

ARKENGARTHDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held remotely via Zoom in accordance with
The Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings) (England) Regulations 2020
Monday 7 September 2020 at 8.00pm

MINUTES

Present: Councillor P Harker; Councillor P Lundberg (Vice-Chair); Councillor R Stones; Councillor S Stubbs (Chair); Councillor J Watkins, District Councillor Good, and County Councillor Peacock.

In attendance: S Dray (Clerk)

Apologies for absence: None

40/20 Public session

There were no topics raised by members of the public.

41/20 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

42/20 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 3 August 2020 were confirmed as a correct record by the Council, and would be signed in due course by the Chair. **[Action: SD/SS]**

43/20 Flooding matters

- 43.1 It was noted that an application had been submitted to the Swaledale & Wensleydale Recovery fund, administered by The Two Ridings Community Foundation, for additional flood resilience work in the dale;
- 43.2 Cllr Peacock provisionally offered £1000 from the NYCC Locality Fund towards flood-related expenses. This funding would be confirmed at the end of September. Cllr Peacock was thanked for this generous offer which would make a considerable difference to the Council's small budget;
- 43.3 Notice of further extensions to Temporary Closure Orders to flood-damaged footpaths in the dale had been received from YDNPA and were noted. It was also noted that the installation of the new footbridge at Arkle Town was almost complete.

44/20 Correspondence received

- 44.1 Two letters of thanks received in July and August were noted. These were from the members of the congregation of St Mary's Church and from the Church Warden respectively, for organising the repairs to the road surface by the Church.
- 44.2 Complaints from several residents about inconsiderate visitor parking in Langthwaite were considered. It was agreed that it had been an exceptional year for visitors and that the number of new visitors had been larger than usual owing to Coronavirus travel restrictions. It was noted that general complaints could not be addressed unless a clear, specific issue was identified;
- 44.3 Complaints had been received about the access road on High Green being regularly blocked by cars outside Scar View. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to the new owners of the

property to ask them to find alternative parking arrangements as access was required at all times **[Action: SD];**

- 44.4 The police reports for July and August were noted;
- 44.5 The YDNPA Management Plan Annual Progress Report 2020 was noted;
- 44.6 The deadline of 25 September 2020 for submission of a response to the YDNPA Local Plan 2023-2040 Consultation No.2 and the importance of being involved in the consultation were noted. It was agreed that Cllr Peacock would share the response to the Local Plan from Wensleydale parish councils for Councillors to consider and to agree by email given the short time frame [Item 90.9/19 APCmin_200113 refers] **[Action: YP/all];**
- 44.7 A request from RDC to respond to a BT consultation on the removal of the payphone at Langthwaite was noted and considered. It was unanimously agreed to object to the removal of the payphone for the same reasons explained in the previous consultation last year. RDC would be informed **[Action:SD];**
- 44.8 A request was noted from Northern Powergrid for confirmation of ownership of land next to Whaw bridge on which an electricity pole would be replaced. A response confirming this as parish land had been sent, although this was not clear-cut according to the Land Registry map. It was agreed that the accuracy of the map would be investigated when time allowed.
- 44.9 A recent change of policy from RBL, who would now be making Remembrance Day wreaths available, was considered, and it was agreed that a wreath would be purchased and that the same amount would be donated for the wreath as last year (£25) **[Action: SD];**

45/20 Highways

- 45.1 Repair work being undertaken by NYCC at Whaw bridge was discussed. It was noted that the work was continuing without problems and further clearance work was still to be done under the bridge. Additional work to the retaining wall was required. It was also noted that Eskeleth bridge required attention and underneath needed clearing out. There was still a hole in the wall of the bridge on Stang Lane. These would be followed up. **[Action:YP];**
- 45.2 Two NYCC notifications of road closures on the Richmond and Leyburn roads for repair work to bridges at Cogden Beck and Cogden South (Grinton to Reeth) were noted;
- 45.3 A request from Highways for expressions of interest in virtual workshops to discuss highways issues was considered. It was agreed that this would not be of interest;
- 45.4 Potholes on Arkengarthdale Road between Langthwaite and the car park, and in Arkle Town were noted. These would be reported to Highways **[Action:SD];**
- 45.5 The issue of salt storage was considered as the Environment Agency had concerns about salt run-off. A permanent container was required if the gritting service was to continue. This would be followed up with NYCC **[Action:YP];**

46/20 Affordable Housing

It was noted that the sale of the school building had been agreed and was now underway with a private developer, and that UDCLT's bid for an affordable housing project had not been accepted. It was noted that this decision had been conducted legally, and that UDCLT had questioned the morality of the sale.

47/20 Planning applications

- 47.1 The following planning decision was noted:
Home Farm, Arkengarthdale R/01/120A: application approved conditionally;

- 47.2 The following planning application had been considered by email prior to the meeting:
R/01/132C/OH at Whaw Village, Arkengarthdale from Northern Powergrid (North East) Plc
for replacement poles and conductors. There were no objections.

48/20 Financial matters

The following expenditure was approved:

S. Dray	salary 2 months (Jul/Aug 2020)	£ 101.60 + £150.36
Volunteers	fuel reimbursements for Jun-Jul	£ 510.30
RBL	Remembrance day wreath	£ 25.00 [item 44.9 refers]

49/20 New pay scales for 2020-21

New pay scales for 2020-21 to be implemented from the start of the tax year (1 April 2020) had been agreed by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services. These were received and noted. The clerk would inform the accountants of this change to payroll. **[Action: SD]** It was agreed that the Chair would meet with the Clerk to resolve an ongoing discrepancy between the number of hours the job required and her contracted hours. **[Action: SD/SS]**

50/20 Website

A report from Google Analytics on the use of the website in the month of August was considered. It was agreed that, although the report was not easy to interpret, the number of visitors to the site was not large enough to merit the expense of the site in the longer term. It was agreed to return to using the RDC website next year.

51/20 Local matters requiring attention before the next meeting

- 51.1 Use of Booze-only bins by visitors : A complaint from a resident about visitors placing rubbish in the Booze residents' bins in Langthwaite car park had been investigated and councillors had come to the conclusion that all the bins, including the recycling bins, required emptying more often. Signage would be considered to make it clear that the Booze bins were not for public use. A mobile temporary CCTV camera would be requested from RDC to monitor the bins for one month. It was noted that holiday cottage businesses should be provided with orange bags for household waste. **[Action: RG];**
- 51.2 Grass-cutting: It was noted that the Parish Council paid to cut the grass verges although these were the responsibility of Highways, and this had contributed to the rise in grass cutting costs since 2018.
- 51.3 Notice board: It was agreed that a second key holder for the Parish Council notice board would be found, now that the previous key holder had left the village **[Action:SS]**.
- 51.4 Renovation of petrol pumps at Arkle Town: It was noted that this was ongoing. **[Action: PL]**
- 51.5 BT Fibre Broadband: It was noted that a survey had recently been undertaken in the dale by BT assessing the installation of superfast broadband.
- 51.6 Wind turbines: A query had been raised about a plan for wind turbines near Langthwaite. Councillors all agreed that they were not aware of any planning applications relating to this.
- 51.7 Volunteer delivery service: Councillors expressed thanks to all the volunteers who had provided a much appreciated daily delivery service for the residents of Arkengarthdale during lockdown, acknowledging the time and effort involved by all, and in particular Richard Smith, Neil Sivyer and Susan Dray.

52/20 Date of next meeting: Monday 2 November 2020.

The meeting closed at 10.02pm.