



Minutes of the meeting of the Council

Wednesday 17 January 2024

At Clifford Village Hall

Present: Cllrs

Present: Cllrs N Fawcett, T Blackmore, I Bartlett, J Lund, S Park, L Softly, T Sykes and A Wills

In attendance: N Fairbairn (Clerk)

Public Participation

None

24/1 Apologies for absence

None

24/2 Crime Report

The following offences were recorded in Clifford in November 2023:

1 x vehicle crime

There was no PACT meeting in January 2024.

24/3 Declarations of Interest and Notifications of changes in the Members' Register of Interests

None

24/4 The minutes of the meeting held on 20 December 2023 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

24/5 Chairman's Business

- The Carols Around the Christmas Tree event on the 21st December 2023 was well attended. The Chairman thanked the councillors and volunteers who helped with the event and who helped with the removal of the Christmas tree.

24/6 Clerk's report

- Boston Spa Academy have agreed to a meeting to discuss concerns about the routes taken by school buses. It was agreed that Cllr T Sykes will take the lead on this.
- LCC have contacted St Luke's Church's solicitors regarding the drainage agreement.
- Councillors were reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure that their Register of Pecuniary Interest is correct. The clerk will circulate the advice from LCC about completing the forms.
- Archiving of Minutes. Clerk has the signed minutes from 2020 to date. It was agreed that the clerk will check with the WYAS whether they prefer loose or bound copies of the minutes for the archive.
- CAHA confirmed that all the tenants have paid their rent for 2024. There is one vacant plot. One vacated plot was not left in acceptable condition and their bond has not been returned to them.
- The Open Spaces Contracts will be approved at the February meeting.

24/7 Ward Councillor's Business

None

24/8 Neighbourhood Plan Community Projects & CIL Funding

- Access to Bramham Primary School.
The clerk was instructed to contact Ward Cllr Lamb to confirm that the improvements to the rear access to the school will take place as planned at Easter 2024. The TMWG have cleared vegetation from the footpath towards the school. Cllr Blackmore suggested that the vegetation by the path is sprayed back twice a year to avoid the path becoming obstructed.

24/9 Lead Members & Committee Representatives

- Boston Spa Academy. Students have been advised not to park on Clifford Moor Road. The Academy are working on a new travel plan with LCC and are also looking at plans for new footpath. A further meeting will be arranged with the Academy, Ward Cllrs and the council once the travel plan and footpath plans are prepared.
- Playground Redevelopment – a further quote from a supplier is awaited.

24/10 2024/2025 Budget and Precept

1. It was **resolved** to approve the 2024/2025 budget.
2. It was **resolved** to approve the 2024/2025 precept request of £40,635. This is a 4.8% increase and equates to an increase of £2.19 pa for a Band D property.

24/11 Purchase of land off South View, Albion Street, Clifford. The sellers' solicitors have confirmed that during the sellers' ownership no access has been required to the property by Yorkshire Water, or any other party relating to the services that cross the site. It was **resolved** to transfer £118,625 from the CCLA account to the Unity Trust account in anticipation of the sale completing before the next council meeting. Further funds will be transferred from the CCLA account once the total legal fees and disbursements are confirmed.

24/12 It was **resolved** to approve the cost of repairs to the CCSG pavilion roof of £370.00.

24/13 A quote for a mounting bracket for the mobile SID is still awaited and will be considered at the February 2024 meeting.

24/14 It was **resolved** not to approve the request from Thorp Arch Parish Council for the mobile SID, jointly owned by Clifford and Bramham Parish Councils, to become a shared assets for all the Parishes in the Wetherby Ward.

24/15 The investments options for the council's reserve funds were considered. It was agreed that the clerk will establish whether a further CCLA account can be set up and the issue will be considered further at the February 2024 meeting.

24/16 Planning matters

- a) Decisions known or received:
23/06785/FU Variation of condition 1 (approved plans) to previously approved planning application 21/10248/FU (Alterations including single storey front and two storey side extension; roof lights to front and rear; alterations to fenestration including new windows to front and rear; Juliet balcony to ground floor rear (resubmission of 21/06485/FU to amend details)) for alterations including changes to windows and doors; additional windows and roof lights; changes to internal layout at Low Farm Barn, High Street, Clifford. Withdrawn
- b) To receive an update on Planning Applications considered by the Planning Working Group
None
- c) Enforcement
None

24/17 Financial Matters

- a) The following receipts were noted :

i	BACS	CCLA Dividend	1,792.32
ii	Cash	Christmas Carol Collection	185.33
iii	BACS	Allotment rents	1076.00
iv	BACS	Allotment bonds	150.00

- b) It was **resolved** to approve the following payments:

		Payee	Amount (excl VAT)	VAT	Total	Sec 137
i	BACS	Clerk's Salary	629.20		629.20	

ii	BACS	Yorkshire Children's Charity	185.33		185.33	185.33
iii	BACS	David Medley (PA Hire – carol service)	40.00		40.00	
iv	BACS	J Buglass (refund allotment bond plot 7 a)	50.00		50.00	
v	DD	Unity Trust (bank fees)	18.00		18.00	
v	BACS	A P Dundas (CCSG roof repairs)	370.00	74.00	444.00	

- c) The bank reconciliations and managements were received and the bank balances as at 31 December 2023 were noted as:

Unity Trust Bank	£ 70,584.45
Santander Deposit Account	£ 57,377.92
Santander Bond	£ 27,304.60
CCLA Public Sector Deposit	£ 414,327.82
Total	£ 571,386.77

24/18 Correspondence Updates (other than that relating to specific agenda items)

- Resident re overgrown hedge on Chapel Lane. It was noted that there are several hedges which are overgrown and obstructing footpaths. It was agreed that the clerk will contact the relevant property owners and, if they are not cut back, LCC will be notified.
- Resident re dog waste on Bellwood Avenue and by the Albion. It was noted that LCC Dog Warden can be notified of the issue but, due to limited resources, it was unlikely that they will take any action. It was agreed that the council will install additional notices informing owners to clean up after their dogs. The option of installing dog waste bag dispensers will be considered at the February 2024 meeting.
- YLCA re 80th Anniversary of D Day – for info only
- Torp Arch PC re the mobile SID. Considered at agenda item 14.
- Hedgehog Highways. Request to make gardens more accessible to hedgehogs. It was noted most gardens in Clifford are hedgehog friendly accessible. Information will be included in the next edition of Outlook.
- Garforth Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group – querying the whether the council considered that the Neighbourhood Plan was effective at influencing planning decisions. It was noted that the Plan provides a useful template when responding to planning applications and can be influential. However, LCC do not always follow the policies in the plan when determining Planning Applications. The clerk will respond.

24/19 Next Meeting

It was noted that any reports/agenda items for the Meeting to be held on 21st February 2024 need to be with the Clerk by Tuesday 13 February 2024.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20.27 pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....