

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting, Great Ayton Parish Council  
Held in the Friends' Meeting House on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2015 at 7.00 pm**

**Business**

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Chairman's Welcome and Report
3. Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting
4. Matters arising from the Minutes
5. Councillors' Attendance
6. Public Questions
7. Any Other Business

**Present**

Cllr Mrs J Brown- Chairman, Cllr Mrs F Greenwell, Cllr J Flethcher, Cllr R Hudson and Cllr R Kirk.  
Clerk to the Parish Council – Mrs J McLuckie.  
16 Electors.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr G Readman and Cllr Mrs H Moorhouse.

**2. Chairman's Welcome and Report**

Cllr Mrs Brown welcomed those present to the Meeting and advised that they would be given the opportunity to speak later in the Meeting.

Cllr Mrs Brown thanked the Clerk, Cemetery Superintendent and previous Cemetery Assistant for their service over the previous year. Cllr Mrs Brown advised those present that Cllr Jackson had not stood for re-election as a Parish Councillor, he was thanked for his service over the last four years and in particular for his hard work in ensuring Great Ayton remembered the fallen as part of the WWI Centenary. The installation of the Wicker Soldier on the High Green has received great recognition as well as proving to be a great tourist attraction. Cllr Mrs Moorhouse was thanked for her continued support and her work in ensuring that Highways maintenance work was carried out.

Cllr Mrs Brown provided a review of activities the Parish Council had been involved in over the previous year, including:

- The bi-annual Village Fete which once again had been very well supported and the sun had once again shone on this event. We were disappointed with the number of floats and would encourage people to participate in the parade in future.
- Thanks to the Great Ayton Play Park Team who had work tirelessly fund raising to provide the now new equipment that was now installed in the Play Park. The issue earlier in the year with vandalism has now been dealt with the Play Park continues to be well used. Fund raising continues to try and arrange for the refurbishment or replacement of the toddlers area.
- The Parish Council along with a large number of residents had opposed the proposed Gladmans Development at School House Farm and were awaiting the results of the recent Appeal Hearing.

**3. Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting**

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2014 were approved and signed.

**4. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

## **5. Councillors' Attendance**

Twelve regular Parish Council Meetings had been held since the last Annual Parish Meeting. Attendance was as follows:- Cllr Mrs Greenwell 12, Cllr Fletcher 9, Cllr Kirk 11, Cllr Readman 11, Cllr Hudson 10, Cllr Mrs Brown 8 and Cllr Jackson 10.

## **6. Public Questions**

A resident who had attended the Appeal against the proposed development on Station Road asked if there would be any benefit to Great Ayton introducing a Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Kirk advised the resident that Neighbourhood Plans were effective if the District did not have a Local Development Framework and the purpose of such a plan was to encourage development rather than oppose it. Hambleton District Council do have a very robust Local Development Framework in which they had invested a lot of money and time in producing - that document stipulates that Great Ayton should not have any housing developments apart from in-fill. Hambleton District Council are currently reviewing their Local Development Framework to ensure that it is still current and meets all the current new legislation. Cllr Fletcher reassured the resident that Great Ayton Parish Council would continue to review the situation and if deemed appropriate would develop a Neighbourhood Plan.

A resident raised another concern that had come to light during the appeal hearing and this was in relation to the culvert that runs under Station Road and the question raised as to who is responsible for it. Cllr Fletcher confirmed that the Parish Council continues to try and ascertain who owns this culvert and have wrote to Environment Agency, Northumbrian Water, Highways and HDC asking the question, to date no one is taking responsibility. Highways had stated that it is not their responsibility and said that it belongs to Northumbrian Water, the Clerk is still waiting for a response back from Northumbrian Water. The resident suggested that if we do not receive an appropriate response that we ask our elected MP to get involved.

The Parish Council were thanked on behalf of the friends of the railway group for their support and it was confirmed that an early morning train would now run between Whitby and Middlesbrough and an additional service would run on a Sunday.

Great Ayton Discovery Centre thanked the Parish Council for their continued support and a full progress report would be provided at the meeting in June.

A resident from Skottowe requested that the hedgerow that runs along the A173 does require cutting back as it is covering the footpath, however, she did request that it be cut back rather than removed as has taken place along the rear of the properties of Skottowe. This hedgerow is the responsibility of Highways but this request would be passed on to them with the support of the Parish Council.

Residents passed on their thanks to the Parish Council for their service.

## **7. Any Other Business**

There was no additional business.

Cllr Mrs Brown thanked everyone for attending and declared the Meeting closed at 7.40 pm.