

**Minutes of the Remote Meeting of Hushwaite Parish Council held on
Wednesday 16th September 2020**

Present: C. Fenwick (Chair), C. Colton (CC), J. Don (JD), J. Law (JL), B. Smith (BS), E. Smith (ES), Mrs J. Coulthard (Clerk), County Councillor C. Patmore (CP), District Councillor J. Mortimer (JM).

1. **Apologies:** None.

Declarations of Interest: None.

2. **Minutes of the previous meeting:** The minutes of the last parish council meeting were approved and signed as a true record.

3. **Matters Arising:**

3.1 **25 Year Environmental Plan:** Volunteers have raked off the grass cuttings from the wildflower meadow areas on Kendrew Green and the Recreation Woodland & Wildlife Area and have also created a Hedgehog Hotel.

3.2 **The Village Website and the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications)**

Accessibility Regulations: CC has written an Accessibility Statement for Hushwaite Parish Council and this will be uploaded onto the PC Documents page of the village website. **Action: CF**

3.3 **Community Right to bid on Hushwaite pub:** The Public Works Loan Board has informed us that all applications for funding should be made through the Yorkshire Local Councils Association in the first instance. YLCA have now sent us an Application Form which must be submitted to them for assessment before it can be forwarded to the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government for sanctioning. The amount that an individual council can borrow is normally limited to £500,000 in any financial year and is usually repaid over a 50-year period. The PC requested that the Community Interest Group proceed with producing a full business case detailing the estimated costs, amount to be borrowed and evidence of affordability of the loan repayments. Then, if the intention is to increase the precept to cover the loan repayments, evidence of public support must be obtained by way of a survey of all houses in the village before the application is submitted. **Action: CC, BS, JD, JL**

3.4 **Co-option of Parish Councillor:** The Parish Council received only one expression of interest for the Parish Councillor vacancy. Therefore, Ray Alexander was co-opted by a majority vote and will be requested to sign the declaration of acceptance of office and complete the registration of financial and personal interests before the next meeting.

3.5 **Village assistance during Coronavirus epidemic:** CF confirmed that the weekly Prescription Collection from Millfield Surgery would continue throughout the winter months and asked that parishioners be reminded that the monthly automatic prescription renewal had now ended, and patients now had to place their orders for medication in writing. CC advised that Lynn Colton had been successful in securing a grant from NYCC to pay for ingredients/petrol/etc, so the weekly soup delivery and monthly OVC meals will also be continued. It was suggested that the lonely and isolated might benefit from a contact buddy and everyone was reminded to look out for their neighbours during the winter months.

3.6 **AJ1 Project Road Safety Fund:** Darren Griffiths, NYCC Senior Traffic Engineer, has advised that although improvements such as a right hand turn lane on the A19 would improve road safety at the junction with the C96, it would require significant investment - more than what is available through the AJ1 Project Road Safety Fund.

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4. Matters that have arisen between meetings:

4.1 Single Unitary Council for North Yorkshire: NYCC are developing a proposal for a strong single unitary council for North Yorkshire. The proposals include having one principal council with streamlined services, 25 new community networks to identify local priorities and devolution opportunities for town and parish councils who want to run local services. It is estimated that annual savings in excess of £25 million could be reinvested in local front-line services.

4.2 Parking in Low Street: The PC have received another complaint about the parking situation in Low Street, especially in the vicinity of The Tomahawk Steakhouse. Unfortunately, the PC have no legal powers to act with regard to parking on the highway and have already informed the Tomahawk of neighbours' concerns about the situation. It was suggested that any complaints should be directed to NY Police who are able to enforce the law if vehicles are parked illegally.

5. Planning Matters:

5.1 The following planning applications have been received: NONE

5.2 The following planning applications have been approved: NONE

5.3 Planning applications still under consideration: The installation of decking to the front of the Tomahawk Steakhouse & outline planning for 5 dwellings at OS Field 8464, Highborne Lane.

5.4 Complaints have been received from parishioners regarding the accessibility of the planning website and, as the system is owned by HDC, we have suggested that complainants contact HDC directly. For future information, comments on planning applications can still be sent to HDC by e-mail or letter.

6. Finance Report:

6.1 Current Account:

Cheques / Monies Out

21.07.20	101002	£220.00	Clerk - May to July 2020
21.07.20	101003	£350.00	Husthwaite Newsletter
21.07.20	101004	£20.00	Petty Cash
27.07.20	101005	£742.80	Farm & Land Services (including £123.80 VAT)
		£1332.80	

Cheques / Monies In

	NONE
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Statement Balance at 15 August 2020 - £16860.11 (including £9644.88 Cemetery monies)

Balance as at 16th September 2020 - £16800.11

Payments to be authorised:

J Coulthard - £206.00 - July to September 2020

HMRC TAX - £14

Husthwaite Village Hall Planning Application - £142

Donation to Citizens Advice - £50

6.2 Recreation Area Account:

Cheques / Monies In

15.08.20	.01	Interest
	.01	

Statement Balance at 15 August 2020 - £1307.84

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PKF Littlejohn have acknowledged receipt of our Certificate of Exemption for FY 2019/20.

7. **Circulated Items that may be of interest to the Council:** None

8. **Reports from Council Representatives:**

Easingwold & Villages Forum: It is unknown when the next meeting will take place.

HDC Parish Liaison Meeting: The meeting scheduled for Wednesday 16th September has been cancelled however the presentations that were to be given by the Leader and Chief Executive will be recorded and made available for viewing on the HDC website.

Highways: The Highways Customer Communications Officer from Area 2 - Thirsk has offered a virtual meeting to discuss any highway issues that we feel are important in our area.

Neighbourhood Watch: Nothing to report.

Public Footpaths: The fallen tree on the footpath by Bank Cottage has been removed by NYCC. Kevin Hollinrake has asked NYCC to review their decision not to repair the broken boardwalk.

Recreation Area: CF will request quotes from three sources for the repainting of the MUGA surface. **Action: CF**

Street Lighting: All streetlights are currently working.

Village Hall: The plans for a new storage extension to the rear of the hall have been submitted to HDC and the PC have received a note of thanks from the VH Committee for funding the application. As the Village Hall have no income at present due to Covid-19 restrictions, it was agreed that the PC would not charge a rental fee for the Bier House until events at the VH restart. Quotes to weatherproof the Bier House roof will be requested from three sources.

Action: CF

YLCA: The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 21st October at 7pm on Zoom.

Filming in Husthwaite: Southshore Productions are filming scenes in Husthwaite on Friday 25th September for a BBC show entitled 'Hairy Bikers Go North' and Television Production Company Studio Lambert North are also filming scenes at The Hideaway and around the village on Monday 28th and Tuesday 29th September for a Channel 4 production.

Wreath Laying: This year's Remembrance Service will be held on Wednesday 11th November at 11am and John Law offered to lay the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

Fibre Broadband: In an effort to upgrade the fibre broadband in homes throughout the village, BS has submitted a list of Husthwaite addresses to Openreach in the hope that we may be eligible for funding from the Government Rural Cyber Grant to improve services. CP suggested that we should also inform NYCC of the poor broadband speeds received. **Action: BS**

9. **Reports from County & District Councillors:**

Councillor Patmore reported on the Devolution proposal which NYCC will submit to Government by the end of October.

- North Yorkshire is the largest county and has over 600,000 residents.
- The new Unitary Authority will replace NYCC and 7 District Councils by 2022 and will make substantial savings by reducing the number of senior officer posts, elected members and a tier of local government.
- NYCC already delivers 80% of its services locally such as Social Care, Children's Services, Education, Disposal of Waste, Highways and Legal Services and this will continue.

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Councillor Mortimer informed us that the Treadmills development on the old prison site in Northallerton had been completed and work was due to start on the new Hambleton Crematorium at Skipton on Swale in November.

10. **Date & Time of next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held remotely on Wednesday 11th November 2020 at 7:30pm on Zoom.

Signed.....11th November 2020