

CLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 4th November 2024 at Cliffe Village Institute

24/268 Present: -

Councillor G Wilson (Chairman)
Councillor H Cross
Councillor S Gummerson
Councillor A Holman
Councillor J Jewitt
Councillor J Wallinger
Councillor R Woodall
Councillor E Yates

North Yorkshire Councillor K Arthur

Two members of the public were also present

24/269 Apologies: - All members present

24/270 Declarations of Interest: - None

24/271 Public Session: -

A resident noted that the broken fence on the footpath to Newhay fishing ponds has still not been fixed; **Councillor J Jewitt** to follow up with the landowner.

He also reported that outside the old Post Office on old Hull Road the metal guttering that goes across the footpath into the road is loose and bent. Resident to send photographs to the **Chairman** who will report this on the North Yorkshire Council Portal.

The resident also raised concern that the area towards the eastern end of old Hull Road is very dark due to the large gap between streetlights and it was agreed that **Councillor J Wallinger** would enquire into the indicative cost and process to install an additional streetlight in this area.

24/272 Parish Council Vacancy (co-option of new Councillor): -

It was noted that two candidates had put their name forward for co-option to the Parish Council, but one application was subsequently withdrawn therefore Andrew Marshall who was considered to be a very strong candidate was co-opted and welcomed to the Parish Council.

Andrew Marshall signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Members also discussed increasing the number of Councillors from nine to ten and it was unanimously agreed that this would benefit Cliffe Parish Council; **clerk** and **North Yorkshire Councillor K Arthur** to make enquiries with North Yorkshire Council.

24/273 Police Report: -

An increase in anti-social behaviour and organised crime in Selby was noted.

Chairman to contact PC Richard Wood to invite him to attend a future Parish Council meeting.

24/274 Listen to reports from North Yorkshire Councillor: -

North Yorkshire Councillor Karl Arthur advised that **Councillor Mark Crane** has agreed to a meeting with the **Chairman** to discuss issues relating to planning applications both current and historical within the Parish; date to be confirmed.

Councillor Arthur also advised that the current Parish Portal will be closed on Monday 9th December as it is no longer being updated by the supplier and you can register for the new Customer Portal which will go live from Wednesday 11th December.

It was noted that the **clerk** would be attending a Parish workshop provided by North Yorkshire Council Highways regarding the new portal on Thursday 7th November.

Councillor Arthur provided an update on the North Yorkshire Council boundary review, and it was noted that Cliffe, Hemingbrough and North Duffield will be combined with Skipwith, Stillingfleet and Escrick to become the new Cliffe & Escrick Ward which will come into effect with the next North Yorkshire Council elections in May 2027.

24/275 Confirmation of Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7th October 2024: -

Members **resolved** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 7th October 2024 as an accurate record of the meeting.

24/276 Matters arising from the minutes of the above meetings: -

York Road

The **Chairman** read out correspondence received from a resident concerning the lack of progress on York Road and gave an update/response as detailed below: -

Removal of speed bumps

The Parish Council received a quote from North Yorkshire Highways for this work in the early part of the year (£13,000). We secured a funding grant to help with this work and placed an order with North Yorkshire Highways at that time for the work to be undertaken. We are still chasing this now as to why this hasn't yet been done.

Traffic calming York Road

The Parish Council received a quote from North Yorkshire Highways for this work at the end of last year (this includes larger speed limit signage to the gateway of the village, speed sign painted on the floor, 'dragon's teeth' and 3-2-1 countdown 'silent' road markings and police speed camera signage also). We placed an order with North Yorkshire Highways in the spring for the work to be undertaken. We are still chasing this now as to why this hasn't yet been done.

Yellow lines outside shop

I reported this issue via email during the summer to North Yorkshire Highways, including a description of the problem and photograph examples. We have been chasing a response but none yet forthcoming.

Safe environment for people to walk to and from Cliffe Common

As you know I have been campaigning for this for a few years now. We have met with North Yorkshire Highways Engineers on at least two occasions and were told that there no budget or desire to create a footpath along that stretch of road. Also, as with every safety issue we raise with Highways, their response is always that 'accidents haven't happened there yet' – so rather than being pro-active and preventing accidents, people have to be injured/killed to show a 'pattern' of incidents before they reactively take measures (totally wrong in my view but there we are). We did eventually obtain a statement saying it would cost £87,000 to do the work and Cllr Mark Topping did try to get funding as part of the new North Yorkshire Council merger with Selby District Council, but nothing was forthcoming. We have tried all we can and have had to resort to ensuring that the grass on the Eastern side of the road is always well cut to provide a verge for pedestrians to walk on rather than the road.

Dangerous junction Cliffe Common crossroads better markings and signage

We have requested better signage (STOP instead of Give Way) at the Crossroads from North Yorkshire Highways a couple of months ago, but have not yet had a response.

New 7.5 tonne sign Whitemoor

The existing 7.5t sign at Whitemoor was deemed as still in good shape by North Yorkshire Highways. However, at our request, they have placed a new sign directly opposite the exit of Whitemoor Mine informing lorries that the 7.5t limit is there & not to turn right out of the exit (**Resolved**)

Police presence on York Road

The Police have committed to deploying mobile (motorcycle) speed cameras to York Road. They have also given us the necessary permission to install the speed camera warning signs for York Road (as mentioned above). We have reminded them of their promise to deploy cameras but as of yet we have not seen them.

It was noted that the **clerk** has once again asked Highways for an update but is still awaiting a response.

The **Chairman** asked **North Yorkshire Councillor Karl Arthur** to chase this up on behalf of the Parish Council and this was agreed.

Barbed wire over the stile on Turnham Lane – Ongoing

Councillor E Yates to follow up with North Yorkshire Council Public Rights of Way.

Faulty Streetlight on Badgers Way reported by a resident

It was noted that **Councillor J Wallinger** has reported the fault to North Yorkshire Council, but it is still awaiting repair.

Councillor J Wallinger advised that he has also reported a light out at Cliffe Playing Field Car Park.

Outside tap at the Village Institute – Ongoing

Chairman awaiting quote to fit an outside tap at the Village Institute (costs to be covered by the Parish Council).

Condor Engineering Group

The **Chairman** advised that both himself and **Councillors J Jewitt and J Wallinger** had met with the Managing Director as requested to discuss the access track.

24/277 Highways:- See Item 24/276

Turnham Lane Speed Limit Extension

It was noted that **Councillor R Woodall** has spoken to Mark Lumby (North Yorkshire Council Highways) with regards to the new signage that has been put too near the road making it narrow and causing difficulties for larger agricultural vehicles and he has agreed to move the signs.

Cliffe-Cum-Lund Traffic Calming

It was noted that the **clerk** has raised the request for a village/boundary "Please Drive Carefully" sign for Cliffe-Cum-Lund with Stacey Preece (North Yorkshire Council Highways Project Engineer) and is awaiting a response; **clerk** to follow up.

24/278 Speeding:- Ongoing

Speeding on York Road

The **Chairman** advised that due to technical issues he is still trying to download the latest data from the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) on York Road. Will try again before the next meeting. If not, then the sign is still within warranty.

24/279 Oxen Lane:-

Members discussed the potential options, and it was agreed to initially purchase 50 tonne of road scalplings and 20 tonne of rubble to repair the lane past the pond in the first instance and then look at the other half of the lane next year.

24/280 Water/Drainage:-

Councillor J Wallinger advised that Yorkshire Water had recently jetted the sewer line again which has improved the flow and he will continue to monitor especially during heavy rainfall.

24/281 Village Green:-

Councillor J Wallinger advised that he has planted a replacement Oak sapling on the village green.

Councillor R Woodall advised that the flagpole rope is getting thin and may need to be replaced; **clerk** to contact the installers to ask them to service the flagpole and replace the rope if necessary.

24/282 Parish Council Documents:-

Councillor H Cross to arrange a date for the Parish Council to access the safe in school to go through the Parish Council documents along with those stored in the Village Institute; **Chairman** to confirm date once agreed.

24/283 Public Footpaths: - (to include any overgrown public footpaths which have been identified that do not comply with the applicable laws/regulations): -

Members had a general discussion regarding public footpaths. **Councillor J Wallinger** reminded everyone of the legal requirements on landowners to keep the public footpaths that go across their land clear & accessible, referencing the following email, received from Catherine Inman (Public Rights of Way Officer Southern Area, Countryside Access Team, Travel, Environmental & Countryside Services):

Below is a summary of what NYCC require a Landowner to do where public paths cross their arable land. In respect of ploughing and cropping it is the responsibility of the owner of the crop to reinstate the Public Right of Way.

Crossfield paths

They have the right to disturb the surface of a cross field footpath or bridleway. However, following the initial disturbance of the landowners must make sure that the path surface is level and the route of the path apparent on the ground (within 14 days). In practice this usually means driving a tractor or quad bike along the line of the path and/or spraying out the crop once it has emerged. Spraying out the path normally means that you do not have to return to it once the crop starts growing. Any subsequent disturbance of the land in the same cycle of cultivation requires any paths to be re-instated after 24 hours.

Once a crop has reached 15cm (6") tall we will expect it to be removed from the line of the path.

There are stipulated widths for crossfield paths. For footpaths there must be a minimum available width of 1 metre while for bridleways it is 2 metres. Crops should not fall onto this width so for oil seed rape it is necessary to be more generous as when it is fully grown it is taller than the width of a cross field footpath.

Field edge paths

It is an offence to disturb the surface of a field edge path. The minimum width for a footpath is 1.5 metres and bridleway 3 metres. If have any field edges which have been cultivated they must remove any crop to leave at least the minimum width.

I was not party to the conversation the landowner had with Mike Gurney, so cannot comment on what was said however if the crop is not removed and continues to obstruct the Public Right of Way please report this to paths@northyorks.gov.uk ideally with a photo and we can put this through our stand ploughing and cropping procedure where we formally request the landowner to reinstate the public Right of Way.

Councillor A Holman challenged the right to walk on public footpaths. **Councillor J Wallinger** responded by raising concerns that not all landowners in the Parish are meeting their legal footpath obligations every year, which includes members of the Parish Council, who were

reminded that not doing so would be in conflict with their obligations as a Parish Councillor (and the issue would then potentially be escalated to a higher authority).

Councillor J Jewitt expressed frustration regarding people walking their dogs through the fields and not picking up the dog waste which contaminates the crop and has a huge financial impact on farmers. Littering and letting dogs run through crops were also highlighted as serious concerns. The **Chairman** asked all members to consider further measures that can be taken to try and alleviate these problems, for discussion at next month's meeting.

24/284 Grass Maintenance: -

It was noted that the contractor has carried out his last scheduled cut of the year and it was agreed that members will review if an additional cut is required within the next few weeks depending on weather and growth. The Parish Council thanked Matt from Meticulous Gardens for all his hard work in getting the grass looking so neat and tidy around the Parish.

24/285 Flooding of footpath at the back of William Jacques Drive: - Ongoing

24/286 New Litter Bin near Cliffe Village Institute: -

The **clerk** reported that this has now been escalated to Amanda Dyson (Area Manager – North Yorkshire Council Waste & Street Scene) who sincerely apologised for the lengthy delay which she blamed on staff changes and promised to get a replacement bin installed within the next few weeks, although this may be a similar bin to the one previously ordered if they don't have any left in stock as they have also recently changed suppliers.

It was also noted that due to a change in policy North Yorkshire Council no longer supply dog waste bins as litter bins can be used for both litter and dog waste and they will only supply litter bins on a base (no post mounted).

Clerk to also enquire if a litter bin can be installed on Turnham Lane, our request was previously refused as deemed unsafe by Selby District Council in 2021 citing this is a high-speed narrow road in a rural location (which councillors disagree with).

24/287 Path Maintenance: - Ongoing

24/288 Broad Lane Wood: - **Chairman** to arrange a walk around and confirm date with members.

24/289 Parish Paddock: - **Chairman** to contact Askham Bryan College to arrange an educational site visit.

24/290 Little Library: - Ongoing

24/291 Planning: -

a) Councillors considered the following Planning Applications received: - NIL

b) Consider Planning Applications Received not listed on the agenda: - NIL

c) Note Planning Applications Granted: - NIL

d) Note Planning Applications Refused: -

i. (ZG2024/0889/S73) Section 73 application to remove condition 05 of approval 2021/0349/FUL Erection of two buildings for use as E(g)(iii) industrial workshops following demolition of an existing building used for B8 storage granted on 11 October 2021 at Birchwood Lodge, Market Weighton Road, Barlby

24/292 Finance: -

a) The following payments were proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed: -

i. J Leighton-Eshelby (Clerks Salary – October)

£ As Agreed

b) To approve payments not listed on the agenda: -

i. HMRC (PAYE)	£ 109.40
ii. Meticulous Gardens (Grass Cutting)	£ 492.00
iii. Autela (Payroll Services)	£ 81.86

c) To ratify payments made in between meetings: -

i. A Parker (repairs to little library)	£ 75.00
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d) Note receipt of income, as listed below: - NIL

e) Cliffe Playing Field Association (CPFA) Insurance Renewal: - Deferred

The **Chairman** advised that he has spoken to the CPFA to request a financial statement to allow the Parish Council to consider their request to cover the Cliffe Playing Field Association insurance renewal (£808.08) but this has still not been received.

24/293 Correspondence Received: -

Resident – Receipt of correspondence regarding York Road was noted and discussed under Item 24/276.

Clerk & Councils Direct – Receipt of November 2024 newsletter was noted.

24/294 Representatives Report: -

Councillor R Woodall reported that he has removed all the brambles from the field behind the Coronation Bench on the village green.

Councillor J Jewitt advised that a resident had raised concerns regarding nuisance fireworks.

Councillor J Wallinger advised that a Parish Council streetlight is attached to the front of a house on Station Lane and the Parish Council used to send the resident a cheque every year for the small amount of electricity used. It was noted that the streetlight was out for a few years but was replaced by an LED in 2021 and due to an oversight, the payments were not reinstated. It was noted that the electricity usage amounts to @ £15.00 per year and it was agreed to backdate the payment to 2021 therefore a payment of £60.00 would be made to bring this up to date and a yearly payment made at the end of every year (based on the current electricity tariff).

Councillor H Cross gave an update on the Mary Waud Foundation.

The **Chairman** gave an overview of the Village Institute AGM and it was noted that new Committee members are needed.

24/295 Confirm date of next meeting: - Monday 9th December 2024 commencing at 7.00pm in CLIFFE VILLAGE INSTITUTE

Councillors are elected on behalf of everyone on the Register of Electors; therefore, matters discussed, proposed and voted on, become the majority view and are not necessarily individual councillor's views.

Parishioners may view previous minutes, by giving prior notice to the Clerk (Ring 01757 630077 for appointment).