

PARISH COUNCIL OF BUGTHORPE AND KIRBY UNDERDALE

Minutes of the 163rd Meeting of the Parish Council held at Kirby Underdale Village Hall on Monday 11 March 2024

Present: Councillors: D J Pearson (Chair)
Lady Halifax
D Birks
R Crow
H T Paul
F Goodhart
T Atkinson
D Curtis
D J Lord

In attendance: Ward Councillor Hammond
Edward Johnson
Denise Whitaker

1. There were no apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 11 December 2023 were signed as a true record, by the Chair.
3. Declarations of Interest – the Parish Councils (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2001. There were no declarations of interest.
4. Matters Arising from the last Meeting:
 - a. Jubilee Pasture – the Clerk confirmed that the National Lottery have agreed that it will be in order for the underspend of £450.49 to be used on the pond repair to be carried out during the spring/early summer 2024. The Clerk confirmed that, to avoid the dam been breached again during periods of heavy rain, large stones will be incorporated to create a spillway.
 - b. Dog fouling in Bugthorpe & Kirby Underdale - Councillor Crow said that dog fouling in Bugthorpe is still happening on a regular basis, particularly around the Estate Office and the Village Hall. It was suggested that a dog owned by a disabled visitor to the village maybe to blame for part of the problem, but Councillors accepted that the owner cannot be expected to clean up after the dog. Councillor Hammond confirmed that wheelchair users have a legal exemption from the dog fouling regulations, but that he would talk to the Dog Wardens to see whether they have any helpful advice. The Chair said that dog fouling in Kirby Underdale remains limited.
 - c. Speed limit signs for Stephenwath Lane – Councillor Atkinson reported that the 20mph signs designed by the Bugthorpe School children are in place. All agreed that they are excellent. They deliver the necessary impact whilst still being tasteful.
 - d. Broadband provision and mobile phone coverage in Kirby Underdale – Councillor Hammond confirmed that to date there has been no announcement on the extent of the Project Gigabit Lot 8 roll out, but this is expected over the next few weeks.
 - e. Restoration of Uncleby Tap - the Clerk reported that the restoration is complete, and an email had been received from Dr Ruth Beckett expressing her appreciation of the fact that the work had been done and high standard to which it had been completed. As agreed during a previous meeting, an invoice in the sum of £150 including VAT had been received from Halifax Estates for the restoration work.
 - f. Pedestrian bridge across Beck at Low Hall – Councillor Hammond has not received a response from the Rights of Way Team, but he agreed to chase this up and to arrange a site meeting to which the Parish Council will be invited.

g. Kirby Underdale Village Hall refurbishment - the Clerk reported that the majority of the decoration has been completed, as has the replacement of the kitchen. A building has been erected at the rear of the Hall for storage of chairs and tables and the knock through from the entrance hall will be carried out on Tuesday 12 March. The curtain material has been ordered and it is anticipated that the whole project can be complete within the next 6-8 weeks.

h. New salt bin on Beck Row, Bugthorpe – Councillor Birks said this will be extremely beneficial for the residents of Beck row.

i. Travellers on A166 – Councillor Hammond said that he would establish what steps ERYC are taking to move the travellers on.

j. Parish Council Precept 2024-25- accepted as a matter of report.

k. Devolution Deal consultation – Councillor Hammond reported that there were 7,000 responses to the consultation, which was one of the highest response rates in the country. Two thirds of the responses were positive and therefore, subject to there being no early General Election in the Autumn, a new Mayor should be in post by May 2025.

l. Poppy Wreath donation – Councillors agreed to make a donation of £50 to the Royal British Legion.

5. Other Matters.

a. The Chair confirmed that regrettably Councillor Robinson has decided to resign from the Parish Council. The vacancy has been advertised through ERYC and Kathryn Reagan who lives on Stephenwath Lane, Bugthorpe, has shown interest in being co-opted. Unfortunately she was unable to attend the meeting, but the Chair read out some details about her from an email. The Chair proposed that Kathryn Reagan be co-opted onto the Council, and this was seconded by Councillor Lord. Councillors were unanimously in favour.

b. Due to the resignation of Councillor Robinson, the post of Vice Chair has also become vacant, and Councillor Birks has put herself forward for the position.

The Chair proposed that Councillor Birks be elected as Vice Chair and was seconded by Councillor Lord. All Councillors were in favour.

c. Parish Council Clerk - the Chair confirmed that Councillor Lord is to retire from the position of Parish Council Clerk after 34 years and this position is to be taken over by Edward Johnson, in an unpaid capacity as from 1 April 2024. All Councillors were in favour of this transition.

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

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| Halifax Estates – restoration of Uncleby Tap | £150 |
| Signs Express (speed limit signs) | £42 |
| Royal British Legion donation | £50 |

Retrospective approval was also given for the following payments:

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| ICO – data protection fee | £35 |
| Katherine Robinson – Parish website expenses | £62.40 |
| Halifax Estate – Defibrillator pads | £174 |

e. Community Litter Pick – it was agreed that the Litter Pick would take place at 9.30am on Saturday 6 April 2024. It should be advertised and flyers put through letter boxes in Bugthorpe and Kirby Underdale. Councillor Crow said that he had more bags if necessary and the Chair said that he would arrange the litter pickers.

6. Correspondence –the Chair suggested that CPR and Defibrillator refresher training for both villages could be combined into one session to ensure a better attendance. The Chair agreed to progress this.

7. Any Other Business.

a. Councillor Hammond confirmed that the annual ERYC budget has been agreed and Council Tax will be increased by 4.9%. However, a new £500,000 Community Fund has been agreed with maximum grants of £10,000 for each project. EYRC are trialling 20mph zones where an issue has been identified. There is also more funding for Army veterans, youth groups and to combat anti-social behaviour. There is £10 million in the Highways reserves.

b. Councillor Hammond confirmed that the Stamford Bridge closure has been put back to May. Councillor Atkinson said the project is now due to take 6 weeks rather than 10 weeks.

c. Councillor Crow mentioned the state of the verges on the roads close to Bugthorpe and the number of potholes both on York Lane and Painsthorpe Lane were raised. The Clerk confirmed that he has already reported the potholes on Painsthorpe Lane and Councillor Hammond requested that details of the potholed sections, together with the verges that are severely damaged, be forwarded to him so that he can take these issues up with the relevant departments. The Clerk agreed to send these details. Councillor Hammond said that the ERYC have allocated a budget of £100,000 to verge repairs which are particularly bad this winter due to the wet conditions.

d. On behalf of the Parish Council the Chair thanked the Clerk for fulfilling the role for so long in an unpaid capacity and Councillors showed their appreciation with a round of applause. Councillor Lord will continue as a Parish Councillor. Councillor Lord was presented with a gift which he thanked Councillors for.

8. Date of Next Meeting.

The next meeting was fixed for 7pm on Monday 20 May 2024 at Bugthorpe War Memorial Institute

There being no further business, the Meeting was closed at 8.29pm.