

PARISH COUNCIL OF BUGTHORPE AND KIRBY UNDERDALE

Minutes of the 158th Meeting of the Parish Council held at Bugthorpe War Memorial Institute on Monday 5 December 2022

Present:	Councillors:	K Robinson - Chair
		T Atkinson
		H Paul
		S W Huffington
		D J Lord - Clerk
In attendance:	Ward Councillor	D N Rudd

1. Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors D J Pearson, Lady Halifax, F Goodhart and R Crow. In Councillor Pearson's absence Councillor Robinson took the chair

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 5th September 2022 were approved and signed as a true record by the Chair.

3. Declarations of Interest – the Parish Councils (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2001. Councillors Lord and Atkinson declared an interest in agenda item 4a.

4. Matters Arising from the last Meeting:

a. Bugthorpe telephone box – Councillors noted that the total costs of the refurbishment were well in excess of the original estimates totalling £2,568.99. Councillor Atkinson explained that due to the poor condition of the fabric of the box, there was no alternative but to have it sand blasted. Two quotes were obtained for this, the lower of which was accepted. The glass was also expensive and the process time consuming. The Chair commented that a Parish Council contribution of £500 was agreed in 2019 and it would have been helpful for the Parish Council to be informed of the increased cost prior to the work being done. Councillors agreed that an excellent job had been carried out by Halifax Estates and that the box should now last for another 50 years. Councillor Crow had already confirmed his support for the proposal from Halifax Estates that the Parish Council should pay for the contractor cost and materials, with the Estate covering the Estate labour costs. Councillors Huffington and Paul, together with the Chair approved this Parish Council contribution of £1,115.10.

b. Dog fouling in Bugthorpe & Kirby Underdale – in the absence of Councillors Crow and Pearson, Councillor Atkinson said that he had not seen any dog fouling in Bugthorpe and the Clerk was unaware of any in Kirby Underdale.

c. Broadband - the Clerk reported on the meeting with Quickline on 18 November 2022. A questionnaire had been sent out by Halifax Estates and 29 responses were received. These were fed back to Quickline who admitted that there had been a particular problem at the end of August but that several fixes had been carried out in September which should have at least partially resolved the issues. Quickline will be installing new apparatus using 5G technology on the Garrowby Hill mast which should improve the signal to many customers. They are also reviewing the location of the repeater masts and considering updating the technology on these masts. Quickline had stressed that it was important for customers to report problems as soon as they arise, so the reason for individual problems can be identified immediately by the technicians. However, it had been pointed out to Quickline that customers had experienced problems getting through to Customer Services and this needs to be addressed by the Company. The Clerk confirmed that no progress had been made with BT Openreach on the installation of fibre to the unconnected areas.

d. Water main bursts- the Clerk confirmed that he had written to Yorkshire water on 23 September regarding the regular bursts on the main between Bugthorpe and Kirby Underdale. He has not yet received a response so agreed to follow this up. Councillor Atkinson confirmed that the cast iron pipes are failing on the welds and it is likely to be an ongoing problem until they are replaced with plastic.

e. Jubilee Pasture- Councillor Robinson reported that the planting had now been done for this year. There are two piles of stones on site which will be positioned around the pond when ground conditions permit. The stone bench and information board are in hand and should be in place by Easter 2023. Councillor Robinson said that Dan Carne from the Woodmeadow Trust had given an interesting and informative talk at Kirby Underdale Village Hall on 14 November. This was relevant to Jubilee Pasture, which has a combination of trees and meadow.

f. Defibrillators in Bugthorpe and Kirby Underdale- the Clerk confirmed that the software in both devices has been updated.

g. Collapse of road surface on Barf Hill - although the warning signs were erected shortly after the last Parish Council meeting, the Highways Department have not yet confirmed when the work will be carried out. Councillor Atkinson was of the opinion that this problem had been caused by tree roots.

h. Positioning of 30 mph signs on Stephenwath Lane - the Traffic Management Department at East Riding of Yorkshire Council have confirmed that Parish Council and street lighting needs to be extended before the 30 mph signs are moved. Councillor Rudd clarified the fact that for a 30 mph speed limit to be legally enforceable the signs need to be illuminated by street lighting. The Clerk pointed out that the speed limit was introduced after the street lights were installed and he therefore questioned why East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Humberside Police agreed to the speed limit if the signs were inadequately illuminated. Councillor Rudd agreed to discuss this further with Traffic Management, as even if the signs are only a deterrent to drivers, they should be positioned further away from the school gate. The Clerk also mentioned the 30 mph signs on the road towards Kirby Underdale which are also too close to the edge of the village, as drivers tend to speed along the straight between Bobby Hill and the village. The Chair mentioned that there is an unofficial sign at Jessbrook which she thought was effective. Councillor Atkinson agreed to speak to the Head Teacher at Bugthorpe School regarding the possibility of the children designing some signs for erection at all four entrances to the village.

i. Kirby Underdale Village Hall refurbishment- Councillor Atkinson confirmed that a programme of work had been prepared and costed. The cost will be shared between the Kirby Underdale Village Hall Committee and Halifax Estates. Kirby Underdale villagers have been having pop up cafes in the Village Hall on the last Saturday of each month to raise funds for the refurbishment and there are also residual funds from the COVID grant. The work is likely to commence in March 2023. Lord Halifax and his daughter Lady Joanna will be involved in the interior design and fit out.

5 Other Matters.

a. Parish Council precept 2023-2024 - after some discussion, Councillors agreed to the proposed precept of £4,200. The Chair and Clerk signed the precept form.

b. Approval was given for the following payments and cheques were signed by the Chair and Clerk:

- Zurich Municipal (unchanged from last year) £257.60
- G Sisson – half year bus shelter cleaning £60.00
- Halifax Estates – Jubilee Pasture costs £5,076.76 (inc VAT)

- Parish Pump £45.00

c. Retrospective approval was given for the payment of £36 to J Stringer for baling at Jubilee Pasture. Councillors also agreed to delegate responsibility for approval of future payments relating to Jubilee Pasture to Councillors Pearson, Robinson and Lord. These will not exceed the Lottery grant received.

d. Update of Model Standing Orders 2018 (England) - Councillors agreed to adopt the new version of the model standing orders. The Chair will put the new version on the Parish Council website.

e. Street light repair on Beck Row- Councillor Atkinson reported that the bulb had been replaced and it is now working.

f. Annual Rough Sleeper Survey 2022 - the submission of this survey was accepted as a matter of report.

g. Maintenance of Parish verges- The Clerk confirmed that following on from the Woodmeadow Trust talk, a discussion had taken place on the maintenance of the parish verges. ERYC cut a one metre wide strip of verge either side of the road twice a year for safety. However, to encourage the spread of wild flowers the rest of the verges should not be cut before late June or July and the cuttings removed. However, by this time the verges have got quite long. The Clerk stated that this is a choice between tidiness and conservation. Councillors Paul, Atkinson and Huffington confirmed that they prefer tidy verges rather than overgrown. It was therefore agreed that further discussion on this matter would be deferred until a later meeting with more Councillors present.

h. Christmas trees in Bugthorpe- Councillor Robinson reported that on Friday 2 December the lights on the trees at the Estate Office were switched on and children from the school sang. Refreshments were served at the Institute. Councillor Robinson expressed thanks to Halifax Estates for supplying the trees and to the Institute for arranging the refreshments and to the school for singing.

i. Community Litter Pick 2023 - Councillors were unanimously in favour of having another litter pick next year and agreed that March would be the right time. The Clerk agreed to arrange this.

6. Correspondence- the Chair asked about the Western Area Liaison meetings, which Councillor Rudd explained were arranged by the Ward Councillors. The main topics of debate during the meetings is speeding through villages and potholes.

7. Any Other Business

a. The Chair raised the fact that previously £150 had been allocated for the restoration of the Uncleby Tap, but this work has not been done. The Clerk and Councillor Atkinson agreed to inspect the tap and report back to the next meeting.

b. The Chair said that the Bugthorpe Village website domain name and hosting is costing £142.90, which is made up of two years hosting and year of domain fees. Councillors agreed to contribute £100 of this cost from the Jubilee Pasture fund as the village website has publicised this initiative. The balance of £42.90 will be paid by the Parish Council. The Chair paid these costs initially but has been reimbursed by the Institute Committee. Two invoices will therefore be issued by the Institute for reimbursement by the Parish Council.

c. Councillor Rudd confirmed that he has asked for an update from ERYC on the repair/replacement of the footpath bridge at Low Hall, Bugthorpe. He said that the officer dealing with this had moved departments and he was waiting for a response from the officer now dealing with it.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next Meeting was fixed for 7pm Monday 6 March 2023 at Kirby Underdale Village Hall

There being no further business, the Meeting was closed at 8.26 PM