

**Leavening Parish Council
Note of a Meeting held at
Leavening on Monday 11 April 2022 at 7.00pm**

1. **Present:** Cllrs: J Johnston (Chair), R. Ashworth, N. Audsley (Vice-chair), R. Chambers, L Hampson, S. McDermott, P. Schofield

In attendance: R. Chambers (incoming Cllr), C. Edwards (Parish Clerk)

- Cllr A. Hudson stood down in March 2022. The Parish Council thanked Ami for her work and contribution to the activities of the Parish Council.
- The Parish Council will be welcoming a new councillor from 9 May 2022: Cllr Robert Chambers.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

None, although it was noted that, under Item 5 'Planning Applications / Consultations' individual members of the Parish Council may be impacted by plans for the Ryedale District. However, it was agreed to defer this item to the meeting in May, when parishioners would be invited to give their views.

3. **Public session**

No members of the public were present.

4. **Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 10 January 2022, were confirmed as a true and accurate record. There were no matters arising that were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

5. **Planning Applications / Consultations**

Planning Application: 22/00131/FUL in relation to Whinfell Terrace had been circulated to the Parish Council. Parishioners had indicated some opposition to the plans and had been asked to articulate their objections directly to Ryedale District Council.

Submitted sites: A letter had been sent to the Chair on 5 November 2021 and this had been circulated to the Parish Council. It was felt that the details of the plans were not clear enough to enable comments to be made. However, the plans are part of a 5-year process and are quite radical so it is essential that the Parish Council formulate a view and submit a response to Ryedale District Council. It was agreed that the response should include input from the parishioners and therefore, the planning applications will be put to the village for their views at the Annual Assembly of the Electors.

Action: Include on the agenda for the May meeting (Parish Clerk)

The plans raise some key questions e.g. what does the village require in the longer term and what are its aspirations?

It was agreed that a clear response to the proposals is required, with 2-3 points for each planning application.

Action: Draft a newsletter / invitation for circulation to the village (Cllrs P. Schofield and J. Johnston)

6. Finance & Business

- a) The Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for 2021/2 will be due in July 2022. Information has been circulated by the YLCA. The Parish Council will complete the shorter return as required for small councils.

Action: Prepare the AGAR for submission in July 2022 (Cllr N. Audsley)

- b) Financial Information from committees: There has not been any major movements from any of the sub-committees since the meeting on 10 January 2022.

- The Play Area Committee still has £1k of funds remaining and has recently spent £150 on renovations to the play area but these are generally cosmetic. It has been noted that additional work is required to replace some of the structure but this cannot be done easily. The fence also requires replacement and will cost approximately £200 - £300.
- The Picnic Site Committee: there has not been any expenditure by this committee but an application to Ryedale District Council for the annual funding income is required for 2022/3.

Action: Cllr P. Schofield

It was noted that rural crime had been identified in the shape of identified hedge plants being stolen. This has been passed to Kelvin Hughes who runs the picnic site.

- The Events Committee: there has been no expenditure since the last meeting in January 2022 but it is planning events in relation to the Platinum Jubilee in June 2022 which will incur additional expenditure.
- c) The Parish Council received the bank statements since the previous meeting. Very little has been spent except payment for the following:
- A training course in January 2022
 - The Clerk's salary
 - Portaloos for the Platinum Jubilee event in the parish
 - Payment for the submission of the AGAR
 - Payment for the Defibrillator pads

Cllr S. McDermott circulates the forms for signatories on the bank accounts. It was noted that the Parish Clerk should carry out this role but until a new parish clerk is appointed, another councillor will need take on the role of signatory.

- d) Burial fees:
- Queries had been received recently from parishioners regarding the burial fees.

- Cllr S. McDermott has been doing some research to match the burial plots to names to create a record. There is no summary of fees to be charged. It costs more to purchase a burial site for someone who is not a member of the village - £300 more. In some cases, sites are reserved and pre-paid.
- The Parish Council has two bound books which provide the plot numbers, the name and the date.
- This matter has been discussed at previous Parish Council meetings a few years ago and it was agreed to locate those minutes.

The following actions were agreed:

- **Locate the minutes from previous meetings (Cllr N. Audsley)**
- **Respond to the queries received once there is more information available (Cllr L. Hampson)**
- **Prepare a register of burial fees and burial plots and a proposal for fees for agreement at the next ordinary Parish Council meeting (Cllr S. McDermott)**

7. Elections May 2022

All members of the Parish Council have been returned unopposed.

8. Speeding in the village

Cllr S. McDermott circulated VAS reports to the Parish Council.

a) Speed Signs:

One of the speeding signs is currently at Scagglethorpe and will be there for 2 months when it will be relocated to Birdshall. It was questioned by the Parish Council whether the 2-month allocation a suitable period for each village.

In addition, Leavening has its own sign located currently at Leavening Rise. It is planned to move this down to York Road to obtain some fresh traffic / speeding data and then to present this to parishioners.

Recent data collected indicated that:

- 308 vehicles passed the sign over a period of 3 months travelling between 30 and 40 mph.
- 85% of these were going at 30 mph or less.
- 95% are doing 35mph or less.

If vehicle length is lower than the specified length, the speed sign won't be activated and therefore won't be registered as part of the data.

It was noted that signs can provide speed data for cars leaving the village as well as those approaching it.

b) Twenty's Plenty:

It was proposed to obtain results from the speed camera and to use this and the data collected above to write a proposal for the village to consider '20's plenty' at the Annual Assembly of the Electors.

Action Cllr S. McDermott

9. **Preston Hill Housing Development**

It was proposed to bring this to the Annual Assembly of the Electors meeting in May 2022. It was originally planned to invite the Finance Officer from Ryedale District Council but there were some difficulty in aligning dates. It was agreed that Cllr P. Schofield would meet the Finance Officer in person at the council offices in Ryedale to determine the situation. It seems the funding remit is wide and any individual within the Leavening Parish can put forward a proposal.

Action: Cllr P. Schofield

10. **Noticeboards, Facebook and website**

These continue to be updated.

11. **Preparation for future meetings**

The Parish Council agreed to combine the following meetings:

- Annual Assembly of the Electors (to be held between 1 March and 1 June each year)
- The Annual Meeting of the Council, to be held between 10 May and 25 May 2022 this year

The date for the one combined meeting is **Wednesday 18 May 2022 at 7.00pm** in the Venerable Bede Church. This meeting will also swear in the Chair and the Vice Chair.

It was noted that Parish Council funds cannot be used to provide refreshments.

12. **Flooding in the village**

Although work had been carried out in December 2021 to rectify the flooding, this had not been resolved and the flooding is still present during periods of heavy rainfall.

The Parish Clerk had contacted the NYCC on 2 March 2022 to raise the issue with them again but no response had been received. It was agreed that the Clerk would follow up on this.

Action: C. Edwards

[The following response was received on 14 April 2022 from the NYCC:

The local highways officer and maintenance manager have recently met the resident and discussed the situation. They are planning to revisit the site during heavy rain to observe how rainwater is moving across the area. We are in contact with the resident and once our investigations are complete decisions will be made as to an appropriate course of action].

It was agreed that the Parish Council would contact the residents experiencing issues with the flooding.

Action: Cllr N. Audsley

13. **Golden Well Equipment**

The Parish Council is monitoring any concerns raised by residents in the village. The Parish Council will write to NYCC Highways with photos to ask them to enforce their

own rules regarding parking on junctions. It will also be pointed out that the grass cannot be cut because vehicles are parked there but the predominant concerns are those of the safety of passing vehicles and pedestrians.

Action: Cllr P. Schofield

14. Telephone box

Ryedale District council and British Telecom have confirmed that the telephone box in Leavening is active. The Chair, Cllr J. Johnston, will circulate a message on social media about this. The issue is now resolved.

Action: Cllr J. Johnston

15. Risk Assessments

The Parish Council reviewed the Parish Risk Registers. It was agreed to amend this to include GDPR and the website; the Parish Council owns the website and there are potentially issues with both GDPR and accessibility.

The Parish Council approved the Risk Registers subject to the inclusion of the risks associated with GDPR. The updated version will be circulated to the next ordinary Parish Council meeting.

Action: Update the Risk Registers and send to the Chair for approval, then circulate to a future meeting (Parish Clerk)

16. Platinum Jubilee

The Events Committee held a meeting on 9 March 2022 which included a general discussion on the Platinum Jubilee event to be held in the parish.

- The Jubilee picnic will be held from 2pm – 6pm on Sunday 5 June 2022.
- The event will be preceded by a fancy dress competition, starting at 1.30pm
- It was determined that the marquee is suitable for the event and the committee has permission to erect the marquee on the field.
- It was decided that parishioners and others attending the event will be invited to bring their own food for a picnic or similar. There will be a bar and a license has been obtained (soft drinks will also be provided).
- Graham Hargreaves will provide music on the day.
- The committee will ensure that they hold relevant insurance – this is provided by Ecclesiastical

The next Events Committee meeting will be held in the Jolly Farmer Inn on Wednesday 4 May 2022 at 8.00pm.

17. Issues relating to smaller councils

A letter had been received from the North Yorkshire County Council seeking issues that pertain to smaller councils. This had been circulated to the Parish Council. The Chair will follow up on this.

Action: Cllr J. Johnston

18. Questions to the Chair

There were no questions.

19. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 18 May 2022 at 7.00pm in the Venerable Bede Church.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm