

WILBERFOSS PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Sarah Wills 2 Paddock Close Wilberfoss YORK YO41 5LX.

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MINUTES

21st March 2024

Present: Chair Richard Rains, Vice Chair Lynda Hoyle and Cllrs David Barnett, Michelle Wallis, Colin Veitch, Alan Mercer and Stuart Savage together with Ward Councillor Dale Needham.

The 15-minute question time was no utilised.

1. There were no apologies for absence. It was acknowledged that there have been no applications for the current vacancies. They will continue to be advertised locally.
2. There were no declarations of interest made by any Councillor present.
3. The Minutes of the Meeting of the 15th February 2024 were signed as a true record.

4. **Planning Matters**

- 4.1 Councillors considered Planning Application 24/00179/PLF | Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed siting of a mobile home | Old West Farm, Old Green Road, Wilberfoss and had no observations to make.
 - 4.2 It was acknowledged that the developer of Planning Application 22/03091/PLF has begun works without meeting several pre-planning conditions. This activity has been reported to ERYC Planning Enforcement who visited site and instructed the developer to cease. The owner has continued to develop the site and Planning Enforcement are consulting ERYC Legal Department. Ward Cllr Needham agreed to monitor the situation.
5. Cllr Needham advised that he and his fellow Ward Cllrs have been pushing for safety maintenance to the A1079. In addition, they have supported a motion to write to the Secretary of State to request that the Government's Flood Alleviation Scheme is extended to individual households and not just to communities where 50+ properties have been affected by flooding. Ward Cllrs voted against any future dumping of nuclear waste in the region.

It is understood the Devolution consultation received 4,100 mixed responses.

Cllr Needham was asked to follow up the Parish Council's queries relating to the installation of SIDS and a bus shelter.

6. The Clerk advised that the Parish Council is no longer holding a spare battery for the defibrillator at the Community Centre. Recent experience has proven that a replacement can be sourced within days and batteries have a shelf-life so it doesn't make sense to hold one in anticipation of needing it. The battery that has just been fitted should last approximately 2 years. Replacement chest pads have been fitted as they were causing maintenance issues. The Clerk further advised that Tam Stalker, the village First Responder, has retired and Cllrs were asked to consider a fitting tribute to his long service. It is understood that a replacement First Responder may have been hired, but they do not live in Wilberfoss.

The Clerk advised that the installation of FTTP has been booked for the 28th March and will reduce the cost of the Parish Council's commitment to providing telephone and broadband services. A PAYG SIM has been purchased and the Parish Council's mobile number is 07494 567851. A [WhatsApp Channel](#) has been set up and will be used to communicate messages to its followers. It was acknowledged that this is particularly helpful for residents without social media.

7. **Progress Reports and to address any issues outstanding from previous meetings.**

- 7.1 The Clerk advised that mole eradication has been successful.
- 7.2 The Clerk is still facing opposition from ERYC Traffic Management to the purchase and installation of Speed Indicator Devices (SIDS). Existing ERYC policies do not permit permanent use. This wording may be re-considered in light of

the PCC's offer to fund the purchase of such equipment. Subsequent to the meeting the Clerk was advised to speak to ERYC Streetscene.

- 7.3 Cllrs considered 3 quotes for the painting of village bridges and Cllr Veitch, who attended the site meetings with two of the contractors, recommended the cheapest quote. This was approved. Cllr Veitch will meet with the contractor again before the start date and will also request the re-varnishing of the Parish Council notice boards as part of the planned works. It was acknowledged that the drainage works to the beck and the subsequent postponement of this year's Annual Duck Race means the timeline can be extended.
- 7.4 The Clerk advised that the site meeting with the Countryside Access Officer has been postponed to the 25th March. Cllrs Veitch and Savage will be in attendance along with the Clerk. Any decision about the installation of picnic benches will be delayed until after the site meeting. It was understood that the Parish Council has received one objection to benches being sited on the amenity land.
- 7.5 The Clerk notified Cllrs that her request for permission to install a bus shelter had been met with a demand from ERYC to pay £60 to ascertain whether planning permission is needed. Cllr Needham agreed to query this on the Parish Council's behalf. It was acknowledged that there had been no public objection to the siting of a bus shelter. Cllr Savage again queried whether the X46 bus service could divert through the village. Cllr Hoyle advised that it is an express service and it is understood that bringing it through Barmby Moor and Wilberfoss will add 27 minutes to the journey.
- 7.6 Cllr Veitch updated Cllrs on the drainage works to Wilberfoss Beck and anticipated a completion date of around 4 weeks. Amendments have been made to the original scheme due to the unearthing of concrete in the site anticipated for the outfall. It is understood that the Internal Drainage Board will not give permission to the raising of the embankment opposite 25/27 Beckside as this could increase the risk of flooding to the rest of the village, both upstream and downstream of the site.

The re-seeding of the embankment will delay the Annual Duck Race and the event is now anticipated to take place on 1st September 2024.

8. **Environment & Community Matters (to include Highways & Footways, Health, Education, Policing, Street Lighting and Community Groups)**

- 8.1 Cllr Barnett proposed that the purchase of the D-Day Flag was unnecessary. Councillors agreed.
- 8.2 A discussion took place regarding the Parish Council supporting activities for younger members of the community. It was acknowledged that a number of activities are provided, both at the Community Centre and by sporting clubs at the Playing Fields. Consideration will be given to supporting an existing activity in due course. Cllr Savage advised that the Elders Party is taking shape and that costs are being incurred. He was asked to present invoices/receipts to the Council in due course.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the end of year account balance, together with the Precept and budget for 2024/2025. Cllr Veitch requested that the Clerk provide a breakdown summary of anticipated income and expenditure for the forthcoming financial year.

- 8.3 Cllrs Veitch advised that his attendance at a recent Emergency Plan meeting reassured him that the village Emergency Plan is in good order. Consideration could be given to holding a list of vulnerable residents and those with 4x4's/tractors who could be called upon in an emergency, but no agreement was reached to take this any further.
- 8.4 The Clerk advised that, following ERYC's maintenance visits to salt bins, prior to the winter season, subsequent visits will be carried out on demand. Cllr Rains enquired whether stickers can be affixed to the bins to advise residents how to contact ERYC to request a re-fill. The Clerk will make enquiries.

9. **Councillors' Reports for future Agendas**

- 9.1 There were no Councillor reports.

10. **Administration Matters**

- 10.1 Cllrs voted unanimously to adopt a Social Media policy.

10.2 Cllrs agreed to a request from the Clerk to re-schedule the meeting date in May to 23rd May 2024. This is the date for the Annual Parish and Annual Parish Council meetings. Cllr Savage advised that he cannot make the revised date.

11. **Finance** (in accordance with *The Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, Part 4(19)*) members of the public will be asked to leave the meeting before details of the employees' salaries are revealed but will be permitted to stay for all other payment details. Copies of the Parish Council Minutes are displayed on the two Parish Council village notice boards on Main Street and Willow Park Road and on the parish website (www.wilberfossparish.org.uk).

11.1 The Clerk sought approval of the following payments:-

Pestforce (Mole Eradication)	£390.00
Burton Farming (Allotment rent 1/2/24 – 31/1/25)	£450.00
Clerk's telephone/broadband expenses	£223.80
Combined staff salaries	£807.54
ERYC (salt bin replenishment)	£58.80
Post Haste (Newsletter printing)	£300.00
Wilberfoss Community Centre (Hire Charges)	£22.00
Angela Hubbard (Brownie Garden Maintenance)	£57.00
Wilberfoss in Bloom (donation for plants and gravel)	£300.97
James Horsley Limited (grounds maintenance)	£565.07
Defib4Life (Clerk's expenses) Replacement Chest Pads	£66.00

11.2 Cllrs Savage and Mercer completed the bank signing mandate and provided the required ID.

11.3 It was agreed that although a SID has not yet been purchased, the Clerk will complete the Reporting Form for the Quarry Fund to acknowledge that the 2023/2024 allocation will be spent on this. In the meantime, the funds will be ring-fenced.

11.4 It was agreed to move £10,000 to the Reserve Account. The Clerk reminded Cllrs that the Litter Picker salary will increase in line with the change to the Living Wage in April 2024.

Meeting closed:- 21.26

The next meeting of Wilberfoss Parish Council will take place on Thursday 18th April 2024 from 7.30 pm.

Chair Clerk