

**Minutes of the Meeting of Weaverthorpe Parish Council held on 17th January 2022 at 7pm in
Weaverthorpe Village Hall**

Present: A Milner, M Rowland, S Taylor, J Mason, G Downes, T Thomson, F Shellard (Chairman)
J House (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr Sanderson - NYCC

There were three members of the public present.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** There were no apologies from WPC Councillors.
2. **Matters to be raised by members of the public:** One member of the public asked if a £1000 grant gained to another Parish Council towards the cost of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee events was available to all Parish Councils. The Parish Council had no knowledge of such grants and the member of the public was asked if more details could be provided. Another member of the public asked if an electricity supply could be installed in the Village Green area to enable lights to be installed for future Christmas events or displays. The Parish Council will investigate this.
Other residents had raised the number of vehicles that park on the pavement when the Poilce had recommended that vehicles are parked on the road. We had put a notice in the Warbler recently, and this will be rewritten and published again.
3. **Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 15th November 2021:** The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting.
4. **Matters arising:** The dog fouling appears to have stopped at the War Memorial. The Clerk had received a note today on the 20's plenty initiative, from Cllr Sanderson, but we already decided at the last meeting that we would not support that initiative.
5. **School closure:** The Clerk wrote to Andrew Dixon of NYCC asking if the remote meeting planned for 20th January could be replaced with one or two socially distanced meetings, as we considered remote meetings might not be a comfortable way of holding the meeting given that most parents would not be familiar with such meetings. We have received a reply, which was read out:

"In making the original decision to move the meeting on-line we were aware that the School regularly corresponds with all parents/carers via email, which would make it reasonable to expect that they, as the key stakeholders in this consultation, would all be able to access a virtual meeting.

We continue to be of the view that a virtual meeting would allow the majority of people to take part and in the safest possible way for all concerned.

Therefore, given the current situation with the pandemic, including the high levels of transmission and the work from home instruction, we think it appropriate to

continue with the publicised arrangements for the virtual meeting on Thursday 20th January.

To provide reassurance, we have successfully held a number of consultation meetings on school organisation matters during the pandemic, as you say it has become common place."

The Clerk had prepared a response, which was to be forwarded to all Councillors for comment, and that would be sent on 18th January, as another attempt to influence a change.

The comments from the surveys have been given to the parent's group and the Clerk has prepared a list of topics that came out of the survey for discussion, the outcome of which will be the basis of our reply to the consultation which closes on 18th February 2022. Those points are:

- Standards have been improving since Ofsted in 2019
- Time for a new Ofsted report
- Has sufficient work / energy been put into finding a partner school?
- Transport needs to be looked at now, safety implications
- Village will suffer, new families will not move here, village will become a retirement village
- House prices may suffer
- School is the hub of the community
- Previous students have great careers, they started at Weaverthorpe school
- Cannot attract a new Head Teacher with threat of closure hanging over school
- Lower numbers = Better teaching
- LEA have failed the school by not ensuring the quality of education is maintained
- Numbers of pupils are cyclical. One third of the village housing is social housing where the residents change more than the private sector. Numbers were high a few years ago, what happens when this happens in the future?
- Several points raised by S Taylor on the steps taken to ensure that the LEA have carried out their duty adequately in assuring the quality of the education was up to standard.

Whatever happens to the meeting on Thursday, NYCC have asked that we assist in relaying the message to interested parties that if they cannot make the meeting on Thursday then please let the school know and then NYCC will determine how those people can be included. A flyer for the school to distribute has been given to the school.

6. Finance and Governance

Two invoices had to be paid since the last meeting owing to their completion deadlines:
Autela for payroll £30
HMRC for tax deducted from Clerks' wages £68.80

Balances at Bank after the above payments have been made:

Current Account	£3958.08
Reserve Account	£1544.81

Estimated expenditure to year end is just under £500, Precept will be paid mid April, therefore the Council agreed to transfer £3K from the Current Account to Reserve Account, as interest rates are predicted to rise soon.

The VAT return was completed for £1130.74 on 1st December and sent to HMRC, the refund was received on 21 December 2021.

7. Correspondence

Letter from Bruno Peek, Pageantmaster for the Queens Platinum Jubilee on registering events. Whilst the subject of Beacons has already been addressed at a previous meeting, the Clerk has been approached by Julien at the Star and he is happy to co-ordinate any events that are taking place. A street party has been suggested for the Sunday and another resident has some ideas. The VH committee have had some initial discussions about getting involved. The PC were happy to let Julien co-ordinate events.

FAQs on the Local Government Reorganisation, these have already been distributed to all Councillors.

Letter re Grass cutting for 2022 / 23 from NYCC, the payment is the same as last year.

Email from YLCA on a petition to return to remote meetings, the Council considered that our current arrangements are more appropriate to successful meetings, so we will not be supporting the petition.

Paper from NYCC regarding bus services, this requires a survey to be completed by 7th February, but the survey needs to be completed as the user goes through it, Clerk will forward to all Councillors to complete.

8. Planning

21/01302 Approval of extension at Weaverthorpe Village Hall

Vellco: subject of compliant to RDC, reply due 18th January 2022

9. Police Matters

None

10. VAS data:

The VAS was moved to location outside the Blue Bell, facing west, on 3rd January 2022. Thanks to S Taylor we now have extra brackets which will make moving of the sign easier. There is a vast amount of data being recorded, but the overall history for the first two months show that we have an 85th Percentile Speed of 36.3 mph.

“The 85th percentile speed is a widely used traffic statistical metric. It provides an accurate estimation of traffic conditions and helps identify poor road design and unfitting speed limits. The 85th percentile speed is the pace adopted by reasonable people, according to each road environment.”

The peaks of traffic are at 09:00 and 17:00 which fits with the hours we are carrying out speedwatch.

The histogram shows that we had 20,657 vehicles passing through at over 35 mph (which is the speed we use to measure offenders), and a few, probably just one vehicle, at 60 & 65 mph. Drilling down into the data has identified one vehicle almost every weekday passes through at 60 or 65 mph at around 09:00.

11. Phone Box

Nothing to report

12. Play area

Nothing to report

13. Footpaths: Correspondence from a resident on the state of the footpaths predominately outside of the village.

Another resident has raised the level of encroachment of grass verge over the pavements going westwards from the Blue Bell.

It was agreed that the Clerk would approach NYCC regarding the footpaths in general, especially on the approaches to the village.

The Meeting closed at 8.05 pm

Next meeting: 21st March 2022