terms of Reference' for CJCM Committee should be adopted as recommended in the Working Group meeting report of 14/06/21. The Clerk was asked to transcribe the wording into a formal document that could be uploaded to the parish council's website alongside the various regulations, policies and procedures which were adopted at the annual meeting in May. **Agreed**

**Memorial Bridge:** Beaver Bridges had confirmed their intention to return to site in mid-August to lower the bridge which in turn would allow the NYCC Highways permit to be issued for the tarmac infill which should not slope towards the road for disability access/egress. Cllr Fletcher clarified that BB were not responsible for the path or tarmac areas and these, plus the handrails & laser cut splays would be provided by others. **Noted**

**Public WC's:** Cllr Taylor advised that a productive meeting had taken place with SPA architects and that the Buildings Working Group would arrange an informal meeting in the PCC to review the proposals before approval at a formal meeting. SPA will prepare the tender specification and formal bids will be sought in accordance with GAPC's stated Financial Regulations & The Public Contracts Regulations 2015. **Noted**

**Play Park:** Thompson's Timberworks has been asked to carry out repairs to the rubber matting in the toddlers play area that has been damaged by vandals. The GAPC service team were to be asked to practice the wet-pour technique for the future so as to speed up the repair process. **Noted**

**Riverside Floodfield:** It was noted that the field had not been cut/cleared as yet hence the Clerk was asked to deal with this ASAP to help the wilding of the area. Cllr Taylor confirmed that funding had been sought for improving the area as a meadow and it was hoped that Great Ayton Wildlife Group would assist. **Noted**

9 Councillors Actions & Reports

**BUGs:** Cllr Taylor confirmed that the BUGs volunteer group had sourced 2000 bedding plants that had been donated by a local supermarket as old stock. The BUGs team was on holiday during August but would return to their various village improvement activities thereafter. The team would be working alongside Cllr Angela Taylor & Caryn Loftus as part of the team of volunteers who were helping Yatton House with their allotment garden. **Noted**

**Community Speedwatch / traffic items:** Cllr Fletcher suggested that tour bus operators should be discouraged from parking in the village when waiting for walkers to return after their adventures but instead they should be asked to park in nearby laybys. **Noted**

**Captain James Cook Website:** It was agreed that Cllr Robinsons suggested improvements for the CJC website should be endorsed and that in the first instance a meeting should be set up with Catch Design to discuss how the 10 Cook related sites could be added. It was understood that associated costs would be sought which in turn would require approval by the parish council as no 2021/22 budget is in place for the Cook website. **Agreed**

**Taylor Wimpey Land & Building:** It was understood that the Clerk had sought advice from the YLCA/NALC solicitor with specifically with regards to the 'Holding Over' position which may not be lawfully binding. **Noted**

**Village Hall:** Cllr Robinson had submitted a report to the parish council which clarified that the Village Hall had been gifted to Great Ayton Parish Council in 1919 whereby the parish council were trusted to maintain the premises for the use of the residents of Great Ayton thereafter. In recent years the Great Ayton Dramatic Society had leased the Village Hall from the PC until the last lease expired in 2010 whereafter the building was refurbished by the parish council. A group was formed to operate the premises who in turn formed the 'Great Ayton Village Hall' CIO (Charity Number 1156092) in 2014. It was the intended that the PC would lease the Hall to the GAVH group but this arrangement was not then formalised in the years following.

It was concluded that a lease should be put in place to regularise the current arrangement and it was agreed that the recommendations contained within Cllr Robinson's report should be adopted by the parish council and as such the following action was required;

- The Village Hall premises should be recorded with the Land Registry. **Agreed**
- The Clerk should write to the GAVH CIO to describe the decision that a lease was required as described by the NALC advice of 07/05/21. **Agreed**
- Cllr Robinson's report should be forward to the GAVH CIO by way of clarification. **Agreed**
- The Buildings Working Group were tasked with preparing proposed heads of terms for a lease. **Agreed**
- The Clerk would clarify to the GAVH CIO that their activities could not be assumed to be covered by the GAPC insurance policy and that they should seek advice regarding taking out a policy of their own. **Agreed**

**Damaged Weir:** It was understood that the local MP had been asked to intervene in an attempt to encourage the Environment Agency to carry out repairs to the damaged weir to the south of the Low Green. The EA, NYCC & NWL had all previously rejected to carry out any remedial works and hence it was agreed that should EA reject the repair once again, then the parish council's service team would attempt a repair utilising clean 'gabion' stone. **Agreed**

**Parish Council Solicitor:** Cllr Taylor proposed that the parish council should seek a new solicitor as the current solicitor was very slow and had not yet actioned items (such as the Yatton House lease) which were requested some years previous. Cllr Fletcher suggested that since GAPC's current solicitor had provided his services to the parish council for many years he should be given additional time to remedy the situation and as such it was agreed that Cllr Kirk would speak to Mr Towler to 'push' him to produce the outstanding items. **Agreed**

10 **Clerk's Report**

**Yatton House:** It was agreed that the Yatton House garden project within the allotments should be formally endorsed by the parish council so that the parish council's insurances could be in place for the BUGs and other volunteers working as part of their team. **Agreed**

**Parish Council Employees:** It was agreed that Cllr Matuszak, Cllr Brown & Cllr Taylor should be appointed to carry out appraisals on behalf of the parish council. The Clerk was asked to provide a suitable format for the appraisal of the service team as part of an annual review process. **Agreed**

**Scheme of Delegation:** It was agreed that matters of urgency, as determined by the Clerk as Proper Officer shall be delegated to said officer in consultation with the Chairman and/or Vice-Chairman subject to a report being made to the next meeting of the Parish Council. **Agreed**

11 **Accounts Report**

Requests for payment received in the period were reviewed and approved accordingly.

The total payments made were £1,708.58  
The total income received was £150.00

12	<p><b>Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman, should, by reason of special circumstances, be considered as a matter of urgency.</b></p> <p><b>Esk Valley Railway:</b> Caryn Loftus had forwarded a report from the Esk Valley Railway which describes a complicated consultation over proposed timetabling changes via the various rail service providers. It was agreed that the Clerk should submit a response on behalf of Great Ayton Parish Council which expressed concerns at the proposed service changes, the flawed/complicated consultation process and the need for improved rail services as an environmentally efficient means of travel. <b>Agreed</b></p>
13	<p><b>Exclusion of the Press and Public</b>  <b>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.</b></p>

Draft