**North Rigton Parish Council**

**Meeting held on Wednesday 1 March 2023 at 7.30 at St John’s Church, North Rigton.**

**Present:** Mary Hopkins (Chairman**)**Barbara Massey (Vice Chairman) Tim Bennett, Lisa Edwards, and Janet Cobbald. In attendance, Cllr Nathan Hull (NYCC), and 1 resident Mrs Jennifer Birtwhistle.

1. **Apologies for absence** –Apologies for absence were received and accepted from John Ellacott. Mike Richards (Clerk), also not in attendance due to hospital admission. Council expressed their sincere best wishes for a full recovery and the Chairman has sent a card on behalf of the council to that effect. Cllr Massey agreed to take the minutes.

1. **Agenda order variation and Declaration of Interests** - The Chairman welcomed visitor Mrs Birtwhistle who had expressed an intention to challenge the accuracy of the minutes of the previous meeting. The Chairman stated that visitors are free to attend meetings but may speak only at the request of the Chairman. The Chairman duly gave permission.

1. **Approval and signing of minutes**, matters arising.
Mrs Birtwhistle firstly expressed her belief that paragraph five was inaccurate in its reference to “Spring House Farm, Harrogate Riding Centre” re the bus depot complaint (also referred to in the Village News).

Mrs Birtwhistle stated that the bus depot is at Spring House Farm. Whilst Council agreed that there are various separate business activities on the site, the Council copied the terminology from HBC Planning Notices.

Secondly, Mrs Birtwhistle objected to discussion about the Agenda item on the bus depot taking place after her departure. The Council stated, as on the record, the HBC’s decision was to proceed to enforce the planning decision on 31st March.

Councillors agreed that the previous minutes were accurate.

Minutes were approved by Lisa Edwards and seconded by Janet Cobbald.

1. **Administration**

a.) Village Garden – ownership – Trustee status.

An extraordinary meeting had taken place prior to Parish Council. Parish Council will pursue their decision to take further advice on upgrading the Possessionary Title of the Village Garden to Title Absolute for the Parish Council.

b.) Picket fences – Hall Green Lane will proceed when fences have been ordered by the Clerk in due course.

c.) Coronation of King Charles III - Councillor Massey requested purchase of more bunting for village streets but this request was declined; bunting will be provided for the Village Garden.

* Saturday 6 May - Coronation of King Charles III.
* Sunday 7 May – ‘Big Lunch’. The Parish Council intends to host a picnic lunch in the Village Garden and to involve Almscliffe Villages Community Association and Parish residents in the planning. Details to follow.
* Monday 8 May – ‘The Big Help Out’ – it was pointed out that Parish Council organise an annual litter picking event in March and the organiser felt it was not appropriate to do this in May and conflate the occasion with coronation events.

1. **Parish Matters**

a.) Spring Litter Pick arranged for Saturday 25 March. Facebook post and notice will be posted by Councillor Massey.

b.) Brackenthwaite Lane – Springhouse Farm bus depot.

No further update

c.) Litter bins -replacements have been installed. Dog waste bin on Brackenwell Lane is to continue and is to be emptied on behalf of PC.

1. **Finance**
a.) No financial update due to aforementioned absence of the Clerk. It was resolved to arrange for another named person to have access to the online account.

1. **Planning**

a.) New Applications – none.

b.) Decisions and enforcement.

i) 22/03685/FUL- 2 Brackenwell Lane. Query which will be followed up.

ii) Field Head Farm property has been approved by HBC. Query on footpath route.

1. **Highways, footpaths and verges**

a.) A658/Hall Green Lane bus shelter. HBC has received insurance money after repeated enquiries from the Clerk; a new bus shelter is to be built. The Church Hill shelter has been checked and determined to be structurally sound, but requiring some repair and refurbishment. To be followed up with contractor.

b.) Speed stickers. It was agreed in principle to purchase a quantity of bin stickers. The type and quantity requires further investigation.

1. **Village Garden, Amenities and Activities**
a.) Additional storage. Options were briefly considered. Contractors are to be consulted re lawnmower store before a decision is made.

b.) Sale of the gas barbecue – Council agreed to wait until late Spring to advertise this on Facebook.

c.) Jubilee tree – it was resolved to purchase the smaller galvanised and painted tree guard in due course.

d.) Weeton PC – s106 funds – no update. Chairman resolved to find out the price of replacing hopscotch paint and new tarmac should funds be available.

e.) Village News items – Councillors outlined suggestions for inclusion for the report normally submitted by the Parish Clerk.

1. Matters for inclusion on the next agenda.

Visitor Mrs Birtwhistle proposed that she/Harrogate Riding Centre is willing to sponsor a Ukrainian flag for the village flag pole. To discuss in the next meeting.

**Report from Cllr Nathan Hull** given to Parish Council regarding potential Community Funds from the Police/Crime and Fire Commissioner. Update on NYCC budget news. The new NY Combined Authority will have a £30m shortfall, but they have reserves which will be used to maintain services at current levels. Cllr Hull has been appointed as Chair for Skipton and Ripon area Planning Committee. North Yorkshire Reorganisation Consultation on Parish involvement has been launched.

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**There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8:42**

 **Dates of next meetings:**

* Wednesday 3 May 2023 Annual Meeting 7pm. Parish Council 7:30pm
* Wednesday 5 July 2023 7:30pm
* Wednesday 6 September 2023 7:30pm

Signed (Chairman) Date

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