

ARKENGARTHDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at
St Mary's Church, Arkengarthdale
Monday 13 January 2020 at 8.00pm

MINUTES

Present: Councillor P Harker; Councillor P Lundberg (Vice-Chair); Councillor R Stones; Councillor S Stubbs (Chair); Councillor J Watkins; Councillor R Good; Councillor Y Peacock; David Jeffels, York and North Yorkshire Flood Risk Partnership [for item 84/19 only]; and 1 member of the public.

In attendance: S Dray (Clerk)

There were no apologies for absence

83/19 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

84/19 Open discussion on the prevention of future flooding

- 84.1 The Chair welcomed David Jeffels, Joint Chairman of York and North Yorkshire Flood Risk Partnership, to the meeting to explain the requirements of a Section 19 report being produced for DEFRA/Environment Agency on the summer floods;
- 84.2 Councillors heard that the draft report, describing how and why the flooding happened, would be circulated in early February and that residents from all the affected parishes would be invited to feedback on the accuracy of the report and the feasibility of the recommendations for prevention of future similar events;
- 84.3 The following points were made in discussion with Councillors:
- Routine maintenance of roads, gutters and waterways was essential;
 - A clear understanding of the responsibilities of the relevant organisations concerned with maintaining highways and waterways was required;
 - After the flooding the relevant authorities had been too slow to respond and if local efforts had not stepped in the situation would have been aggravated rather than mitigated;
 - Parish Councils needed access to funds for ongoing routine maintenance of parish land;
 - Tourism in the dale had been affected by the floods;
 - It was suggested that the Parish Council develop an emergency plan.

85/19 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4 November 2019 were confirmed as a correct record by the Council and signed by the Chair.

86/19 School building

- 86.1 Notification had been received by post from RDC during the Christmas period of the intended sale of the building and the subsequent invitation to register to bid before the deadline of 29 January 2020;
- 86.2 The community had been informed at a public meeting facilitated by the Parish Council on 9 January 2020 that the Parish Council was not considering registering an interest itself, but would support an emerging community group by registering interest on their behalf, on the condition that the group's proposal for the use of the school building was plausible;
- 86.3 It was noted that a community group was forming and that an open meeting to discuss the use of the building would take place on 16 January at The CB Inn at 7pm. It was agreed that some of the councillors would attend.

87/19 Affordable housing

There would be a meeting of the Upper Dales Community Land Trust on 15 January 2020 and Cllrs Stubbs and Watkins would attend and report back at the next meeting.

88/19 Flooding matters

- 88.1 The following correspondence relating to flood-related donations was noted:
- an offer of a donation from Richmond Motor Club was still pending;
 - a letter of thanks had been sent to a donor who wished to remain anonymous;
 - a letter of thanks had been sent to Mr G Jackson;
 - a donation had been received from Ms S Harding. A letter of thanks would be sent **[Action:SD]**;
- 88.2 A quotation for £9156.52 (+VAT) from L&D Construction to repair the flood damaged roadway outside St Mary's Church was considered. It was unanimously agreed to accept this. The contractors would be notified and asked for a fortnight's notice of their intention to begin work. **[Action: RS]**;
- 88.3 The completed repair to the flood damaged road on High Green was noted;
- 88.4 It was noted that the three YDNPA footbridges across Arkle Beck destroyed in the flood had yet to be reinstated. These were well used by residents and tourists and councillors were being repeatedly asked when they would be replaced. It was agreed that YDNPA would be contacted for a schedule for the reinstatement of these bridges. **[Action:SD]**

89/19 BT consultation on telephone kiosks

- 89.1 It was noted that BT had cancelled the Council's application to adopt the red telephone kiosk in Langthwaite. The notification letter from BT gave the reason for this as RDC's objection to the removal of the telephone. BT's letter had been poorly worded, but it was inferred from the letter that a working BT telephone would remain in the kiosk and therefore there would be no empty kiosk to adopt.

90/19 Correspondence received

The following correspondence was noted:

- 90.1 Update on NHS public consultation on the future of urgent care at the Friarage Hospital, Northallerton;
- 90.2 Police reports for November 2019 and December 2019;
- 90.3 An increase of 2.25% in YLCA/NALC 2020/21 subscription fees due in April. It was agreed to continue to subscribe;
- 90.4 Notification that YDNPA “parish forum briefings” were now available online at <https://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/about/living-and-working/parish-councils-and-forum-meetings/parish-forum-notes-and-briefings/>;
- 90.5 YDNPA application for International Dark Sky Reserve status in July 2020;
- 90.6 A request to support the Local Electricity Bill which, if made law, would empower local communities to sell locally generated clean energy directly to local customers. It was noted that the chair already signed up to the campaign;
- 90.7 Metropolitan Police Service counter terrorism advice for local events;
- 90.8 A call for applications to RDC Community Investment Fund for grants up to £50k. It was agreed to consider developing an application at the next meeting for matched funding with YDNPA for the reinstatement of the foot bridges in the dale;
- 90.9 The consultation process for YDNPA local plan 2023-2040. It was noted that it was worth submitting a response to ensure matters relevant to Arkengarthdale were voiced. Cllr Peacock would forward relevant information to the clerk for circulating to councillors **[Action:YP/SD/all]**;
- 90.10 YLCA Richmondshire branch meeting on 6 February 2020 in Richmond.

91/19 NYCC Highways

- 91.1 It was noted that, following the site meeting in November 2020 and an incident on Bouldershaw Lane, Highways had recently started work on Bouldershaw Lane and were due to begin work on the Stang road. The edges of the road between Reeth and Arkle Town had been finished. It was agreed that progress would be monitored and reported at the next meeting. **[Action: all]**
- 91.2 A broken street light on the bridge at Langthwaite had been reported and fixed promptly by RDC before Christmas, despite confusion over the lack of a reference number on the light. The number, which had been painted over, would be reinstated if possible to make future reporting easier. **[Action: SD]**

92/19 Planning matters

Councillors considered the following planning application: R/01/41B at The Corn Mill, Arkengarthdale, for full planning permission for demolition of the existing dwelling and erection of a new-build, two-storey dwelling. There were no objections.

93/19 Financial matters

- 93.1 The following expenditure was approved:

S.Coleman	grasscutting	£ 720.00
S.Dray	salary 2 months (nov/dec 2019)	£ 203.20
RDC	cost of uncontested election 2/5/19	£ 75.00
St Mary's Church	room hire 2/9/19 and 4/11/19	£ 30.00
Arbores/T.Hollingworth	flood-related tree work	£ 270.00
S Atkinson	IT maintenance and antivirus licence	£ pending
S.Dray	2019 expenses & Norton software	£ 35.94
S.Stubbs	Christmas lights and deer	£ pending

93.2 The following receipts were noted:

Two Ridings	anonymous flood donation	£2500.00
RDC	UDAP grant (laptop)	£ 467.12
G Jackson	flood donation	£ 500.00
S Harding	flood donation	£ 25.00

94/19 Christmas lights on High Green

Councillors had received a lot of positive feedback on the new Christmas lights, including the illuminated reindeer. A letter of thanks would be sent to the residents on High Green who had supplied the electricity. **[Action: SD]**

95/19 Website

95.1 It was noted that the annual maintenance fee (approx. £150) for the website was due and that it might be possible to apply to NYCC Locality Budget funding for two years' fees, since this budget had awarded the funding for the development of the website initially and required a minimum request of £300.

95.2 It was agreed that the website developers, VisionICT, would be contacted for details of what was covered in the annual maintenance fee and for the current price, and that this would be communicated to Cllr Peacock, who was responsible for the Locality Budget. **[Action: SD]**

96/19 Local matters

The following matters requiring attention before the next meeting were raised:

- Potholes on Arkle Town lane required attention;
- The sides of the road at Beck Crooks needed attention;
- The riverside road at Whaw had a dangerous drop off into the beck.

Cllr Peacock offered to follow these up with Highways **[Action: YP]**

97/19 Date of next meeting: Monday 2 March 2020

The meeting closed at 9.47pm.