

Hirst Courtney & West Bank Parish Council

Minutes of the Hirst Courtney & West Bank Parish Council meeting, held on 7th January 2025, at 7pm, in the restaurant area of The Sloop Inn, Temple Hirst.

Present: Cllrs Wagstaff, Barratt, Harper, McGuigan, Stephenson, and Webster

In Attendance: H. Phillips – Clerk, and one member of the public.

73. Apologies for Absence

All Councillors were present at the meeting.

74. Declarations of Interest

No disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests were received.

75. Councillor Vacancy

- i) To consider any applications received via the co-option process for the present Councillor vacancy.

No applications have been received at present. Cllr Stephenson is to speak to a previously interested party to confirm whether they are still interested in the role, and will update the Council and clerk as soon as possible.

Resolved: That Cllr Stephenson update the Council on the decision of the previously interested party, after speaking with the person.

- ii) To consider the Councillor vacancy role should no applications be received since the meeting held on 19th November 2024.

Resolved: That an update and consideration be given by the Cllr's at the meeting scheduled for February 2025.

76. Minutes of the Parish Council

The Council considered the Minutes of the Parish Council held on 19th November 2024.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th November 2024 be approved.

77. Chair's Report

The Council received a verbal report from the Chair on events attended and matters to note since the meeting held on 19th November 2024, as follows: -

- The sad passing of past Vice Chair of the Parish Council, Mr Ian Forbes, was announced. Mr Forbes' funeral arrangements are noted as 17th January 2025, at 2pm. at Memoria Crematorium, Barnby Dun, with a gathering afterwards at The Sloop. It is requested that donations be given to the Yorkshire Air Ambulance; no flowers.
- The Chair noted that with the present high water levels of the river Aire he has been liaising with residents and the Environment Agency about the potential of flooding. A further assessment will take place during the morning of 8th January 2025, when a decision would be made as to whether the provision of sandbags is required.
- The Christmas tree lights need removing and storing. A suggested date of 12th January 2025 at 10am. was made. Cllrs Harper and Stephenson offered to assist.

Resolved: That

- i) **the Chair's verbal report be noted; and**
- ii) **the Christmas tree lights be removed and stored on 12th January 2025 at 10am. by Cllrs Wagstaff, Harper, and Stephenson.**

78. Clerk's Report

The Council received the clerk's verbal report on matters dealt with since 19th November 2024, as follows: -

- The Parish Council received a hand-written Christmas card from Keir Mather MP.
- The Environment Agency was contacted regarding their request for attention to the 'kissing gates' at the riverside, which they noted that the maintenance was the Parish Council's responsibility; this is not the case. No further correspondence has been received from them regarding the matter.
- The defibrillator has new pads and battery, and is in good working order; thanks to Cllr Barratt for completing the swap of consumables.

Resolved: That the clerk's report be noted.**79. Parish Matters**

79.1 There were no Questions/ Concerns/ Suggestions from the Public to consider.

79.2 The Council considered the provision of the cutting of the Parish verges for 2025-2026.

North Yorkshire Council contacted the Council to offer the rebate, should the Council choose to continue using a local service provider for cutting the verges. This rebate would be £90.58 for the year 2025-2026.

A discussion was held and it was agreed that the Council would take the offer of financial rebate from NYC.

Resolved: That the clerk inform NYC that the Council will take the financial rebate offer for 2025-2026 of £90.58

79.3 The Council considered the outstanding tasks required to be completed in the playpark, in relation to the quarterly inspection report received in December 2024.

A discussion was held and it was agreed that Streetscape should be engaged to replace the swing seat and missing caps, at a cost of £230.00 + VAT.

The clerk is to confirm whether any corrective work is required to the entrance gate closure, as the report appeared to conflict on this matter.

The Councillors attending the playpark to remove the Christmas tree lights on 12th January 2025 will assess and action the replacement of damaged timber to the picnic bench.

Resolved: That

- i) **Streetscape be contacted to request replacement of the swing seat and missing caps.**
- ii) **The clerk contact Streetscape to confirm the requirements of works to the gate closure noted in the inspection report; and**
- iii) **The Councillor assess and action replacement of damaged timber to the picnic bench on 12th January 2025.**

80. Finance Matters

80.1 The Council received the accounting reports up to 31st December 2024.

Resolved: That the accounting reports up to 31st December 2024 be approved.

80.2 The Council noted the payments outstanding and those made by the clerk under delegated authority.

Invoice Date	Customer Inv. No.	Payee	Payment Detail	Date Paid	Amount Due/ Paid	Payment Method (Incl. Cheque No.)
19/11/2024	I281670	Wel Medical Ltd	Defib Pads	19/11/2024	£143.88	Card
25/11/2024	14858	Autela Payroll Services Ltd	Payroll	25/11/2024	£90.66	BACS
11/12/2024	I282227	Wel Medical Ltd	Defib Battery	11/12/2024	£267.60	Card
25/12/2024	M9 Wk38	H Phillips	Clerk's December 2024 Salary	18/12/2024	£368.88	BACS
17/12/2024	Q3 - P32	HMRC	P32	18/12/2024	£10.20	BACS
04/12/2024	IN12055802	Npower	Streetlight Energy	24/12/2024	£256.30	BACS
20/12/2024	6299	Streetscape Ltd	Quarterly Playpark Inspection	30/12/2024	£120.00	BACS

80.3 The Council noted payment for the clerk's standard hours worked in November and December 2024.

81. Planning Matters

81.1 There were no Planning Applications received since 19th November 2024.

81.2 There were no Planning Decisions received since 19th November 2024.

81.3 There were no Planning Consultations received since 19th November 2024.

81.4 The Council received a verbal update from Cllr Barrett on the Enso Green Holdings D Ltd/ Helios meeting scheduled for 3rd December 2024 at 2pm at the Parsonage Hotel, Escrick.

Resolved: That no further action be presently required.

82. Training

No training requests were received since 19th November 2024.

83. Date of Future Parish Council Meeting: 18th February 2025.