

MINUTES FROM AN ORDINARY MEETING OF MID-WHARFEDALE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN ASKWITH VILLAGE HALL HELD ON 17TH AUGUST 2023 AT 7.45 PM

PRESENT:

Dr J Crossley	:	Weston (Chair)
Mrs K Chivers	:	Nesfield/Langbar
Mrs J Olby	:	Nesfield/Langbar
Mr D Powell	:	Middleton
Mrs C Shepherd	:	Askwith (Vice chair)
Mr M Whitley	:	Askwith

In Attendance

Mrs C Smith	:	Clerk
Bella Shaw	:	New clerk
Francesca Bridgewater	:	Chair of Menston Area Nature Reserve

Members of the public attending the meeting

None present

67/01 APOLOGIES:

Mr F R A Caton	(hay baling)
Mrs S Ellis	(hay baling)
Mr R Brodick	(unforeseen circumstances)
Mr N Hull	(none received)
Mr R Akers	(holiday)

67/02 DECLARATION ON INTERESTS

None declared.

67/03 PUBLIC SESSION

No comments

67/04 MINUTES:

Minutes of the Annual and Ordinary Meeting held on 19th May 2023 having been circulated were proposed Cllr Whitley seconded Cllr Powell and unanimously resolved as a true and correct record. These were then duly signed by the Chair.

67/05 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

5.1 Weston Woods buyout. For the May meeting, MWPC had received a request from Francesca Bridgewater to donate some money towards the purchase of Weston Woods. Francesca, as chair of the Trust was invited to come along and talk about the purchase. She gave background as to the set up of the Trust which was driven by climate change and to encourage people locally about biodiversity. £170,000 was raised in 2 weeks with a loan in place too. Legalities and the title/land registry items are still being processed but they hope to exchange contracts soon. The plans for the woods are to get rid of the invasive species, increase habitats and ponds and to make the area more accessible but to maintain the wildlife aspect. There is also the issue of quad bikes. The loan amount currently stands at £65,000 but this should be less by

- the completion date. Chair asked what would happen if the loan couldn't be paid back – the land would not be taken back if this was the case. It will be owned by the Menston Area Nature Trust. Chair advised that a decision could not be taken this evening due to several councillors being absent so it would form an agenda item again for the next meeting. Cllr Hull might also be able to advise if there are any grants available from NYC or Nidderdale AONB.
- 5.2 Chair advised that there may be a possible replacement for the Denton vacancy but there had no update from Cllr Broderick.
- 5.3 Chair advised that an update had been provided by NYC as to the issues logged by the clerk over recent months. An email from 02 August had been circulated by the clerk to all the councillors. The clerk also has the contact details for the Project Engineer for the area (Area6) and will look to arrange a tour with Cllrs Powell and Whitley. Clerk to email to request suitable dates.
- 5.4 Verge cutting has now been completed. A resident at Low Snowdon has been paying for a section there to be cut but it is in fact the responsibility of MWPC. This was proposed Cllr Shepherd and seconded Cllr Whitley and was unanimously resolved.
- 5.5 The new seat at Weston has now been installed by N Pullan. Cllr Shepherd advised that she could arrange for the old seat to be removed.
- 5.6 There has been no update from Cllr Hull with regards to the grant application which has been submitted for the new defibrillator at Nesfield. This is needed as the new pads have expired and is a popular route with cyclists. The clerk to email Cllr Hull for an update.
- 5.7 Cllr Marston will be replaced by Cllr Shepherd as a signatory on the Skipton Society building society account. This was proposed Cllr Chivers and seconded Cllr Powell and unanimously resolved. Clerk to circulate current signatories for bank and building society accounts.
- 5.8 Cllr Powell gave an update on the recent rights of way issues with the BOAT applications across the parishes. A resident Peter Chadwick who has an interest in the matters has been trying to get an update too from the applicant Diana Mallinson. Discussion was had as to what MWPC could do legally if the BOATs were passed and there might be an option to request a closure on an environmental basis. The focus of the applications and the responses to NYC is what is legal and what is not based on historical records. A discussion is needed with the officer at NYC over the “road maps.” Cllr Powell to get together with Chris Wray (Beamsley resident who has talked and presented at a previous meeting).

67/06 CLERKS REPORT:

Duties since 18th May 2023 meeting. Obtaining quotes for insurance renewal in September. Obtaining quotes and service description for new auditors. Writing minutes and forming agendas. Follow up of items by emails and phone calls from the last meeting including planning matters and highway issues. Emails and forwarding on relevant communications. Forwarding and responding to planning applications. Final audit paperwork and posting on noticeboards.

67/07 DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 7.1 No specific items discussed under highway matters other than those previously raised and that Church Lane, Weston is becoming narrow due to the edge of the road breaking away due to large farm traffic. Councillors to send any other

issues to the clerk which can then be forwarded onto the project engineer for the area.

- 7.2 The annual insurance renewal is due in September. Zurich our current insurers quote £214 for the year. Chair advised the council is limited on options for insurers due to the size of the precept and that even a broker was unable to obtain quotes. There is an option to upgrade the current cover to protect any monuments, statues or memorials but after a discussion it was decided that the current schedule is still adequate. It was proposed Cllr Powell seconded Cllr Whitley and unanimously resolved to continue our insurance with Zurich at a cost of £214.00
- 7.3 The 2024/2025 (error on agenda which shows 2023/24) budget will be discussed at the November meeting. Should any Councillor want items adding to the budget then costing details need to be brought to this meeting.
- 7.4 Email had been received a few months from Michael Booth from the Ilkley Rotary club with regards to the litter found on the north bank of the river by the stepping stones. This is a recurring issue. This area is private land and therefore the legal responsibility is not that of MWPC. Due to access issues it would be difficult to place bins here and the landowner has blocked the bridleway. Meetings have already been held in Burley about the litter and the behaviour in this area. There are some older signs for litter in the area. Cllr Shepherd to draft a response for Mr Booth.
- 7.5 SBA Little John had confirmed receipt of the 2022/23 MWPC Audited accounts and as MWPC had claimed exception no further action or report was required. This was proposed Cllr Powell, seconded Cllr Chivers and unanimously resolved that this closed off the audit for 2022/23.
- 7.6 As the current auditors have taken retirement, 3 new quotes and services offered were sought by the clerk. One company did not reply (Town Parish Audit). A quote was received of £50 and one of £150. Having compared the services offered it was proposed that the services of Clare Smith Internal Audit (£50) over Account-ant (£150) were preferred. This was proposed Cllr Powell and seconded Cllr Shepherd.
- 7.7 Cllr Powell raised the issue that despite Cllr Hull saying that wheelie bins and the vehicles were not available to use in Middleton, he showed a photo of a vehicle and attached bin. Driver confirmed that there are enough bins and vehicles but NYC won't pay for the bins to be delivered. Drivers would be happy to do the overtime to deliver the bins. Clerk to email Cllr Hull to investigate further. Cllr Chivers raised the issue about the inefficient routing of the recycling/waste lorries which are spread over different days for areas which are in close proximity to one another – Beamsley and Nesfield borders. The newer vehicles can apparently take more recycling/waste so unclear as to why there are different days for collections. Clerk to check with Cllr Hull and the recycling/waste teams at NYC.

- 7.8 Cllr Powell reported that the footpath between Denton and Middleton had been closed for some time now – initially for 6 months which has now been extended to 12 months which takes the closure through to October. Cllr Powell to send further information to the clerk to investigate. Cllr Shepherd also reported that the pathway by Quaker Cottage, Askwith is overgrown and needs cutting back and that the gate is broken. Clerk to report.
- 7.9 Cllr Hull not present to provide an update.
- 7.10 Chair advised that new clerk Bela Shaw will be taking over from Clare and that the handover will start soon.

67/08 ACCOUNTS

- 8.1 The following expenditure and income were then approved.

Barclays

Bank statement 11/07/23		5887.05	
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Income

NIL

Balance	11/07/23	5887.05	5887.05
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Skipton Building Society

Balance	1/1/2022	5629.79	
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Income (interest)	1/1/2023	45.70	
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Total	2/1/2023	5675.49	5675.49
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11,562.54

Cheques to be signed at 17th August meeting 2023

N Pullan (Support work)	(965)	37.35	
Askwith Village Hall	(966)	30.00	
N Pullan (Weston Seat fit)	(967)	167.00	
C Smith Clerk wage Jun	(968)	159.40	
C Smith Clerk wage Jul	(969)	159.40	
C Smith Clerk wage Aug	(970)	199.20	
C Smith Clerk wage Sep	(971)	159.40	
VOIDED cheque – error	(972)	N/A	
C Smith Clerk wage Oct	(977)	79.68	
C Smith payrise backpay	(973)	83.33	
C Smith Expenses	(974)	169.91	
SLCC renewal	(975)	80.00	
Zurich Insurance renewal	(976)	214.00	11,562.54

(1,538.67)

Total held by MWPC 10,023.87

67/09 CORRESPONDENCE:

Discussion on the 20 mph email which had been circulated.
Various items of information have been forwarded to all Councilors via email.

67/10 PLANNING MATTERS

547W Cock Pit Farm, Moor Lane, Weston LS21 2HS
6.139.151.H.FUL Conversion and rebuilding of agricultural buildings to 2 dwellings with carports, relocation of existing stable and installation of package treatment plant. PC Letter D (Refused)

548A Ibbotson Farm, Askwith, LS21 2HX Proposed Solar Panel and Air Source heat pump installation, together with provision of Wall Insulation to Dwelling. PC Letter D (Granted) ZC23/01835/FUL

545D Denton Hall, Denton, Ilkley, LS29 0HH
6.130.59.K.FUL Resiting and extension of existing ground mounted photovoltaic solar array. PC Letter D (Granted)

546D Horseshoe Barn, Denton Road, Denton, LS29 OHU
6.130.61.FUL Two-storey side extension to existing dwelling, new car port with garden store, rerouting of driveway & associated hard and soft landscaping. PC Letter D (Granted)

543A Grass Garth Farm, Askwith, Otley LS21 2HU
6.131.51.N.DVCON Erection of stables and tack room – resubmission
PC Letter A (Approved)

Middleton, Blubberhouses HAR-2021-05-DMMO TO RECORD A PUBLIC
BRIDLEWAY – MIDDLETON & BLUBBERHOUSES HAR-2021-05-DMMO

549A Millbeck, Hallam Lane, Askwith, LS21 2HX 6.131.89.TPO Lifting, removing and pruning of various trees. PC Letter D(Granted)

543A Grass Garth Farm, Askwith, Otley LS21 2HU 6.131.51.N.DVCON
Erection of stables and tack room – resubmission. PC Letter A (Approved)

526D Denton Hall Hotel 6.130.59.I.FULMAJ Change of use Hall, Stables
Coach house. PC Letter C (Granted)

550W Cock Pit Farm Cottage, Moor Lane, Weston LS21 2HS 6.139.166.A.FUL
Retrospective application for the re-roofing of the farmhouse including 3 velux
windows and 14 solar panels. PC Letter A (Granted)

Town Head Farm, Askwith Lane, Askwith, LS21 2JB 20/03181/PNA
Unauthorised siting of static caravan

551N Stonegarth, Nesfield, LS29 0BT 6.128.11.I.FUL Rear single storey
extension (TBA)

67/11 WEB SITE

Updates to notices and calendar events.

63/12 MEMBERS POINTS OF INFORMATION

Nothing raised.

Date for the next two meetings 16th November 2023 and 15th February 2023

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Passed as a true and correct record Chairman

Date