

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13 February 2024 in Hutton le Hole Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs H Pettiford (Chair), D Dangerfield, J Thompson and P Ashley (Clerk)

1) Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs T Shephard and S Bentley. The reasons given for their apologies were accepted.

2) There were no dispensation requests or declarations of interest under the Members Code of Conduct.

3) The minutes from the meeting held on November 14 2023 were approved. There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

4) It was noted that letters of resignation had been received from both the Chair and the Clerk. The Chair will resign with effect from February 29th and will step down as a Councillor immediately after the May Annual meeting. The Clerk will resign on May 31st.

5) Mr S Bentley was nominated to be the new Chair with effect from March 1st 2024. Proposed by Cllr Pettiford and Seconded by Cllr Thompson. This was unanimously agreed upon. In the absence of Cllr Bentley, it was agreed that the Acceptance of Office form could be completed at the next meeting.

6) Public Session - There were no members of the public present.

Should an application be recorded the detail is made by the authority pursuant to section 47 of the Copyright, Design and Patents Act 1988. Permission has been received from the relevant planning authority to share the information contained solely for the purpose of the consultation.

7) To consider any Planning Applications/Decisions received from NYMNP.A.

No planning applications had been received since the last meeting.

8) VILLAGE

a) A lot of time is presently being spent on moles (18 were caught last month) and the levelling of mole hills to enable the grass to be cut. Grass will be cut this month. 14 new posts and 2 new rails are needed before painting starts and they will be primed ready to install.

b) There were no further comments with regards to work carried out since the last meeting.

c) The Biodiversity Policy as forwarded to Councillors was adopted.

d) The wording of the advert for a new Clerk was agreed upon. This will be placed in the first available slot in the White Rose.

9) It was agreed to engage Craig Natress to host the website now that NYC have announced that they will be withdrawing support for the hosting of the present site.

10) FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) The income/expenditure form was agreed.

b) The uplift to the Clerk's salary with effect from April 2023 in line with the national pay awards was confirmed.

c) The Council agreed to the payment of cheques according to the list presented and issued since the last meeting:

Caretaker	£252.00 (Nov), £154.00 (Dec),
Zurich insurance	£304.00
Information Commissioner	£40.00
Smailes Goldie	£510.00
Clerks salary for Oct, Nov, Dec	(undisclosed as per the Transparency Code)
HMRC	(undisclosed as per the Transparency Code)

11) It was agreed to adopt the Cooption of a new Councillor Policy as previously circulated.

12) Information from and question to the Chair.

a) Parking - to address the issues raised on the matter an email was sent to all residents explaining use of all parking areas in the village.

b) North York Moors National Park Authority has adopted its Dark Skies Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The document, together with adoption and consultation statements can be found on our website here

<https://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/planning/policy/supplementary-planning-documents>

The National Park area was awarded international dark sky reserve status in 2020 and is only one of 21 such areas in the world. This SPD sets out simple guidance on the installation of suitable lighting in new development that will meet the requirements of our Local Plan Policy ENV4. Additional information on dark skies and how they can be protected can be found here:

<https://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/things-to-do/stargazing-and-dark-skies/help-protect-our-dark-skies>

c) In December - Info re work by Highways on West Side Road between 10 & 14 January was circulated to residents.

d) The uplifting of the 1894 prohibition that has tied the hands of local councils in contributing towards expenditure on the execution of any works to church property, was announced on 26 December 2023.

e) It was reported by Cllr Thompson that the Old Orchard wall was in need of repair as part of it had collapsed. D Bentley was contacted and he agreed to carry out the repair which has been completed.

13) Information from the Clerk.

It was noted that NYC have raised the grass cutting grant slightly and, as a result, Council will receive £184.78 this year.

Meeting closed at 8.35pm

The next meeting to take place on 12 March 2024