

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held remotely via Zoom  
on Monday 15 March 2021 at 7.00pm.

**VIRTUALLY PRESENT**

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

167. (03/21) **APOLOGIES**

No apologies received.

168. (03/21) **GUEST SPEAKER**

Mr Adrian Hamilton, the Town Centre Ambassador employed by Ryedale District Council, had been due to log on to the meeting to give a brief overview of his role within the towns.  
As he had not logged on, the Clerk would contact him and find out the reason, and maybe invite him for next month. Noted.

169. (03/21) **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 Councillors Graham Lake, Kerry Ennis, and Sue Hawes also from Malton Town Council, logged on to the meeting.  
No other member of the public requested access.

No one requested to speak.

170. (03/21) **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No Declarations of Interest made.

171. (03/21) **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting, held on Monday, 15 February 2021 (Minutes 150 to 166 inclusive) be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

172. (03/21) **CLERK'S REPORT**

Courthouse Lease

To report that the surveyor for the Housing Association had now inspected the premises and had noted all the issues. We were awaiting their report.  
We had received confirmation that there would be no increase in the lease amount until such time as the new lease was in place. Noted.

Cemetery Matters – Upgrading the facilities in the compound

To report that the contractors were due to start work on upgrading the facilities the week beginning the 28 March 2021. Noted.

Continued.....

172. (03/21) **CLERK'S REPORT** (continued)

Norton in Bloom - Seating Project

To report that the new planters that accompany the new seats were in the process of being constructed and installed ready for planting. Planters for Howe Road and Beverley Road were already installed, the planters for Langton Road were ready to be installed that just left the planters for Springfield Garth awaiting construction. Noted.

VAS Sign – Scarborough Road

To report that the VAS Sign for Scarborough Road had been ordered and we were awaiting confirmation of a date for installation. Noted.

Ryedale District Council – Community Officer

To inform members that the Community Officer for Norton, taking over from Matthew Lishman, was Faye Snowden;

Email: faye.snowden@ryedale.gov.uk

173. (03/21) **TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor paid his respects to Mr Gordon Howden, the first and long standing Headmaster of what was now Norton College, who had sadly passed away this last week.

Neighbourhood Plan

The Mayor reported that he had logged on to the Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Event held on the 6 March, and that there was one final event left which was to be on the 16 March at 6pm.

Fairtrade Sign

The Mayor reported that he had attended at the Town Sign on Scarborough road for a photograph taken to publicise the new Fair Trade element attached to the sign. Noted.

Skatepark

The Mayor reported that he had attended an informal meeting with other members of the town council and Malton Town Council members. It had been informative with all members looking to improve facilities for the community.

174. (03/21) **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

(a) Accounts paid and for payment

The Clerk reported that accounts nos. 235 to 245 inclusive, amounting to £12,781.39 had been paid since the last meeting of the Council.

RESOLVED that account nos. 246 to 253 inclusive, amounting to £1,392.93 be paid. Payments to be made accordingly.

(b) Financial report

The Clerk's financial report for the period 01.02.21 to 28.02.21 was received.

(c) Budgetary monitoring

The Clerk's report for the period ending 28 February 2021 was received.

Continued.....

175. (03/21) **PLANNING MATTERS**

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

- 21/00197/HOUSE      Demolition of existing boundary wall and creation of additional car parking space.  
31 Beckside, Norton, YO17 8AR  
RESOLVED Recommend Approval.
  
- 21/00195/CAT        Hardwood Rowan-crown reduce by 1.5m to clear telephone wires.  
56 St Nicholas St, Norton, Y17 9AQ  
RESOLVED Recommend Approval.
  
- 21/00297/HOUSE    Erection of 2 storey rear extension.  
7 Dean Road, Norton, YO17 9BX  
RESOLVED Recommend Approval subject to no neighbour objections.
  
- 21/00307/HOUSE    Erection of two storey flat roof extension to the rear following partial demolition of existing rear extensions.  
69 Langton Road, Norton, YO17 9AE  
RESOLVED Recommend Refusal on the grounds of overdevelopment and scale of proposed extension.
  
- 20/01240/FUL        Change of use of ground floor business premises to form 1no two bedroom flat to include installation of 2no additional windows at ground floor level with associated parking and landscaping  
Widger Mews, Langton Road, Norton, YO17 9QG  
RESOLVED Recommend Approval.

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

Approved

- 20/01236/HOUSE    Erection of single storey rear extension  
61 Parliament Street, Norton, Yo17 9HE

176. (03/21) **DEVOLUTION**

Members received a copy of the questionnaire to be completed on the consultation for the devolution of North Yorkshire, from the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government.

Two proposals had been submitted, one for a single unitary authority for the whole of North Yorkshire, but excluding the City of York, and one proposal to split the county into two separate unitary authorities which would include the City of York

Following debate members felt that there was a lack of clarity with both options, with no clear way forward and no hard proposals put forward, and the issues surrounding services that either could or would be devolved to town and parish councils was not known. Members felt that this was being forced upon us and that both proposals had too many unknowns to be able to make an informed decision.

Members made the point that if devolution was to happen there ought to be a referendum and the electorate should decide.

It was feared that the next thing would be for a Mayor to be elected for the region, bringing in another layer of bureaucracy and costs.

The Mayor and Clerk to formulate the town council response, for members to approve before submitting. Noted.

Continued.....

177. (03/21) **BYELAW**

Following confirmation from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government that the town council had been granted leave to make the proposed byelaw, members received a copy of the byelaw enactment procedure along with a copy of the proposed byelaw.

RESOLVED to proceed with the byelaw enactment procedure which would entail further consultation with the electorate.

Councillor Mrs Lindsay Burr proposed a vote of thanks to Councillor John Howard for all the time and effort he had committed to formulating the byelaw and getting it to this final stage. Noted.

178. (03/21) **SKATEPARK**

- (a) Members received an update from the informal meeting held with members of Malton Town Council on the 4 March.

With only a short lease being offered on the present site Malton Town Council members considered that alternative sites should be considered.

Malton were of the opinion that the site was in a generally dilapidated condition, and as the Fitzwilliam Estate would not grant a long lease, they believed that a better option for Malton was to pursue skatepark provision at their Rainbow Lane Play Area. Norton members had resolved last month to renew the lease on the present site for a further period as they considered the present location to be ideal, and that it was premature to consider other sites.

A working party consisting of Councillors John Howard, Mrs Ann Spencer and the Mayor, along with the Deputy Clerk, would consider other sites for the future and report back to council.

- (b) Members discussed the removal of the large half pipe, which would need extensive repair if it was to be brought back into use.

It was agreed to defer any decision until next month to give time for a detailed report to be made, and costs for possible replacements to be sourced. Noted.

179. (03/21) **CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence received.

180. (03/21) **REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER ORGANISATIONS**

- (a) Councillor Ray King reported on the Milton Rooms, stating that £193,000 of funding had been secured from Ryedale District Council for upgrading the facilities, and with thanks to Councillor Mrs Lindsay Burr MBE a further £307,000 had been ring-fenced for a second phase.

The Milton Rooms website was in the process of being updated along with the social media that accompanied the website.

A varied programme of events was being planned for when the venue could reopen. Noted.

- (b) Councillor John Mackenzie reported on the phased reopening of the Food Bank; Castlegate Centre would open from 1pm to 3pm every Wednesday from 14 April, for collection by clients at the front door, until such time as restrictions end.

Howe Road Centre would open from 1pm to 3pm every Wednesday and Friday from 14 April, for collection by clients at the back door by appointment. Voucher holders only, until such time as restrictions end.

Pickering Centre would continue with delivery only until the end of the restrictions.

180. (03/21) **REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER ORGANISATIONS** (continued)

- (c) Councillor David Lloyd-Williams reported that the final drop-in session on the consultation for the Neighbourhood Plan was due to take place on Tuesday 16 March at 6pm.  
He encouraged everyone to make a comment, and stated that whatever happened with devolution the Neighbourhood Plan would stand.
- (d) Councillor Mrs Di Keal reported from the Woodhams Stone Collection, the sad news that Mr Sid Woodhams one of the founding members, had sadly passed away.  
Noted with regret.

181. (03/21) **MEMBERS QUESTIONS**

- (a) Councillor John Howard reported that he had received an acknowledgement from the Environment Agency stating that they had received the correspondence with regard to flooding issues. Noted.

182. (03/21) **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

RESOLVED that the next ordinary meeting of the Council would be held Virtually on Monday, 19 April 2021, at 7.00pm.  
Unless there was Government advice to the contrary.

(Meeting closed at 8.45pm)

\_\_\_\_\_(Chairman)