

Minutes of the Meeting of Skirlaugh Parish Council held on 26th June 2024

Present: Cllr. Johnston,(in the chair), Cllrs. Harrison, Navier, Richards.

Apologies for absence: Cllrs. McDonald, Wilson.

1. **A165 road safety issues:** Lianne Darbinson, ERYC Senior Engineer Traffic Management, attended at the invitation of the parish council to discuss ways to improve road safety on the A165 and improvements to the zebra crossing. She explained how data is collected and used to inform decisions on traffic management. It may be possible to carry out a speed survey. She will send details and links regarding the matters discussed.

2. The minutes of the meeting held on 29th May 2024, having previously been circulated, were taken as read.

- **Resolved** that the minutes should be approved and signed.

3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

(a) **Yew Tree:** this has been trimmed. It may need pruning every two years.

(b) **Festive Lighting:** ERYC has confirmed they will instal the control boxes for the motifs in due course.

4. **Grass Cutting, Playing Field**

It was agreed that the parish council would make a contribution towards the cost of a mower to cut the playing field rather than employ a contractor. A temporary contractor is cutting the field until the mower is received. It was agreed that the parish council will pay these invoices in place of the current contractor's charges. It was agreed that Cllr. Richards will speak to the previous contractor to confirm whether a refund is due; the invoice received for June will not be paid.

- **Resolved** that a donation of £5600 towards the cost of purchasing a mower, made under delegated authority in June, is approved.

5. **Churchyard Maintenance**

Several complaints have been received regarding the poor standard of grass cutting in the churchyard and new burial ground. This has been drawn to the attention of the contractor, also that the cut invoiced for 31st May had not been completed. It was agreed that two other contractors will be asked to quote for continuing this work. The path to the new burial ground can be slippery after wet weather.

6. **Tender Form for Grass Cutting Services**

Cllr. Navier has produced a revised draft. The detailed task list is to be reviewed. To be discussed at the next meeting.

7. **Skirlaugh School Reflection Garden**

A resident attended to ask whether the parish council would be willing to make a donation towards the cost of a planter for the reflection garden, which is to be improved with support from the PTFA. It was agreed that £500 will be donated.

- **Resolved** that in accordance with its powers under Sections 137/139 of the LGA 1972, the expenditure for a donation towards the purchase of a planter for the school reflection garden is incurred which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.

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8. Jubilee Wood

Two quotes have been received for replacing the broken fencing. Quote A £840. Quote B £1150, both excluding VAT.

- **Resolved** that Quote A is accepted.

A complaint was received about vegetation overgrowing into a neighbouring property. Plantec to be asked if they can attend to this. This task will be added to the maintenance plan for the wood.

9. Community Engagement

Cllr. Navier suggested the parish council should be more active in engaging with residents, such as explaining the role of the parish council, how problems, complaints and issues raised by residents are addressed. This can be done through the notice board, website and social media. Photographs and brief details of each councillor to be published. Cllr. Navier will summarise discussions at meetings for the Facebook page.

10. Planning Applications

- (a) A letter had been received from ERYC regarding additional information required in respect of the new pavilion. Passed to playing field chairman.
- (b) **24/01533:** non-illuminated sign, Lazy Bean cafe. No comments.

11. Highways and Grounds Maintenance

- (a) **D-Day planter:** this has been received and installed. Quotes for supply of soil to be sought from two suppliers. Quotes for supply of plants to be sought from three suppliers.
- (b) **Tree maintenance:** Plantec has tidied around the trees. Cllr. Johnston will contact Yorkshire Wildlife Trust for further advice.
- (c) **Litter bin:** Request received from a resident for a litter bin to be sited adjacent to the bench at Langdale Villas. Cllr. Johnston to take photos of the location. Clerk to contact ERYC.
- (d) **Salt bins:** ERYC has suggested the parish council checks the salt bins prior to the winter season as they will not do this as a standard process. Issues can be reported to ERYC.

12. ERYC Correspondence

- (a) Review panel survey: clerk to complete this.
- (b) Extension to Boundary Commission consultation to 9th September.

13. ERNLLCA Correspondence

- (a) Conference; Training day

14. Other Correspondence

- (a) Police crime plan consultation

15. Reports from Committee Representatives

- (a) Cllr. Harrison reported that he has contact PCSO Bainton, who will attend the next meeting.

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16. Payment of Accounts

Salaries	392.70	June
HMRC	400.00	PAYE 1 st quarter
AB Forestry	60.00	Tree pruning
Ionos	15.60	Councillor emails, domain renewal
Yorkshire Sawmill	451.14	D-Day planter
AFC Skirlaugh	5600.00	Donation for mower
Slate & Foxglove	240.00	Cutting playing field
Tony Cook Ltd	132.00	Jubilee Wood cutting

- **Resolved** that payment of these accounts is approved.
- **Resolved** that invoices for cutting the playing field and for grass cutting in the churchyard are not approved as the work has not been carried out as required.

17. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 24th July 2024 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.