

Minutes of the Meeting of Skirlaugh Parish Council held on 3rd March 2021

Present: Cllr. Corden (in the chair), Cllrs. Chapman, Conlon, Hakeney, Johnston, McDonald, Shanks, Stewart.

Apologies for absence: Cllrs. Beaumont, Kay, MacKee.

1. Open Forum

Two members of the public were in attendance.

2. Declarations of Interest

- Cllr. J. Stewart: minute no. 4 PTA funding; non-pecuniary as member of PTA
- Cllr. S. Chapman: minute no. 4 PTA funding; non-pecuniary as member of PTA

3. The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd February 2021, having previously been circulated, were taken as read.

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

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

(a) Website: business owners to be asked through social media whether they wish to be included on the website. Inclusion should be restricted to those offering services or essential items.

(b) Playing Field access: permission to use the PRow has been given by ERYC and Sanctuary Housing.

5. Funding for Skirlaugh School PTA

The PTA has raised £300.

- **Resolved** that match funding of £300 is given towards the Wellness Centre, in place of the contribution towards transport to swimming lessons as previously agreed.

6. Jubilee Wood

Application to Withernwick WFF was successful and £1000 has been received.

- **Resolved** that an order for tables and benches is placed in accordance with the application. The balance of approximately £1500 to be funded by the parish council.

Details of a litter bin costing £275 plus fixings £33.50 were previously circulated by Cllr. MacKee.

- **Resolved** that an application is submitted to Routh Wind Farm Fund for provision of a bin.

Enquiry received about provision of hedgehog houses. Clerk to reply that the parish council had not agreed to purchase ready-made houses.

7. Addition of Footpaths to Definitive Map

Details of consultation ref. PER/DM/Sch14/128/SKIR/Drg03 on the addition of the two footpaths near the Sun Inn.

- **Resolved** that the parish council supports this modification order.

Minutes of the Meeting of Skirlaugh Parish Council held on 3rd March 2021

8. Christmas Lighting

Cllr. Johnston reported that it may be possible to hire lighting annually; he is awaiting details of cost. The budget for lighting will be discussed at the FFP meeting to be held prior to the parish council meeting in May.

9. Mental Health Project

Details of proposals for this project had been circulated,. It was agreed that a one-hour initial Zoom meeting will be arranged for those wishing to be involved. Cllr. Conlon will co-ordinate this. He suggested that the parish council should have a policy to protect the mental health of its members, including minimising use of email communication between meetings and setting up a buddy system.

- **Resolved** that these suggestions are supported.

Cllr. Conlon suggested that as it is unlikely the church will now be able to start up a youth club in the near future that the parish council takes on this project, for which funding may be available. Agreed that Cllr. Conlon contacts ERYC to seek advice on what may be involved in setting up a youth club and that the young people in the village are asked what provisions they would like to have. This can be included in the Zoom meeting.

10. Grant Funding

Cllr. Conlon had attended a webinar organised by Idox which is a provider of funding solutions. Cllr. Conlon reported that for a fee of £1000/year, which can be split between three groups, Idox will advise on funding opportunities and help with applications. Cllr. Conlon will organise a meeting, if possible just before the May meeting, between Idox, parish council and other interested village groups

11. Declaration of Climate Emergency

Cllr. Johnston had circulated details of his proposal to declare a climate emergency.

- **Resolved** that Skirlaugh Parish Council declares a climate emergency. Cllr. Johnston will take on responsibility for this project.

12. Planning Applications

(a) **Appeal dismissed:** 20/00051, erection of 5 dwellings at Sun Inn.

(b) **20/1169, siting of Caravans at The Willows.** No comments.

(c) **Planning response policy:** It was agreed that information regarding applications received for consultation are included on the website. If there is a request from a parishioner for an application to be discussed by residents it will be included on Facebook.

13. Highways and Grounds Maintenance

(a) **Repair of clock:** Cumbria Clock will look at the lights when they attend to remove the parts to be replaced, then will provide a quote.

(b) **Planting:** Cllr. Conlon has contacted Plantec to request a quote for proposed planting works.

(c) **Gritting, salt bin:** Cllr. Corden and Kay will prepare a schedule for gritting work to be undertaken.

(d) **Bus shelter repair:** Mr. Kemp has been asked to look at remedial works needed to repair crack in wall.

Minutes of the Meeting of Skirlaugh Parish Council held on 3rd March 2021

13. Highways and Grounds Maintenance (contd.)

(e) **Notice board:** stickers had been fixed to the notice board and elsewhere. This was reported to ERYC and they have now been removed.

14. Physical meetings

Guidance received from NALC and ERYC for return to face to face meetings after 6th May, unless legislation for remote meetings is extended. The village hall has a risk assessment in place. Clerk to check NALC risk assessment for parish council and annual parish meetings.

15. ERYC Correspondence

(a) Devolution proposals; revised Model Code of Conduct: No comments.

(b) **Rathlin Energy:** copy correspondence from Jacob Birch re Environmental Impact Assessment.

16. ERNLLCA Correspondence

(a) **Model Design Code:** information from NALC regarding consultation and their response to proposed changes in planning regulations

17. Other Correspondence

(a) **St. Augustine's project:** update on funding application. Request to attend April meeting for further update; this was agreed.

18. Reports from Committee Representatives

(a) **Playing Field:** Cllr. Shanks reported that Wicksteed will be visiting the site tomorrow, following resolution of the issue with access.

(b) **Village Hall:** Cllr. Corden reported that the committee hopes to hold its AGM in May at which the new committee will take over.

(c) Cllr. Johnston attended a training session on basic understanding of planning.

(d) The Clerk attended a training session on internal controls. Suggested that an internal auditor who can carry out a more thorough audit is appointed.

19. Payment of Accounts

Salary	452.71	March salary
F. Kemp & Son	360.00	Gritting work
Lawn N Order	327.81	Cutting playing field
Plantec	885.00	6 months' planting and labour
Skirlaugh School PTA	300.00	Match funding

20. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 7th April 2021 at 7.30 pm by Zoom.