

**Minutes of the meeting of Weaverthorpe Parish Council held at 7pm on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December  
2023 in Weaverthorpe Village Hall**

**Present:** T Thomson, S Taylor, J Mason, F Shellard (Chairman), J House (Clerk)

**Apologies:** A Milner, G Downes, N Carter, M Rowland

There was one member of the public present.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies and their reasons were accepted as above.
2. **Matters to be raised by members of the public:** two emails have been received from residents asking for a discussion to take place regarding the Gypsy Race and any measures we can put in place to mitigate the risk of flooding. Discussion took place on whether the Parish Council had a plan in the event of the Gypsy Race flooding. There is no plan in place but there has been contact with NYC regarding the flooding that takes place on Main Road in the centre of the village caused by a large amount of water that flows down the Sherburn Road because all the drains are blocked. There is also a need for the gulleys to be jetted out, NYC state these were last done in September 2022. NYC are also going to dig out the grips at various intervals along Main Road to ensure that surface water drains off the road into the Gypsy Race. Comparisons were made to works carried out by Luttons Parish Council which has resulted in weeds blocking the water course in East and West Lutton. The difference with Weaverthorpe is that we have a dry ditch whereas further west in the valley the Gypsy Race is a water course. When we have substantial rain, which has happened on numerous occasions in our recent past the water flows well, and reaches about 20cm below the bottom of the crossings over the ditch. It would need another 40cm of water to become level with the top of the ditch and more water would probably cause a flood. This would involve a considerable amount of water. There are a number of things which the PC have to take on board in order to publicise what residents need to know and these will be worked on over the coming weeks with a view to publishing them, the best medium for publication needs to be decided. The issues are around the Riparian rights, what equipment is available, what other councils are responsible for, ensuring that the Environment Agency map on the Gov.uk website is up to date, NYC carrying out works to ensure that surface water drains away and other issues that will be identified as we move forward.

The Clerk has been approached by a couple of residents about getting the school bell into public ownership and possibly having it on display in the village hall as a permanent reminder of the school. We need to clarify exactly what is meant by the school bell as the hand held bell that summoned the children in for lessons is in the village hall store, but there is an electric bell still on the outside of the school building.

The lack of gritting during the recent snow on the Sherburn Road had caused problems.

The School has been closed now for 15 months but we still have road signs and parking restrictions in place.

Both of these issues will be raised with Highways.

3. **Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023:** The minutes were accepted a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.
4. **Matters arising from those minutes:** There were no matters arising.
5. **Finance:** One invoice to Autela was paid in between meetings as we get a discount for paying quickly. The invoice was paid on 11<sup>th</sup> October for £37.29. Due to the postponement of the

20<sup>th</sup> November meeting the invoice for grass cutting and our contractor's insurance was paid on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023 for the sum of £662.56.

One payment to be made for the Clerk's expenses for postage, stationery, ink, security software upgrade and dog signs, a total of £94.12.

All the above payments were approved by the Council.

YLCA have informed us that their membership fee will increase by 5% from 1st April 2024, this year we paid £136 so that will increase to £142.80.

G Ashby has agreed to audit the accounts in the future, starting from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. There will be no charge for this service.

The Precept needs to be set for 2024/25. Copies of the accounts were distributed to all Councillors.

The amount in the current account is £2327.76. The Clerk estimates expenditure to the end of the year to be £1100, that includes two salary payments, HMRC, the payroll provider and the mats for the play area. Therefore, we will have £1200 left in the current account at the year end. The Reserve account has £4853.

Our expenditure to date including the sums agreed today is just under £11466.93 of which £9207.91 was spent of the village green fencing, therefore our expenditure on other things was £2259.02. In order to build up our reserves if we take a precept of £5000 (this year it was £5500) we should be able to put £2000 of that into the Reserve Account which will give us £6800 approx. in the Reserve account. This assumes that we are not going to ask for any sums to cover by elections as per the papers that were sent out recently, it was agreed that a by election was very unlikely. It was noted that the Defibrillator will require new pads in 2024 at an estimated cost of £100.

A letter had been received from Natwest about higher interest rates for the Reserve account and whether we should reduce the amount we keep in the current account. By giving either 35 or 95 days notice we can get an enhanced rate of interest of 3.25% or 4.25%. It was agreed that we would proceed with the 95 day notice. The Chairman and the Clerk will progress this.

6. **Correspondence:** email from NYC regarding re-charging of by election costs. The Clerk has estimated that our costs would be in the region of £2270.

email from British Heart Foundation regarding refresher training for CPR which can be carried out on line. The link has been put on our website and will be sent out to the Warbler distribution.

Annual letter from Citizens Advice regarding donations. The usual reply that we do not use taxpayers money to give to charities will be sent.

email on the NYC draft Housing Strategy, the Council noted the content.

email on Let's Talk Money from NYC, survey to close on 18 December, Councillors have responded individually.

email from Planning at NYC on Community Involvement in the Local Plan, content noted.

email from PFCC regarding setting the precept for the Police and Fire Service, content noted.

7. **Planning:** Application no. ZE23/03767/ HOUSE for extending the dropped kerb at The Old Tailors has been approved.

Application no. ZE23-01597-FUL Decision notice on the school, the application is approved. It was noted that Local Needs Occupancy has been included even though NYC say they are no longer applying these.

- 8. Police Matters:** Nothing to report
- 9. V.A.S. data:** It has not been possible to interpret the data from the VAS for this period due to the problems we had with the battery. The new battery supplied did last for the whole period.
- 10. Village Green:** The Clerk has not yet had a look at matting for the play equipment as this would best be done in the Spring.
- 11.** The council have been advised by YLCA that the NJC salary levels have been agreed and that the Clerk's salary will rise by £1 per hour effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

Next meeting: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024

The meeting closed at 8:10.