

ARKENGARTHDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting
held at St Mary's Church, Arkengarthdale on
Monday 6 September 2021 at 8.00pm

MINUTES

Present: Councillor P Harker; Councillor R Stones; Councillor S Stubbs (Chair); County Councillor Y Peacock; Nichola Barningham; Simon Atkinson; two representatives from NYCC and Quickline [for item 39/21 only].

In attendance: S Dray (Clerk)

Apologies were received from District Councillor R Good.

36/21 Resignation of Councillor, appointment of new vice-Chair, and welcome to new Councillors

- 36.1 Councillors noted the resignation of Cllr Lundberg, vice-Chair, since the last meeting and expressed their thanks for his valued contributions to the council and the parish over the last 14 years;
- 36.2 Cllr Stubbs proposed that Cllr Harker be vice Chair. This was seconded by Cllr Stones, and unanimously agreed.
- 36.3 Councillors welcomed two new members to the Council: Nichola Barningham was welcomed as Cllr Watkin's replacement and it was unanimously agreed to co-opt Simon Atkinson, following his recent expression of interest [APC min_210705_25.3 refers], to replace Cllr Lundberg. Declarations of Acceptance of Office and were signed by both new councillors.

37/21 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

38/21 Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held on 5 July 2021 were confirmed as a correct record by the Council, and signed by the Chair.

39/21 5G MANY Project - Community engagement in Arkengarthdale

- 39.1 Councillors received a presentation from Rebecca Proctor (NYCC) about the *5G MANY* project, a two-year research and development (R&D) project, that had been asked to set up a 5G trial in Arkengarthdale, subject to a positive response from the local community. Hayley Sylvester from Quickline, the lead technical partner in the project, was also present to answer technical questions. The aim of the project was to "eliminate the digital divide" by bringing fibre and wireless technology to 'hard-to-reach' communities. The project aimed to bring high speed internet (with the potential for future mobile phone coverage) to Langthwaite, Booze and Arkletown, and required endorsement from the Parish Council in order to progress. Planning permission to erect a mast in Arkengarthdale had already been submitted to the planning authority.
- 39.2 The following points were made in discussion:

- ‘Arkengarthdale’ covered a larger area than the three hamlets the project was planning to cover and therefore not all the residents of Arkengarthdale would be able to take part in this study, were it to go ahead. The notion that the project was covering ‘Arkengarthdale’ was misleading;
- Arkengarthdale needed mobile phone technology more than it needed additional internet options;
- Reeth Rural Radio Network already provided a reliable and adequate internet service at a price that the 5G MANY project could not match nor guarantee to compete with after the 2 year project ended;
- It was unclear what would happen to the 5G service when the project ended, or what the monthly cost would be, as it would need to be commercially viable;
- It was unclear what the long-term future of Reeth Rural Radio Network would be as it was largely run by volunteers.

39.3 Councillors agreed not to vote to endorse the project on behalf of the community but agreed unanimously in favour of a community information event, that would enable the community to decide for itself about the project. It was agreed that the 5G MANY project would organise a drop-in event at St Mary’s Church on Thursday 7 October for residents to find out about the project and express their views.

39.4 Information about the project, and the advantages and disadvantages of 5G, would be sent to Cllr Atkinson to be circulated to parishioners prior to the event. **[Action: RP/SA]**

40/21 Public Session

No requests from parishioners had been received.

41/21 Resignation of Clerk

Councillors noted the resignation of the clerk on 8 August 2021, and expressed thanks for her work. The position had been advertised but no applications had been received to date. The present clerk agreed to continue until 30 September. District Cllr Good would be asked about the possibility of employing an interim clerk from RDC. The vacancy would remain open until a suitable candidate had been appointed. **[Action: SS]**

42/21 Church grant application

- 42.1 A request was considered from St Mary’s Church to submit a grant application on their behalf to the RDC Community Grant Scheme.
- 42.2 It was agreed to support the request in principle, providing that there would be no work required on behalf of the Parish Council in preparing the application, or administering the funds, should the grant be awarded. Confirmation would be sought. The Church would be informed. **[Action SD/SS]**

43/21 Queen’s Platinum Jubilee 2022

A request from YLCA to take part in the lighting of beacons on 2 June 2022 to celebrate the year of the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee was noted and, for reasons of time, it was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting. **[Action: SD]**

44/21 Two Ridings Community Foundation - Flood Recovery grant

- 44.1 The progress of the flood prevention work funded by the Two Ridings Community

Foundation was considered.

- 44.2 It was noted that the tree work was underway with trees in Arkle Beck having been marked for felling or removal and the related notification of 'no objections' from YDNPA had been received [item 47.5 refers]. It was hoped that the trees would be removed by the end of this year.
- 44.3 It was confirmed that the contractor for the beck work was aware that the beck clearance work could progress, and that funds were available, but there was no information as yet on a start date.

45/21 Records and map storage

It was noted that an application had been submitted to the RDC Area Partnership Grant for suitable storage cases for the long-term protection of Council records and maps. The total amount applied for was £120.59 including VAT. If successful, the Council would be responsible for 25% of the cost (excl.VAT). This amounted to approximately £24.00. This potential expense was approved in principle.

46/21 Payments and receipts

The following payments were approved:

• S Dray	salary July & Aug	£334.08
• S Dray	expenses	£6.60
• Mrs Gladys Atkinson	catering - volunteer event (YDMT funds)	£120.00

The following receipts were noted:

HMRC	VAT refund	£2046.46
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47/21 Correspondence received

The following correspondence were noted:

- 47.1 The police report for July 2021;
- 47.2 The newly published *Guide to Affordable Housing for Parish Councils* from RDC;
- 47.3 A request from a Church donor for a memorial bench near St Mary's Church. The request had been forwarded to the Church;
- 47.4 A letter from NYCC on local government reorganisation from April 2023;
- 47.5 A notification from YDNPA (Trees and Conservation) regarding an application to fell up to ten trees and remove low branches from up to four trees between Eskeleth Bridge and the footbridge south of Langthwaite;
- 47.6 The results of Richmond Rotary Club's best kept village competition. Langthwaite had been entered into the competition and was ranked twelfth out of 14.;
- 47.7 A Highways England public consultation on the proposals for A66 dual carriageway;
- 47.8 A request from YDNPA to participate in a virtual Parish Forum on 13 October 2021;
- 47.9 A request for views on NYCC bus service improvement plan;
- 47.10 Publicity for the newly launched consultation on the Police and Crime Plan and Fire and Rescue Plan;
- 47.11 An invitation to send a representative to a YDNPA planning seminar on Zoom on 23 September;
- 47.12 Notification from YDNPA (Trees and Conservation) of no objection to the removal or reduction of a number of trees at The Corn Mill, Arkengarthdale.

The following correspondence were considered:

- 47.13 A notification from the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal that wreaths were now available was considered and it was agreed that a wreath would be ordered for Remembrance Day. It was agreed that a donation of £30 would be made for the wreath. **[Action: SD];**
- 47.14 A response to the YDNPA Consultation no. 4 *Local Occupancy and Barns* was considered. It was agreed that a response should be sent from the Parish Council if councillors felt strongly about the topic, and in this event a response would be drafted and finalised by email in order to be submitted before the deadline of 20 September 2021. **[Action: all]**

48/21 Planning

- 48.1 It was noted that comments had been submitted to Planning since the last meeting on planning application R/01/116A - Fountain Farm, Booze, Arkengarthdale, DL11 6EY, owing to a deadline on 18 August which fell between two meetings;
- 48.2 Councillors Harker, Stones and Stubbs had met with the owner of the property on 17 August to discuss the plans for full planning permission for change of use of barn into a domestic extension to the farmhouse and demolition of existing outbuildings to replace with domestic accommodation;
- 48.3 Councillors had not supported the application, expressing concern about the proposed materials (metal and glass), which were considered by a number of residents in the parish to be out of keeping, and inappropriate for the dale. The proposed building was also considered to be too imposing given the visibility of the property from the Arkengarthdale road.

49/21 Highway matters

- 49.1 A collapsed wall between the Arkle beck and the roadside at Whaw was considered. Councillors heard that an 8m stretch of retaining wall was falling away in to the beck immediately above where the previous flood work had stopped. It was agreed that the repair was urgent and that this would be reported to Highways. **[Action: SD/YP]**
- 49.2 Overhanging trees making visibility difficult on the main road outside Lion House were considered. It was agreed that this was a Highways matter and would be reported to Highways. **[Action: SD].**

50/21 Local matters

- 50.1 Seat at Booze: A request for a replacement seat from Heather Roberts, the owner of the broken seat at Booze, had been received. It was agreed that the installation of a new seat, and any associated costs would need to be discussed further and that since the Clerk had worked her notice, Ms Roberts would be given the Cllr Stubbs's telephone number **[Action:SD];**
- 50.2 Replacement footbridges: An update on the YDNPA plans for replacing the two remaining footbridges across Arkle Beck was received: The YDNPA intended to have the bridges delivered by the end of September 2021. The new structures would be made from non-recyclable plastic and would cost approximately £30k each. The bridges had been funded by NYCC. There was no confirmation as yet from NYCC on when they would be installed.
- 50.3 Street Light on High Green: A complaint from a home-owner on High Green had been received about a broken street light that had been reported twice and still not fixed after several months. It was noted that District Cllr Good had reported this week that this light was now working.
- 50.4 Recycling bins: A report had been received from the District Councillor on the unsightly and potentially dangerous state of the recycling enclosure recently, with glass, tins and plastic waste being left on the ground because of inadequate space in the bins. A request for either more bins or more frequent collections had been made. It was noted that neither of these

solutions were feasible, owing to a lack of wagon drivers and a lack of space for additional bins. It was also noted that if more bins were provided, they would fill up quickly with recycling from Reeth residents, who used the Arkengarthdale bins when the bins in Reeth were full.

- 50.5 'Booze Only' bins: A report had been received from the District Councillor on the use of "Booze only" bins by holiday cottages. RDC were able to confirm that these bins were strictly for the use of Booze residents only and that RDC had never issued keys to any holiday cottages. Holiday Homes Yorkshire, who had claimed their customers had authorised use of the bins, would be informed and asked to remove the keys from the cottages at Swallowholm. [Action: SD]

51/21 Date of next meeting: Monday 1 November 2021

The meeting closed at 10.27pm.