



KIRKBYMOORSIDE TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Town Council meeting held at Church House on Monday 15 December 2023 at 7.30pm in Church House, 7 High Market Place, Kirkbymoorside, YO62 6AT.

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

Also Present: Cllr Wells welcomed all present.

23151 Agenda item 1. Apologies for Absence

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

23152 Agenda item 2. There were no Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda.

23153 Agenda item 3. Minutes and Matters Arising

- a. The draft minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 20 November 2023 were **received** and **signed**.
- b. Matters arising.

Pursuant to Minute 23143c in respect of the Community Celebration Event, 12 October 2024 has been booked with the Memorial Hall and Kirkbymoorside Town Band for the Town's Community Celebration Event.

Pursuant to Minute 23144b in respect of Wildflower Friendly Verges, Cllrs Dowie and Illingworth have planted the wildflower seeds at Cllr Illingworth's allotment, retaining some annual seeds to plant direct. The exercise to plug plant the flowers once germinated will involve participation by many volunteers. Cllr Illingworth suggested contacting local groups to encourage involvement in the project.

Pursuant to Minute 23149 in respect of trees in Manor Vale affecting the neighbouring property on Highfield Lane, the trees have been assessed and a quotation for (optional) works provided to the resident.

23154 Agenda item 4. Public Session - There were no members of the public present.

23155 Agenda item 5. There were no questions already posed, and no new matters for discussions with Councillors.

23156 Agenda item 6. Financial matters

- a. The accounts paid since the last meeting of the Council were **reported** and cheque payments **approved** according to the list provided.

Cllr Moffat referred to the increased cost of utilities and queried if it would be feasible to review the supplier contracts in order to determine an opportunity to seek more competitive rates/contract terms.

Cllr Riby referred to the grass cutting contract, and questioned whether it was necessary to cut the grass verges 14 times a year. Cllr Dowie commented that in 2024 some verges will only need to be cut twice a year due to the wildflower project and suggested a meeting with the contractor early in the new year to review the grass cutting schedule.

Cllr Riby proposed inclusion of an agenda item at an appropriate meeting to review arrangements and design of the town Christmas lighting scheme.

- b. The Financial Summary to 30 November 2023 was **received**.

23157 Agenda item 7. Designated Safe Crossing Place - Information from NYC Highways in response to the request that other options for a safe crossing be explored, both in the town centre and on the A170, pursuant to Minute 23142 was **received**. Disappointment was expressed that North Yorkshire Council Highways Authority are not prepared to pursue the matter of a safe crossing place in the town centre. Cllr Dowie proposed that the Town Council revisit the matter at a later date. **Agreed**.

23158 Agenda item 8. Flooding

- a. It was **noted** that the surface water flooding affecting Windmill Avenue at Manor Woods on 9th and 10th December was reported to the following authorities/departments:
- I. Countryside Partnerships as developers of Manor Woods
 - II. Applebridge as contracted Construction Engineers
 - III. North Yorkshire Council:
 - i. Lead Local Flood Authority - Resilience & Emergencies Team
 - ii. Planning Authority - in respect of conditions associated with Application 17/01449/MREM
 - iii. Highways Authority - in respect of highways drainage

The issue of surface water flooding affecting properties on Windmill Avenue was first raised when a resident issued an appeal for sandbags via Facebook. Subsequently assistance was offered by residents and North Yorkshire Council Streetscene. In response to the event, all responsible agencies were alerted and made aware of the issues affecting the local area. The North Yorkshire Council Flood Resilience Team have liaised directly with the resident concerned and carried out a site visit. Emergency contact numbers have been posted on the Town Council website and notice boards and provided to the resident concerned. Cllr Moffat commented that the emergency contacts should have been better publicised by the respective agencies and suggested that new developers should be encouraged to include this information in their welcome packs for new residents.

23159 Agenda item 9. The consultation by Ryedale Learning Trust on the proposal that Ryedale Learning Trust merges with Areté Learning Trust was **noted**. Cllr Wells proposed that the consultation was most pertinent to parents affected by the merger and that a response from the Town Council was unnecessary. **Agreed**.

23160 Agenda item 10. Reports from Members representing the Town Council at meetings of outside bodies and on delegated matters

Cllr Illingworth attended a planning meeting for the 2024 10k event and is updating the risk assessment for the event and reviewing the event's medical, and health & safety arrangements.

Cllr Moffat joined two recent Community MAPS meetings. She will continue to do so where possible, and will report back on any items raised that are relevant to the Town Council.

Cllr Dowie attended Environment Group meetings and reported that plans are in progress for the next 'Eco Fair' on 4th May, the day before the 10k, in the hope that visitors staying locally for that event may also attend. Lectures will be in the Library and stalls in the Memorial Hall.

Cllr Riby continues to chase North Yorkshire Council Highways in relation to the poor location of the 'Welcome to Kirkbymoorside' sign. He has been told that it is 'impossible' to relocate it and 'perhaps it could just be raised up higher'. He doesn't accept this and will continue to pursue the matter.

23161 Agenda item 11. Town Mayor's report

The Town Mayor reported that they attended Cllr Cossins' funeral on 23 November 2023.

Since the last meeting, Cllr Wells has visited Gillamoor and Kirkbymoorside Primary Schools to encourage interest in the children's 10k poster competition, closing date 12 January 2024. Cllr Wells, accompanied by Cllr Illingworth, judged the 'Best Christmas Window Display 2023' competition. The winner was Towler's Chemist, with runners up Jems Hair Design and Love My Hair, but there was some very strong competition with many lovely window displays brightening up the town. Cllr Wells presented the winner's certificate to delighted staff at the winning shops. With Christmas approaching and the Town Clerk on Christmas leave, it was agreed that Cllr Illingworth would announce the winners on the Kirkbymoorside Facebook site.

23162 Agenda item 12. Questions to the Chair

Cllr Moffat asked if there are vacancies on any committees following the death of Cllr Cossins.

23163 Agenda item 13. The date of the next ordinary meeting of the Town Council on 15 January 2024 at 7.30pm in Church House was **agreed**.

The meeting concluded at 8.32pm