

WILBERFOSS PARISH COUNCIL

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

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MINUTES

18th March 2021

Present: Chair Judy Abernethy, Vice Chair David Smith and Councillors Richard Rains, Steve Abernethy, Lynda Hoyle, Claire Norman, Dominic Johnson and David Barnett together with Ward Councillor Paul West.

The 15 minute question time was not utilised.

1. There were no apologies. The Clerk advised that there had been no applications for the current vacancy but interest has been shown.
2. There were no declarations of interest made by any Councillor present.
3. The Minutes of the Meetings of 18th February 2021 were signed as a true record and will be delivered to the Clerk by the Chair.
4. **Planning Matters**
 - 4.1 There were no planning applications to consider or outcomes to be notified of.
5. Following his enquiries to ERYC about air quality along the A1079 corridor, Ward Cllr Paul West returned to the meeting to provide Councillors with information. In the main, air quality is good and measures have been put in place at strategic locations to maintain a continuous flow of traffic, thus reducing pollution build-up. These include the roundabouts at Shiptonthorpe and Pocklington. Interactive stations which monitor air pollution are strategically located along the A1079 with one at Wilberfoss and a further two at Pocklington and Kexby. A copy of the 64-page report is available from ERYC.

Cllr West advised that requests for electric charging points can be submitted for consideration to ERYC. There is no fee for installation, but each case is assessed independently. Cllr West offered to submit a request for a charging point at Wilberfoss Community Centre and he was asked to include the car park at Wilberfoss Pavilion.

Approval has been granted for freeports at Goole and Hedon/Withensea. (*Freeports offer a physical buffer for imported goods between the land border and duties border, meaning less tax regulations and levies are imposed on goods entering and leaving the country.* There are incentives for new businesses who bring business to the area.

Unemployment due to COVID is lower in the East Riding (at 4.6%) than regionally (at 4.8%) or nationally (at 4.9%). In the East Riding, Pocklington Provincial Ward has the highest level of claims under the Government's furlough scheme. This could be due in part to its proximity to York, which relies heavily on trade from tourism.

£33.6 million in government grants has been distributed by East Riding of Yorkshire Council and further funding is available to the self-employed who can make a claim in April.

The Chair enquired as to whether planning approval for 360+ houses in Pocklington could assist the East Riding of Yorkshire Council's bid for highway improvements at Wilberfoss and Cllr Ward acknowledged that this application and a similar one in Driffield could certainly add weight. Furthermore, he suggested that devolution could bring any decision-making process closer to home.
6. The Clerk advised that she had received confirmation from East Riding of Yorkshire Council that the Community Fund, required to be established by Wilberfoss Quarry, has at last been set up and the first pro rata payment of just over £1,000 will be forthcoming. A fund panel will need to be established and will include representatives from both Wilberfoss Parish Council and Newton Parish Council, along with a representative from Wilberfoss Quarry and East Riding of Yorkshire Council. Cllr Hoyle offered to be the Parish Council's representative. Both Parish Councils will be asked to produce a report identifying how the funds are spent. The funding pot of £5,000 will be distributed annually and will be split 50:50 between the two neighbouring parishes.

Action

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

- 7.1 Cllr Rains advised that he has had difficulty getting joiners to commit to the Book Exchange project. A second quote has been received and amounted to £2,200. It was therefore agreed unanimously to accept the quote for £780 from Peter Saltmer. The project will be funded from existing recycle credit funds or from the Community Fund that has just been established.
- 7.2 The Clerk had little to report on the Village Biodiversity Plan as the landowner is still considering the proposal for a woodland. It was acknowledged that the voluntary group would benefit from a face-to-face meeting.
- 7.3 The Chair advised that she had met with a restoration expert who has advised that remedial work would benefit the War Memorial. A quote has not yet been received. Furthermore, a discussion had taken place about improving access to the site, which could involve the removal of some of the existing hedges. Ward Cllr West offered to try and establish ownership of the site. Funding may be available for a larger scale project if remedial work is carried out in the meantime.
- 7.4 Cllr Rains advised that he had identified additional sites in and around the village which could be suitable for the positioning of benches. He will put a location map together for consideration. Identification included sites where consultation with neighbouring property owners would be necessary, but it was acknowledged that if sites did prove suitable then there would be an opportunity for electors to locate memorial benches.

8. **Environment & Community matters (to include Highways and Footways, Health, Education, Transport, Policing, Street lighting and Community Groups).**

- 8.1 It was acknowledged that the flag flying dates are covered for the year so going forward there was no need to include them on the Agenda.
- 8.2 The Chair advised that paving is being laid to the side of the tennis courts to provide better access along the lane. The CCTV has identified a dog owner using the playing fields to walk their dog, despite signs advising this is forbidden. A pitch improvement scheme is in place which is upgrading the playing surfaces.
- 8.3 Cllr Smith ask the Parish Council to consider a meeting between themselves, the landowners and East Riding of Yorkshire Council to try to establish how improvements can be made to Wilberfoss Hill. In the past week two separate incidents of fly tipping have been reported by the Clerk to East Riding of Yorkshire Council. The Clerk was asked to make the initial approaches.
- 8.4 The Clerk presented Councillors with correspondence from a resident of The Paddock who seeks the support of the Parish Council to their initial request to ERYC for acoustic fencing for properties adjoining the A1079. They are dissatisfied with a subsequent response from Ward Cllr Kay West. It was acknowledged at the meeting that there was little the Parish Council could do to influence the decision-making process of East Riding of Yorkshire Council other than to continue the campaign for safer access onto the A1079 which could result in the road being diverted.
- 8.5 The Clerk advised that the biennial Village Taskforce Walkabout, originally scheduled for 2020, will take place on the 6th May 2021. The Chair offered to attend on behalf of the Parish Council and Councillors were asked to draw up items for inclusion. These can include overgrown boundary hedges, potholes, street signs and other incidental issues. A handful of issues were identified at the meeting.

9. **Councillors Reports for future Agendas**

- 9.1 The Chair asked for an update on the clearing of 27 Millfield Close and the Clerk advised that an ERYC Enforcement Officer had been on site and will continue to visit until the area is much improved. A local resident is also keeping the Parish Council informed.
- 9.2 The Chair enquired as to whether there was any update on the Parish Council's request for a grit bin on Willow Park Road. The Clerk advised that the enquiry is still pending.
- 9.3 Cllr Rains was asked for an update on the Coronavirus Mosaic which was losing its protective lacquer. Time constraints have prevented any remedial work but this will be carried out in due course.

10. **Administration Matters**

- 10.1 Councillors agreed unanimously that face-to-face meetings should resume when permitted.
- 10.2 It was agreed that the date of the Annual Parish Meeting should not be brought forward to offer the opportunity to

run the meeting virtually and that all three meetings in May will take place face-to-face on the 20th.

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 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 or at www.wilberfossparish.org.uk.)

11.1 The Clerk/RFO sought payment for the following transactions: -

Staff salaries	£674.64
James Horsley Limited (grounds maintenance)	£521.26
Post Haste Limited (Newsletter production)	£285.00
SC Windows (bus shelters' 6 monthly clean)	£80.00
1&1 IONOS (domain name renewal)	£19.32
1&1 IONOS (website hosting)	£5.99

Meeting closed 21.00

..... Chairman Clerk