

Minutes of Hampsthwaite Parish Council on Thursday 11th March 2024 at Memorial Hall, Hampsthwaite.

Commenced: 8 pm

Concluded: 9.20 pm

Present: Parish Cllr J Carney (Chair)
Parish Cllr G Howard
Parish Cllr K Andrew
Parish Cllr J Jennings
Parish Cllr D Collett
Parish Cllr R Shrimpton
North Yorkshire Cllr M Harrison
Clerk: S Price

2 members of the public

Apologies: Parish Cllr P Bollards

2324/065 To receive any apologies and approve reasons for absence

Approved absence for Parish Cllr's P Bollards

2324/066 To co opt a new member onto the Parish Council

Mr Richard Shrimpton attended the previous Parish Council and was to be co opted. Parish Clerk had communicated with North Yorkshire elections to ensure correct protocol followed and relevant forms signed during the meeting.

2324/067 Public Participation

Members of the public in attendance to discuss the new local plan see 2324/057 and 2324/072e

2324/068 Declaration of Interests

a) To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the council's code of conduct or members Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None received

b) To receive, consider and decide upon any applications for dispensation

None received.

2324/069 To confirm the minutes of the full council meeting held on 12th January 2024 as a true and accurate record.

All agreed as correct. Proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Andrew

2324/070 To receive an update from the North Yorkshire Councillor

North Yorkshire Cllr M Harrison presented an update on the following:

- The issue of flooding- Cllr M Harrison was informed by the Parish Council that flooding in the area continued to cause problems to local residents but that there had been reports of some slight improvement in some areas. Cllr Harrison again commented that there were likely several factors impacting the amount of flooding; more people, houses, development, more rainfall and water which the drains simply could not cope with. It was also mentioned that there had been drainage teams in the village with cameras but he wasn't in possession of the results of the survey. Cllr Harrison notified the meeting that the care of gullies had now been taken back 'in-house' and cases were assessed and added to a list in order of priority.

- Cllr Howard informed Cllr Harrison that there was damage to the public footpath on Brookfield Green which had originally been caused by the trucks but was now particularly sunk and water logged during wetter weather. Photos would be sent to North Yorkshire.
- Cllr Harrison spoke in detail about the new local plan to be drawn up following the unitary County Council and this was due to the amalgamation of the councils. Members of the public were in attendance and wanted to ask the North Yorkshire Councillor to give further information and clarity on the issues surrounding the drawing up of a new plan. Cllr Harrison told the meeting that the plan needs to be in place by 2028 and that he would be being briefed in the next week so would have more information in due course, The HAG group (Hampsthwaite Action Group) were concerned that all the sites that disappeared from the last plan could again put in proposals and that the arguments which the group put forward during the making of the first plan would need to be made again. The member of the public also queried where the calls for sites are being advertised and requested that the information be shared with them and also if the councillor was aware if it would be led by numbers as the last plan was. Cllr Harrison to give further information as he becomes aware of it.
- Parish Council asked Cllr Harrison if he was able to provide a detailed record of the commuted sums available to the Parish Council as this had not be made available since approx 2016,

2324/0071 Financial matters:

a) To review and approve the payments in Appendix 1.

Approved payments and cheques, signed by two councillors to:
HMRC, Cllr G Howard as set out in the appendix.

2324/072 To receive information on the following ongoing issues and agree action where necessary:

a) To receive an update on children's play area and agree action points

The meeting was informed that a resident had raised concerns regarding the upkeep of the area and that due to the gap in the surrounding fence there had been dogs fouling in the playground. Cllr Howard informed the meeting that the fence would be covered under commuted sums as it is on the sports area and that three quotes would be sought in order to fix this.

b) To discuss a request received from a member of the public regarding damaged dry stone wall on Church Lane

It was confirmed that this wall is on the property of a local resident and that the Parish Clerk would write a letter requesting this be fixed by the property owner in order for the orange cones around the wall to be removed.

c) To receive an update on Water Bill for Business Stream

Parish Clerk informed the meeting business stream had agreed to read the meter and provide us with an actual bill. Once this had been received by the Parish Council to make payment.

d) To receive an update on the Cockhill beck path

Cllr Carney had unsuccessfully requested a donation for hardcore to improve the path which has now turned into mud. The path itself is popular and well used and in its current state is not fit for purpose. It was confirmed that further information was needed from paths as to how to raise the funds needed to carry out the work and how to logistically get bulk bags to the area.

e) To discuss the North Yorkshire Plan and the stance the Parish Council will take on it

Opinions well voiced last time the local plan was drawn up and those arguments will still exist. Parish Clerk made councillors aware of an email received regarding a local action group previously set up to challenge overdevelopment in the area and the members of the public were in attendance specifically with regard to this. There is a call for no more building in Hampsthwaite and members of the community group are asking for a preemptive approach on this matter.

f) 3 Year access proposal

This was not discussed as not enough detail was recorded regarding this in the last meeting.

g) Annual contributions for maintenance of footpaths and trees

It was noted that there are trees in need of attention, at the top of the memorial hall, and overhanging the beck. Parish Council to explore grants for maintenance and creating a budget for maintenance of trees as well as footpaths

h) To discuss previous quotations from Swarco and confirm that this is the company that will be used to purchase VAS.

Purchase to be made as soon as Parish Clerk is able to access the online bank account. Parish Clerk to contact Swarco to query the need for extra brackets for ease of moving the device, and to explore how the device will be powered. The device would need to be a SID which flashes to remind drivers what the limit is.

i) To discuss AGAR and end of year accounting including the use of the Scribe software.

Parish Clerk had discussed end of year accounts with the accountant used for the previous year's audit. The accountant confirmed she could perform the audit again this year and advised the use of scribe software which is specifically for parish councils. There had been some errors in previous years but use of the scribe software will make the process more streamline, user friendly, and secure. Parish Clerk wished to seek approval to commission the use of the accountant Elkerlodge Bookkeeping and to proceed with setting up the Parish Council with the Scribe software. This was agreed unanimously.

2324/073 To receive the report from the local school.

Nothing to report

2324/074 To confirm receipt and review minutes from The Feast Committee

Received. It was noted that there were items noted by the committee in need of maintenance, including the flooring. Cllr Howard suggested that this could be rectified without reflooring the whole cabin whilst maintaining safety. Letter to be written setting out the work needed.

2324/075 Planning matters:

a) To consider and decide upon the following planning applications:

NYC Reference:	Address	Description:	Parish Council Response

b) Review of planning applications received and responded to by the Parish Council since the November 2023 meeting

NYC Reference:	Address	Description:	Parish Council Response
ZC24/00400/FUL	Knox Hill Rowden Lane Hampsthwaite Harrogate North Yorkshire HG3 2ER	Demolition of rear and side extensions, alterations to the main house roof and erection of the rear and side extensions (revised scheme)	Parish council has no objections

c) Review of planning decisions issued by North Yorkshire Council since the November 2023 meeting

NYC Reference:	Address	Description:	NYC decision
ZC23/04171/FUL	Old Mill Rowden Lane Hampsthwaite Harrogate North Yorkshire HG3 2ER	Erection of garage, new entrance gate and associated landscaping works	Refused planning permission
ZC23/00087FUL	43 Brookfield Hampsthwaite Harrogate North Yorkshire HG3 2EF	Roof conversion including dormers to rear elevation	Grant permission subject to conditions

d) Review of planning enforcement notifications received from North Yorkshire Council:

None received

2324/76 To note matters for information and items for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting

- AGM (notification for re-election, policy review, chair declaration)

2324/77 To confirm the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 12th March 2024 8pm Memorial Hall

Confirmed as Tuesday 7th May 2024 in the Village Rooms at 7.30pm