



KIRKBYMOORSIDE TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting held at Church House on Monday 16 October 2023 at 7.30pm in Church House, 7 High Market Place, Kirkbymoorside, YO62 6AT.

Present: Councillors C Dowie, J Illingworth, A Moffat, A Riby, J Wells and S Woodhams.

Also Present: Town Clerk L Bolland, PC Jez Walmsley and one member of the public.

Cllr Wells welcomed all present.

23107 Agenda item 1. Apologies for Absence

- a. Apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting were **received** from Cllr Coughlan.
- b. Approval of reasons given for absence were **agreed**.

23108 Agenda item 2. There were no Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda.

23109 Agenda item 3. Minutes and Matters Arising

- a. The draft minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 18 September 2023 were **approved** and **signed**.
- b. Matters arising.
 - i. The addition to the Town Council's winter maintenance schedule of 1no. grit bin, to be installed outside Church House, 7 High Market Place at a cost of £125 + VAT (cost of bin and grit), pursuant to Minute 23095 dated 18 September 2023 was **noted**.

23110 Agenda item 4. Information on local policing matters was **received** from PC Jez Walmsley.

Referring to an email campaign targeted at the Town Council relating to Boxing Day activities organised by local stables, PC Walmsley explained that this is not a Town Council matter. If the issue relates to the highways or event licencing it should be referred to North Yorkshire Council as the appropriate authority. In the event of any offences these would be dealt with by the police in an ad-hoc manner. PC Walmsley stressed that the Town Council has no responsibility or liability for activities of this nature.

PC Walmsley addressed the matter of e-scooter use, pursuant to Minute 23088 dated 18 September 2023, wherein it was recorded that there have been reports of increasing numbers of young people riding scooters, both electrical and regular, on the pavements, and also concern about young cyclists riding irresponsibly and dangerously on the pavements and roads. PC Walmsley confirmed that e-scooters are classified as mechanically propelled vehicles and therefore require tax and insurance. The absence of the appropriate licences confines their permitted use to private land only.

North Yorkshire Police are addressing the issue at all local primary and secondary schools to raise awareness of the legality of e-scooters, the Highway Code and responsible conduct when using bicycles/scooters in public space.

Cllr Dowie asked if the CCTV, installed by the Town Council at Old Road play area and skate park, has been effective. PC Walmsley explained that the North Yorkshire Police have access to the footage and it has been very useful when responding to local concerns. Individuals are encouraged to report all incidents/concerns to the police via 101 and the CCTV can then be checked to assist a resolution.

23111 Agenda item 5. Public Session – Cllr Wells welcomed the member of the public, Jim Reader, author of the 2023 Flowering Plant Survey for Finches Fork Meadow in Manor Vale due to be received at agenda item 11. Cllr Wells proposed to revise the order of the agenda to consider item 11 as the next matter of business. **Agreed.**

23112 Agenda item 11. Manor Vale and Allotment

- a. The 2023 Flowering Plant Survey for Finches Fork Meadow in Manor Vale, prepared voluntarily by Jim Reader, retired biologist, was **received**. Jim provided a precis of the report and the conclusions that the meadow already has a rich variety of plants and is evidence of having been unaffected by modern agricultural practices. Varying the time of mowing could enhance this richness. It is a firm recommendation not to introduce plants from outside the area.

Cllr Wells offered thanks to Jim for providing a fascinating report.

Cllr Riby expressed concern about not mowing until September because of the potential to allow cleavers and nettles to take over the meadow. Jim explained his suspicion that the growth of cleavers and nettles on the meadow edge is likely due to the cut grass having been deposited there previously and provided assurance that the spread of cleavers and nettles would be avoided by removal of the cut grass entirely.

Cllr Dowie proposed accepting the suggestions for improving the meadow and liaising with the Environment Group volunteers to determine how best to encourage increased participation in managing the meadow. **Agreed.**

- b. It was **noted** that the trees on the south west boundary of Manor Vale woodland are considerably encroaching the allotment site. The cost of necessary tree works was not available. Consideration was **deferred** to the next meeting.
- c. The 2023 Bat Survey for the Allotment site, prepared voluntarily by Martyn Smith, was **received** with much interest. Appreciation was expressed for production of the report and awareness of the eight bat species and their habitat at the allotment site.

23113 Agenda item 6. Discussions with Town Councillors and the County Councillor in respect of questions already posed, and any new matters.

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor White.

County Councillor White was not available to attend the Ordinary meeting of the Town Council in September and subsequently Cllr Dowie, as a member of both the Ryedale Environment Group and Kirkbymoorside Environment Group, emailed the following questions regarding North Yorkshire Council service provision:

- 1) What plans are there to introduce a single recycling system for the whole of North Yorkshire rather than the different ones in the former District Council areas?
- 2) In respect of plastic recycling is it true that plastic yoghurt pots can be recycled although they are not currently collected?
- 3) What is the reason for collecting plastic bottles for recycling but no other plastic?
- 4) We currently have to separate recycling into three categories. When will the County move into line with most other parts of the UK where a separate wheelie bin is provided for all recycling?

County Cllr White's email response was received as follows:

"Waste is part of my Managing Our Environment portfolio on North Yorkshire Council's Executive.

This first year of North Yorkshire Council operating services, that were previously in the domain of the former District Councils, has been one of consolidation. Our main objective has been to keep our services safe and legal. To this end we have left the service budgets we have inherited exactly as the Districts planned them, even though these were collectively in deficit by £30M, when compared to the inherited income. Through the course of the year we have identified and taken

some relatively easy savings and will be making further efficiencies over the coming months. I am keen that efficiency should and does mean delivering our existing services for less, rather than delivering less in the way of services.

You asked a number of specific questions about waste collection and recycling.

- 1) What plans are there to introduce a single recycling system for the whole of North Yorkshire rather than the different ones in the former District Council areas?

I have recently set up a cross party group of NYC Councillors to consider the options for waste collection and disposal, including recycling and to advise myself and officers on what they believe will work best. The current thinking is that we will move to a system which replaces the current boxes with two new wheelie bins for different types of recycling. Of course, this may change as a result of the cross party group's work.

- 2) In respect of plastic recycling is it true that plastic yoghurt pots can be recycled although they are not currently collected?

I need to check, with officer colleagues, that I have this right but this is my current understanding. Different plastics are recycled in different ways, mixing them increases the complexity and cost of recycling. Some plastics including polystyrene, which most yogurt pots are made of, are currently so difficult to process that it makes them impractical to recycle except as energy for waste. It is likely this will change over time.

- 3) What is the reason for collecting plastic bottles for recycling but no other plastic?

Please see answer above

- 4) We currently have to separate recycling into three categories. When will the County move into line with most other parts of the UK where a separate wheelie bin is provided for all recycling?

Ryedale District Council achieved greater levels of recycling than the other councils that formed NYC. There are real advantages in sorting recycling in the home, or at the kerbside, rather than mixing it with other waste and then trying to sort it at the depot. Both the amount and quality of recycled materials tends to be much higher, which results in lower net cost and less impact on the Planet.

As stated above, the current suggestion is that we will move to a system which replaces the current boxes with two new wheelie bins for different types of recycling. Householders will still need to do some separation, but less than they do now.

I want to stress that this is all work in progress and nothing is set in stone. When the all party group has given its advice and the Executive have considered the proposals my team then put forward, we will consult with residents before a final decision is made. When we have determined what it will be, it will take two to three years to gradually roll out the new harmonised system. The reason for a long introduction period is to ensure that we get full utilisation of our existing plant. The new system is likely to involve a different specification of refuse collection vehicle and retiring the current waste collection wagons early – with all their embodied carbon, would make no sense environmentally."

Cllr Dowie requested to contact County Councillor White for clarification as to whether there will be provision for the collection of food waste to be processed in the anaerobic digester.

23114 Agenda item 7. Financial matters

- a. Accounts paid since the last meeting of the Council were **reported** and payments **approved** according to the list provided.
- b. The Financial Summary to 30 September 2023 was **received**.
- c. Renewal of the Data Protection Registration with the Information Commissioner's Office on 26 October 2023 at a cost of £40 was **noted**.

- d. The allocation of £100 for the purchase of Christmas cards at £75 + VAT (100 cards) and confectionary as gesture of thanks in lieu of remuneration for works associated with installation of the town Christmas trees and lights was **agreed**.
- e. A ceiling budget of £300 for the purchase of replacement office furniture was **agreed**.
- f. Renewal of the Sync.com annual subscription at a cost of \$49 was **noted**.

23115 Agenda item 8. Remembrance Sunday 12 November 2023 - The cost of £590 + VAT for traffic management arrangements associated with the Remembrance Parade, pursuant to Minute 23098, was **agreed**. Cllr Wells explained that neither themselves, nor the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Coughlan are available to participate in the parade. Arrangements will be made for a member of the Town Council to act as representative on the day.

23116 Agenda item 9. Insurance

- a. Renewal of the Commercial Combined Insurance Policy due on 1 November 2023 was **noted**.
- b. Quotations for Local Council Insurance for the period from 1 November 2023 were **received**.
 - I. Quote A £3,998.65
 - II. Quote B £4,629.45 + £437.69 GPA/Sickness/Business Travel
- c. It was **agreed** to accept quotation A with Hiscox Insurance Company Limited.

Cllr Illingworth identified the necessity for business travel cover for the clerk. Cllr Woodhams proposed the clerk check with their motor insurance provider and any costs associated with the addition of business travel cover would be paid by the Town Council. **Agreed**.

Cllr Illingworth proposed to set up a 3 year binding Long Term Agreement (LTA) with Hiscox Insurance Company Limited, at an LTA premium of £3,998.65 inc IPT and fees, to 31/10/2026, to allow for budgeting and help prevent unexpected large annual increases. **Agreed**.

23117 Agenda item 10. Triennial Tree Safety Assessments – Item deferred

- a. Receipt of the quotation for recommended works identified in the tree safety assessments for Manor Vale woodland, Old Road play area, Ryedale View play area and the sports field was **deferred**.
- b. Consideration of the quotation for works identified as high priority and allocation of the associated costs to the 2023/24 budget was **deferred**.
- c. Consideration of the quotation for remaining works and allocation of the associated costs to the 2024/25 budget was **deferred**.

23118 Agenda item 12. Project to develop the football club facilities at the sports field, New Road, Kirkbymoorside

- a. Successful submission of a Community Ownership Fund Expression of Interest (EOI) pursuant to Minute 23094 dated 18 September, was **noted**.
- b. It was **noted** that the outcome of the EOI indicates that the project is likely to be eligible for the Fund, and the projected received invitation to submit a full application.
- c. It was **noted** that it has not been possible to submit the application by the deadline of 11 October as advice regarding the Subsidy Control Act 2020, needed to complete the application, is pending. Cllr Wells thanked the clerk for the significant amount of time spent preparing submission of the grant application. This content will be relevant to future applications.
- d. The intention to submit the application in the next round was **noted**.

23119 Agenda item 13. Local Plan Review

- a. Correspondence issued by Malton Town Council to Councillor Les, Leader North Yorkshire Council in respect of the Ryedale Local Plan Review was **noted**.

- b. It was **agreed** to make representation to North Yorkshire Council to ascertain intentions regarding the Local Plan for North Yorkshire.
- c. It was **agreed** to request progression of the Ryedale Local Plan Review process to ensure that local planning considerations are influenced by matters affecting and specific to Ryedale.

23120 Agenda item 14. An update on Q2 progress for the Flood Risk Management project was **received**.

23121 Agenda item 15. Information from North Yorkshire Council regarding management of Town Farm car park was **received**.

23122 Agenda item 16. Appointment of Alice Richardson to the vacancy of representative trustee to The United Charities Trust of Kirkbymoorside was **agreed**.

All Councillors concurred that the work done by the charity is highly commendable and the community should be aware of the charity's achievements, most notably the contribution to the Tinley Garth Surgery to help pay for the salary of another doctor in order to help reduce waiting times.

Cllr Dowie proposed a response to the United Charities Trust expressing delight to hear of the good work done by the charity to the benefit of the town and inviting the Trustees to attend the annual town meeting in May to report on their activities and achievements of the past 12 months. Additionally, inclusion of a feature in The Moorsider would be a useful way to raise awareness of the charity's considerable contribution to the community. **Agreed.**

23123 Agenda item 17. The intention of North Yorkshire Council to remove all the old district and borough council Hackney Carriage zones and replace them with one North Yorkshire Council zone was **noted**.

23124 Agenda item 18. Correspondence from Zero Hour seeking support for the Climate and Ecology Bill was **received**. Cllr Wells proposed to defer consideration to the next meeting to allow Councillors more time to familiarise themselves with the subject, in order for a more informed decision. **Agreed.**

23125 Agenda item 19. Reports from Members representing the Town Council at meetings of outside bodies and on delegated matters.

Cllr Woodhams reported attendance at the Five Towns meeting, together with Cllr Wells and the Town Clerk, on 3 October at Ryedale House.

Cllr Dowie reported that the native wild flower seeds are now available and the agenda for the November meeting will include consideration of arrangements for potting and preparation of the verge in advance of planting in the 2024 season. There has been an enthusiastic response to the Town Council's proposal to introduce wild verges and some expressions of interest in volunteering to participate in the project.

Cllr Illingworth attended the Eco-Fair in Kirkbymoorside on 30 September, in a personal capacity, and reported that it was excellent. Cllrs Dowie and Wells were also at the event and agreed that it was a very worthwhile event.

Cllr Riby reported that whilst he has not yet received a response from North Yorkshire Council with regards to moving the 'Welcome to Kirkbymoorside' sign on approach from Helmsley, he has every intention to continue pursuit of the matter and hopes to have a progress report available for the next meeting.

23126 Agenda item 20. The Town Clerk's report was received as follows:

The Clerk attended the following meetings since the last Ordinary meeting of the Town Council on 18 September:

26 September – Andrew Santon, North Yorkshire Council Highways Customer Communications Officer regarding miscellaneous highways issues;

28 September – Ryedale Market Town Clerks and Community MAPS meeting;

29 September – James Peacock North Yorkshire Council Highways Officer assigned to Kirkbymoorside regarding line markings on Crown Square and Tinley Garth and pavement surfacing outside the Moorside Room on Church Street;

3 October – Five Towns meeting at Ryedale House, accompanied by Cllrs Woodhams and Wells; and

10 October – Craig Moon, NY Highways regarding resurfacing of tarmac paths throughout Old Road play area.

A quotation has been requested from Playdale Playgrounds Ltd for replacement of one balance beam element of the trim trail at Old Road play area.

Annual works to clear the length of the bridle path from Neville's Castle to the Ancient Ash in Manor Vale Woodland have been instructed.

Vehicle access is required in proximity to Spring Wood in Manor Vale for extensive works associated with the removal of a deceased tree from the edge of the golf course car park.

The Commercial Christmas lights are scheduled to be installed on 21 October and installation of the icicle lights throughout the town centre will commence on 23 October.

The clerk is currently liaising with a resident of Kirkdale Court to address concerns regarding two mature trees on the property boundary with Manor Vale Woodland. An assessment and quotation of any works necessary has been requested from a suitably qualified profession and will be received at the next meeting once available.

23127 Agenda item 21. The Town Mayor reported the following attendance of various meetings and occasions since the last meeting on 18 September:

25 September - provided an address on the role of Town Mayor at the Kirkbymoorside Carers Plus meeting at the Methodist Church;

26 September – joined the Tuesday group at the Methodist Chapel;

3 October - of the Five Towns meeting, together with Cllr Woodhams and the Town Clerk, on 3 October at Ryedale House;

6 October – As a member of the Kirkbymoorside Town Brass Band the Town Mayor had the honour of welcoming the German Brass Band, Himmighausen Blasorchester from Stadt Nieheim in Germany. Kirkbymoorside Town Brass were host to the German Brass Band to celebrate four decades of friendship and music with numerous concerts and musical activities. A concert featuring Blasorchester Himmighausen and Kirkbymoorside Town Brass Band was held on October 8 at the James Holt Concert Hall, Kirkbymoorside; and

19 October – The Town Mayor, and Cllr Woodhams will be attending the YLCA Ryedale Branch meeting at Ryedale House, Malton.

23128 Agenda item 22. Questions to the Chair

Cllr Illingworth referred to the Christmas cards and asked if the children at Kirkbymoorside Primary School could be invited to design next year's Christmas card.

Cllr Illingworth referred to the recent introduction of 20mph in the town centre and expressed disappointment at the signpost installed at the junction of Howe End, explaining that because the sign post is not on the junction of Howe End and Piercy End it gives the distinct impression that the 30mph applies to Piercy End, particularly to vehicles driving southbound from Market Place. Cllr Illingworth asked if North Yorkshire Council Highways Authority could be asked if it would be possible for this post to bear the 20mph sign to reinforce the speed limit in that area and if it is not possible to change the sign would it be possible to remove the post entirely?

Cllr Illingworth also asked if North Yorkshire Council Highways Authority could be asked if 20mph roundels and additional 20mph signs are scheduled to be installed on the length of Piercy End,

Market Place and High Market Place to reinforce the 20mph zone, as with West End where there are several to reiterate the speed restriction.

Cllr Illingworth explained that some of the local shop owners would like another business promotion meeting and there is interest in a late opening event on the approach to Christmas and asked if the Town Council would be able to offer any support. The clerk explained that arrangements are in progress for a meeting and is waiting for confirmation of availability by Local Enterprise Partnership and North Yorkshire Council representatives to attend. Cllr Dowie referred to interest in arranging a late opening event and proposed the Town Council offer support by promoting any local events or initiatives. **Agreed.**

23129 Agenda item 23. The date of the next Ordinary meeting of the Town Council on 20 November 2023 at 7.30pm in Church House was **agreed.**

The meeting concluded at 9.31pm.