

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held remotely via Zoom
on Monday 16 November 2020 at 7.00pm.

VIRTUALLY PRESENT

Councillor A. Croser (Mayor) in the Chair;
Councillors Mrs L Burr MBE, P. Farndale. R. King, J. Howard, D Lloyd-Williams,
J. Mackenzie, P. Mooring, Mrs A Spencer, H. Spencer.
Also Mrs R. Tierney, Mr T. Hicks

103. (11/20) **APOLOGIES**

Apologies received; Councillors Ms S. Cawte, Mrs D. Keal.

104. (11/20) **GUEST SPEAKER**

No Guest Speaker

105. (11/20) **PUBLIC SESSION**

Details of the remote meeting, and how to access via Zoom had been posted on the web site and noticeboard.
Councillor Paul Emberley the Mayor of Malton, and Councillor Graham Lake also from Malton Town Council, both logged on to the meeting.
Neither councillor requested to speak.

106. (11/20) **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No Declarations of Interest made.

107. (11/20) **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting, held on Monday, 19 October 2020 (Minutes 086 to 102 inclusive) be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Note: Councillor King again mentioned the issue of connectivity during the previous meeting and having to log off early, but felt that as he was not the only member having problems it should have been reported as being undemocratic to continue the meeting from that point with various councillors experiencing connectivity problems.

108. (11/20) **CLERK'S REPORT**

Old Courthouse – Lease Renewal
To inform members that the present lease on the chamber was due to end on the 10th of April 2021, and that Yorkshire Housing were willing to offer a new lease on similar terms, and in order to move the process forward the Clerk had tentatively said that she was sure the Council would be in favour of a new lease. Yorkshire Housing then asked which solicitors we would be instructing, and as Pearsons and Ward were the solicitors that the Council used the first time, they were contacted and have agreed to act for the Council.
Noted.

Continued.....

108. (11/20) **CLERK'S REPORT** (continued)

Cemetery Project

To report that two quotes had been received and it had been hoped to have this item on the agenda for certain decisions to be made, but that we were still awaiting certain information on one of the quotes. This item would definitely be on the agenda for next month.

Noted.

AJ1 Road Safety Fund – VAS Application

To report that the application for funding of an additional VAS sign for Scarborough Road had been successful and that the amount requested would be paid in full.

Amount of funding requested £2,408.00 with part match funding from the Town Council to make up the total cost of £3,208.00

External Audit

To report completion of the External Audit for the year to 31 March 2020. The Annual Governance and Accountability Return was now available for inspection and would be published on the Town Council Website.

109. (11/20) **TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT**

Pandemic

The Mayor reported an update from North Yorkshire County Council. Stating that the infection rates in North Yorkshire were increasing and that the number of cases was now above the average for England. There was concern for the Scarborough area and people were being asked not to visit. Locally schools were being affected and that local groups such as Dance Expression and Rainbow Brownies were holding classes via Zoom.

North Yorkshire - Devolution

The Mayor reported that North Yorkshire County Council had now submitted their proposal for a single unitary authority for North Yorkshire, and did not think that there would be much more to add for the final proposal date of 9 December 2020.

Provisional timescale from Central Government was that there would be a consultation process in early 2021, and a decision made by the middle of 2021, with implementation in April 2022, although more realistically this was likely to be April 2023.

With County Council elections due to take place in May 2021 a request had been submitted to have them put back to 2022.

Note: As of today members had been informed that the District Councils had also submitted a bid for an East West split of the County forming 2 unitary authorities. It was then requested that in order to compare the bids and form an opinion a meeting was required as soon as possible. The Mayor and Clerk to discuss.

Street Lighting

The Mayor reported that the street lighting was being updated in various areas of Norton, this had been anticipated for some time and should have been completed by the end of October.

Continued.....

109. (11/20) **TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT** (continued)

Riverside Picnic Area

This was being tidied up, with the shrubs along the wall side being pruned right back and the whole area litter picked.

The work was being undertaken by our Play Area Warden and the Deputy Clerk.

Remembrance Sunday

The Mayor reported that he had laid the wreath at the War Memorial in Malton and that Councillor Mrs Keal had laid one at St Peter's Church in Norton, and Councillor Mrs Spencer had laid one at St Mary's Priory in Old Malton.

Norton in Bloom

The Mayor reported that the area around the town entrance signs had now been planted up, he then invited the Chair of the In Bloom Group to give an update; Councillor Mrs Lindsay Burr MBE then gave the following progress report; Winter planting had now taken place, and the group were pursuing the cutting of the grass at the entrance to the town, by the traffic lights on Scarborough Road. It' was looking very unsightly.

We were hoping to get the ground works done for the benches, just as soon as Ryedale can accommodate us.

Good news

More benches had now been ordered for locations at Howe Hill, Beverly Road, Langton Road, and Springfield Garth.

We expect delivery of the memorial bench very soon.

We were working with residents on Welham Road, re the siting of bench's.

All work was progressing as planned, and the committee was looking forward to discussing plans for next year very soon.

110. (11/20) **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

(a) Accounts paid and for payment

The Clerk reported that accounts nos. 150 to 167 inclusive, amounting to £9,645.78 had been paid since the last meeting of the Council.

RESOLVED that account nos. 168 to 174 inclusive, amounting to £1,089.02 be paid. Payments to be made accordingly.

(b) Financial report

The Clerk's financial report for the period 01.10.20 to 31.10.20 was received.

(c) Budgetary monitoring

The Clerk's report for the period ending 31 October 2020 was received.

111. (11/20) **PLANNING MATTERS**

(a) Planning applications referred to the Town Council by Ryedale District Council, for comment and/or recommendation were dealt with as follows: -

20/00676/HOUSE Erection of two storey rear extension.
26 Priorpot Lane, Norton, Malton, YO17 8DW
RESOLVED Recommend approval.

20/00970/FUL Erection of a pitched roof over a row of 6no. flat roofed garages to include raising the height of the front wall above the garage doors.
Land and Garages, West of Mill Street, Norton
RESOLVED Recommend approval.

Continued.....

111. (11/20) **PLANNING MATTERS** (continued)

(b) To receive decisions notified by Ryedale District Council.

No decisions received.

112. (11/20) **POLICY AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS REVIEW**

- (a) Members to receive and approve the Standing Orders.
RESOLVED to approve the Standing Orders.
- (b) Members to receive and approve the Financial Regulations.
RESOLVED to approve the Financial Regulations.
- (c) Members to receive and approve the systems and terms of reference for the Internal Audit and Internal Control.
RESOLVED to approve the systems and terms of reference for the internal Audit and Internal Control.
- (d) Members to receive and approve the Risk Assessment Management Documents.
RESOLVED to approve the Risk Assessment Management Documents.

113. (11/20) **CEMETERY MATTERS**

Members received a request for permission to site edging kerbs around two graves. The Rules and Regulations for Memorials state that;

- The Council will not allow the installation of kerbs or fencing or railings or hedging on the grave plot or a groove to be dug around the grave as a boundary.

The two graves in question were both in areas where the surrounding plots had kerbs installed prior to the councils ruling, and would not be out of place or cause difficulty to other plot owners.

This request did however require the council to make a resolution in favour or not.

RESOLVED to allow the siting of edging kerbs around the two graves in question.

This ruling does not affect the general rule of not allowing kerbs.

114. (11/20) **CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) Ryedale Community Transport – thank you grant. For information.
- (b) Malton Castle Garden – thank you for support. For information.

115. (11/20) **REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER ORGANISATIONS**

- (a) Councillor Mrs Ann Spencer reported that the Milton Rooms was closed due to the lockdown, but that it was hoped to re-open in December.
- (b) Councillor Ray King informed members that the Lions Club Santa's Sleigh would still be happening post lockdown, although in a different way. There was to be an online presence with various activities.
- (c) Councillor John Mackenzie reported on the Food Bank stating that with new rules from the Trussell Trust life was very difficult, and that with not being open for face to face appointments they were having to rely on making deliveries with teams phoning to assist the public as much as possible.
The numbers making use of the Food Bank had risen considerably this year with probably double the numbers from last year.

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116. (11/20) **MEMBERS QUESTIONS**

- (a) Councillor John Howard asked if there had been any response from the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government with regard to the Byelaw application. In reply the Clerk stated that there had been no response at all.

117. (11/20) **DATES OF THE NEXT MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL**

- (a) RESOLVED that the next ordinary meeting of the Council would be held Virtually on Monday, 21 December 2020, at 7.00pm. Unless there was Government advice to the contrary.
- (b) RESOLVED that the Annual Budget Meeting of the Council be held Virtually on Monday, 30 November 2020, at 2.00pm.

There was debate as to whether to meet regarding Devolution, but no decision made.

(Meeting closed at 8.15pm)

_____(Chairman)