
GRANTLEY, SAWLEY, SKELDING AND EAVESTONE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: 20th September 2012
TIME: 19.30 hrs
LOCATION: Sawley Village Hall
PRESENT: Councillors John Scannell (Chairman), Martin Kirbitson (Vice-Chairman), June Learoyd and Martin Soley.
IN ATTENDANCE: Iona Taylor (Clerk)
Rachel Wigginton

1. WELCOME

Councillor Scannell welcomed all those present to the meeting.
Rachel Wigginton advised of her intention to resign from the Parish Council due to potential conflicts of interest with her new job as a planner at North Yorkshire County Council. Councillor Scannell, on behalf of the Parish Council, thanked Mrs Wigginton for her contribution and expressed disappointment at losing her from the Council.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA – none.

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS OR STATEMENTS – none.

4. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Lumb and Kitchen due to work commitments and from District Councillor Margaret Atkinson.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting held on 24th July 2012 were approved and signed.

6. ITEMS CARRIED FORWARD FROM THE LAST MEETING

6.1 River Laver project.

It was agreed that a synopsis of this project should be included in the Parish Council's next newsletter, giving details of how the public can get more involved if they would like.

6.2 Oil Club.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should kick start this scheme by funding the Clerk's time to put the structure in place and oversee the first orders. It is hoped that once momentum is generated a volunteer from within the parish will come forwards.

6.3 Broadband seminar at Fountains Abbey.

Councillors were provided with details of an event taking place on 29th September which will launch and give details of the Superfast North Yorkshire project to bring high-speed broadband to the County.

6.4 Grantley noticeboard.

In the absence of Councillor Lumb there was no progress to be reported.

6.5 Return of expired commuted sums to developers.

Sean Wright, of Harrogate Borough Council, has advised the following:

“With regards to your question about money that we cannot return to the developer, then we are looking into this being used to fund other projects within the area, but no firm decision has been made on this as yet. I think it will all depend on the numbers and amounts that we cannot return to the developers.”

6.6 Information about Dales Integrated Transport Alliance (DITA).

The Parish Council, by registering its interest in the Alliance, has become a supporter of the group. No further action or financial contribution is required.

DITA cannot fund existing services, or grant funds for routes to replace funding withdrawn by Councils.

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7. PLAY AREAS

7.1 Results of consultation on provision of additional play equipment in Sawley.

It was noted that only 15 responses had been received, with 10 votes for new equipment (66%) and 5 against. It was agreed that the Clerk and Ted Flexman should work to have a selection of potential schemes drawn up which can be used as the basis of a public exhibition and further public consultation.

7.2 Annual inspections.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should use Digley Associates (recommended by the Council's insurers) to carry out the annual inspection of the play areas. The cost of this service will be £50 per site, but includes preparation of an updated risk assessment of the sites.

8. PARISH ROOM PROCEEDS

8.1 Resolution re. disposal of proceeds.

After consideration of a draft resolution it was agreed that further amendments are required before final approval.

8.2 Santander bond.

It was noted that one of the Council's investment bonds is about to mature. It was agreed that £50,000 should be reinvested in a Santander one-year bond, at a rate of 3.2%. The interest from the previous bond (£1,390.38) will be transferred in to the Small Grants Scheme fund.

8.3 Works to Sawley Church Clock.

During the recent repair work on the Clock at St Michael & All Angels Church, it became clear the timber clock bearers that hold the Clock in position have started to become loose. After the Clock was cleaned, and the engineer began to wind the strike weight the clock mechanism began to move. Two further faults, connected to the fly-fan springs have also been discovered once the clock was stripped down. Remedial works to address these further faults were approved at an additional cost of £1114.

The engineers will be asked to ensure that the site is secure so that children cannot access the working area, scaffolding or ladders.

Members of the public who notice any suspicious activity are asked to report it to the police.

8.4 Other issues relating to administration of Parish Room proceeds – none.

9. HIGHWAYS

9.1 Update on previously reported faults.

- Ongoing concerns about the condition of Back Lane between Low and High Grantley were noted. The Clerk will once again contact Highways North Yorkshire to seek clarification as to the statutory obligations that the County Council is under in relation to the frequency and standard of maintenance that should be carried out on this road.

- The following information has been received in relation to road surface repairs in Grantley, with reference to the funding allocation given to each County Councillor:

“We are currently in the process of compiling a composite list of all Councillors requests for the Harrogate District. Once this has been completed, the final submissions will be presented to our Director for approval. I can confirm that the area of road you have referred to has been included on the list for submission following Councillor Richardson's request.

Once approvals have been made, all County Councillors will be informed of the outcomes, and we will commence arrangements to detail and programme the repairs.”

9.2 New faults to be reported to Highways North Yorkshire.

- ‘Road narrowing’ sign to be requested on road out of Grantley before St. George’s Court.

9.3 Sawley bus bay scheme.

Highways North Yorkshire has advised that they are awaiting approval of the final scheme costings and design by their contractor. Once the order has been placed the bus bay and shelter should be installed within two to three months, from 9th August 2012.

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9.4 Drainage on Grantley playing field.

Concerns about the drains which run near Old Hall and the playing field in Grantley were noted. The grasscutting contractor has at times been unable to cut areas of grass on the playing field due to waterlogging. The gully exiting on to the main road from Old Hall is constantly running and is undermining the carriageway. The Clerk is trying to arrange a site meeting with the Highways Inspector to discuss this problem.

10. PARISH CARETAKER

The caretaker will be asked to undertake clearance works on Back Lane, Grantley and himalayan balsam picking on Sawley Moor Lane.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported on items received, including details of this year's Consultation Meeting with Harrogate Borough Council at 6pm in Ripon Town Hall on Monday 3rd December.

Questions for inclusion on the agenda of this meeting will be discussed at the next meeting.

12. FINANCIALS

12.1 Bank balances as at 20th September 2012.

• HSBC Current a/c	£701.75
• HSBC Savings a/c.....	£8,521.76
• HSBC Special Projects a/c.....	£505.88
• HSBC Parish Room Current a/c.....	£0.00
• HSBC Parish Room Savings a/c	£32,138.68
• HSBC Sawley Small Grants Scheme a/c.....	£2944.47
• Standard Life Bond.....	£32,750.00
• Santander High Interest Bond	£50,000.00
• Skipton Bond.....	£32,876.26

12.2 Payments made prior to or at this meeting.

The following payments were approved and recorded:

• Iona Taylor (Clerk, July & August 2012).....	£234.93
• Mazars (External Auditor)	£342.00
• Farm & Land Services Ltd (Invoice 3738).....	£444.00
• Walled Garden Scheme (Invoice 914, Caretaker – July 2012)	£255.41
• Walled Garden Scheme (Invoice 952, Caretaker – August 2012)	£212.98

12.3 Monies received prior to or at this meeting.

The following receipts were recorded:

• North Yorkshire County Council (LEADER Contribution).....	£201.75
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12.4 External auditor's opinion on the 2011/12 accounts.

The report from the Annual Return is that:

“On the basis of our review, in our opinion the information contained in the Annual Return is in accordance with the Audit Commission's requirements and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.”

13. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

13.1 Consultations on applications.

Reference	Proposal	Comments
6.42.31.F.PDU 12/02039/PDU	Installation of French windows and flue and formation of window opening at Hencliffe Fold, Grantley.	No objections.
6.51.13.E.LB 12/02998/LB	Listed building application for erection of single storey extensions and installation of 1 external window and	No objections as per comments on previous applications.

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	various internal alterations to include the reposition of staircase, formation of 1 ensuite bathroom, removal of 1 wall and the installation of 6 walls at Ruffe House, Sawley.	
6.51.31.L.DVCON	Deletion of Condition 7 of planning permission 6.51.31.B.PA to allow the dwelling to be used, sold or let off separately to the public house at The Sawley Arms, Sawley.	Planning authority to be asked to ensure that loss of unit is not detrimental to continuing viability of public house.

13.2 Comments on applications sent to Harrogate Borough Council since the last meeting.

The following applications for works at Ruffe House (a Listed Building in Sawley) were noted:

- 6.51.13.D.FUL – Single storey extension.
- 6.51.13.E.LB - Listed building application for erection of garage with storage (permission not required).
- 6.51.13.F.LB & 6.51.13.G.LB – Application and listed building application for extension of domestic terrace area with erection of retaining wall, erection of archway and installation of railings.

Councillor Wigginton has studied the proposals in detailed and her observations, which can be summarised as no objections other than to the garage, formed the basis of the Parish Council’s response to Harrogate Borough Council.

13.3 Decisions and updates on applications, appeals and enforcement investigations.

Reference	Proposal	Update / Decision
6.51.14.M.FUL 12/01913/FUL	Conversion of barn to form 1 dwelling at Church Farm, Lowgate Lane, Sawley.	Passed.
6.50.14.A.FUL 12/01815/FUL	Conversion of outbuilding to form holiday cottage at Lake Farm, Eavestone.	Passed.
Planning Enforcement: 12/00301/PR15	Alterations to access, formation of hard standing and removal of part of hedge at land adjacent to Harvest Cottage, Sawley.	HBC seeking legal advice to determine what action to take.

14. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was confirmed as being on 13th November 2012 at 19.30 hrs in Grantley Village Hall.

15. ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE NEXT MEETING – none.

Meeting closed at 20.44 hrs.

These minutes were recorded and prepared by Iona Taylor, Clerk to the Parish Council.

SIGNED: (Chairman)

DATE: