

**Minutes of the Meeting of Weaverthorpe Parish Council held on 9th September 2024 n
Weaverthorpe Village Hall**

Present: T Thomson, J Mason, R Downes, N Carter, S Taylor, M Rowland, F Shellard (Chairman)

J House (Clerk).

Apologies: A Milner

There were three members of the public present.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Apologies and the reason for absence were noted and accepted as above.
2. **Co-option of New Councillor:** Following the process by NYC, a notice of Vacancy was displayed on the village notice board and on the NYC website, insufficient candidates came forward so Robert Downes is duly co-opted to become a Councillor on Weaverthorpe Parish Council. R Downes completed the Register of interests and the Acceptance of Office form.
3. **Matters to be raised by members of the public:** There were no matters to be raised.
4. **Minutes of the meeting held on 15th July 2024:** The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.
5. **Matters arising: Egdon Energy:** Following the information given to the Council at it's last meeting, the Clerk made further enquiries about what is entitled the Weaverthorpe Prospect, which is a licence no. PL081 and PEDL347. The licence area is approximately 165 square kilometres. A press release dated 7th September 2023 which gave the detail of the "farm in " agreement that Egdon have reached with York Energy and Cuadrilla. In that agreement it states that Egdon have three years to complete the Work Programme. Searching the Egdon web site, there is no direct mention of Weaverthorpe. The references PL81 and PEDL347 do not show any entries on the GOV.UK website. It is the DECC (Department for Energy and Climate Change) that is responsible for licences but nothing shows up on the website. Egdon were taken over by Hyco Energy in September last year. Hyco is based in Texas, USA. It would appear that Egdon still trade under their original name and appear as a subsidiary of Hyco.

The Clerk contacted NYC Planning and they have confirmed that they have not received any recent enquiries or applications from Egdon Resources for any proposed work in this PEDL area or anywhere in the Ryedale area. The Clerk also filed in a request for details of the Weaverthorpe "prospect" on Egdon's website. The following reply was received: "Many thanks for your query via our website form. Egdon has yet to decide on the final location of a potential site for any future drilling in PL81/PEDL347. However, we can advise that we have no plans to undertake any drilling in the Parish of Weaverthorpe. I hope this is helpful."

As a result of the information in the minutes of 15th July 2024, a local resident asked for information on what Weaverthorpe Parish Council was doing about this. Subsequent email correspondence from the resident to the Council quoted Burniston Parish Council as being proactive. The Clerk contacted the Clerk at Burniston asking what they were doing about Egdon planning to drill in their Parish. Egdon had contacted NYC to submit a Planning Application for the drilling in Burniston and were informed by NYC that before they could submit a Planning Application, they should submit an Enviromental Impact Statement. Burniston PC had been asked to submit their comments on this EIA, so they held a public meeting on 29th July 2024, to get input to their submission to NYC. As Weaverthorpe Parish Council are in a completely different position, as we do not have any contact made to NYC

for the Weaverthorpe Prospect, there is nothing we can do, other than wait until some contact is made.

A member of the public produced two maps that he had obtained from the internet which showed the positioning of the two areas PL81 and PEDL347 in a differing position from the information the Parish Council had researched. This however does not alter the statement made that there is nothing that we can do until some contact is made.

Dog Fouling: Following many enquiries to NYC about the identity of the Dog Warden it was eventually confirmed that there is currently no one in this post for Ryedale.

NYC have sent new posters about dog fouling which the Clerk will be posting around the village in the next few days.

Keep North Yorkshire Clean: As discussed at the last meeting NYC have sent the posters about anti littering. These will be placed around the village.

6. **Finance and Governance:** There have been no invoices presented for payment this period.

The amount of £291.44 for grass cutting was paid by NYC on 2nd August 2024.

Nat West have notified us of a decrease in the amount of interest on the old Business Reserve account, to 1.81% from 16th October 2024. We have no finds in that account.

The balances in the bank are:

Current Account £2680.58

High Interest Account £7083.34

7. **Correspondence:** Notification from RoSPA that the inspection of the play area will be undertaken in September.

Letter from Strategic Finance at NYC on the Precept setting arrangements for 2025/26. Basically the letter asks for the Precept amount before 31st December, we will set our precept at the November meeting.

Email from Finding Fitness offering a service to get funding for the provision and installation of new play equipment. It was agreed that a contact with this company was worthwhile.

Other correspondence received, that has been forwarded to Councillors, was PFCC on serious Violence survey, Mayor reflects on devolution, Training on Code of Conduct, Local Plan update, Mayor in office for first 100 days and the Casual Vacancy.

8. **Planning:**

- i) Consider any planning applications received from North Yorkshire Council:
ZE24/01024/TPO Crown work on Ash Tree – no objections received – NYC notified.
- ii) Consider any correspondence regarding planning from North Yorkshire Council
ZE24/00566 Certificate of Lawfulness for permitted development Dale Cottage - Approved
ZE24/00516 Retaining walls at Carvills Pit – retrospective - Approved
ZE24/00470 Extension and Summer house at Fosters Cottage Extension and Summer house at Fosters Cottage - Approved
- iii) Storage Containers at School House – have been removed.

9. **Police Matters:** Nothing to report

10. **VAS Data:** The data from the VAS from 16th July to 4th September show that 31,491 vehicles travelled through the village in an easterly direction, the average speed was 26.2 mph. The maximum speeder was 60 mph at 04.05 on 9th August.

You may recall that some time last year Swarco supplied us with a second battery as a gesture of goodwill, after a mix up over their engineer in coming to fix a fault, on the wrong day.

The first battery that was supplied when we purchased the VAS has now failed and will not accept a charge. The Clerk contacted them as the order acknowledgement and the Invoice both list all the components and a statement that says, "Warranty – Silver – Five years." When the Clerk asked them to replace the faulty battery they came back and said that the warranty was only one year, providing the manufacturer's data sheet which has never been provided before. The Clerk pointed out that all the correspondence we have states five years as the warranty period.

They came back with a statement to say that they do not provide more than a one-year warranty on consumables as that is what the manufacturer provides. They are willing to offer to supply a battery at cost price however.

When the Clerk went back to them and asked why the order acknowledgement and invoice both state five years, they came back and said we were the first to point that out and they are changing this in their offers. Therefore, they are acknowledging that they are wrong.

The Clerk contacted YLCA for advice and asked if we could take them to the Small Claims Court to recover the price of £325 plus VAT, YLCA agree that this could be done. This action should be considered by the council as an agenda item.

It involves sending a letter before action and giving them 14 days to resolve the issue.

The cost of taking them to the small claims court would be £50 which we would get back if we win. The Council asked the Clerk to go ahead with this action.

11. **Community Emergency Plan:** We finally got a reply from NYC regarding the plan. They said it was good and could not add anything to it, other than creating a WhatsApp group to communicate with the volunteers in the event of an emergency. The Clerk contacted all the volunteers last week and asked for their permission to include them in a WhatsApp group, all but one has agreed. The one person who did not reply will be taken out of the plan. The Council endorsed setting up a WhatsApp group and this will be carried out in accordance with some guidelines provided. We need to test the WhatsApp group when it has been setup. NYC are also offering scenarios that we can discuss at a future meeting, is this something the Council would like to adopt? We can discuss them at a later meeting or ask the Resilience Team to come and discuss it with us. The Council agreed that we should ask for some scenarios to discuss at our next meeting.

12. **Role of the Parish Council in light of recent issues regarding the Village Green:** The Chairman had provided a paper in advance of the meeting to look at the role of the Parish Council as it was clear from correspondence and social media feedback that the residents of the village, do not know what the Parish Council does. We need to get better at communicating and look at different ways that this can be done. We currently have the website, the Warbler and noticeboards to aid communication, but these do not reach everybody.

Social media could be a way to be more modern in our communications and it was agreed that we should look at that medium. A Facebook page giving info about what we do could be a way of reaching a wider community. We also need to look at other social media outlets. The Chairman will investigate the channels available. We will also work on producing a flyer to be posted through all letter boxes in Weaverthorpe.

It was agreed that all communications from the Parish Council would be via the gmail address and signed off as from Weaverthorpe Parish Council.

This whole process will continue until the Parish Council is satisfied that our communication channels are up to date.

The Clerk will prepare replies to those who put their views in writing and input can be made by all Councillors to ensure we are seen to be communicating as a united body.

There have been two requests for Application Forms to join the Parish Council.

The Meeting closed at 8.05 pm.

Next meeting 18th November 2024.