



Minutes of the meeting of the Council

Wednesday 21st February 2024

At Clifford Village Hall

Present: Cllrs N Fawcett, T Blackmore, R Bray, S Park, L Softly, T Sykes and A Wills

In attendance: N Fairbairn (Clerk), 2 residents

Public Participation

- i) A resident set out an indicative proposal for development of land off Rhodes Lane/Clifford Moor Road. The proposal includes an affordable local occupancy housing scheme (10 properties) and a donation of land for development of a football pitch for use by Clifford FC. Councillors noted that the plot is green belt land which can only be developed in limited circumstances. The LCC Local Plan includes a policy that there should be no development which would close the strategic gap between Clifford and Boston Spa. It was also noted that there is a need for affordable housing though concern was expressed about increased traffic on Rhodes Lane.

The resident was thanked for attending the meeting to outline their proposals at an early stage. The resident was advised to obtain pre-planning application guidance from LCC.

24/20 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Lund and Bartlett. It was **resolved** to approve their reasons for absence.

24/21 Crime Report

The following offences were recorded in Clifford in December 2023:

1 x Vehicle crime

250 offences were recorded in the Harewood and Wetherby Wards during December 2023 and January 2024. Most of the offences took place at HMP Wetherby. A police speed enforcement operation took place in the Wetherby Ward on the 6th January 2024. 18 motorists were either charged or received a warning.

24/22 Declarations of Interest and Notifications of changes in the Members' Register of Interests

Cllr Fawcett declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 10.

Cllr Blackmore declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 20b 24/00164/FU/NE

24/23 The minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2024 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

24/24 Chairman's Business

- Cllr Park has received an invitation to the Royal Garden Party on 21st May 2024 in recognition of her work as a Clifford Councillor.

24/25 Clerk's report

- Cllr Lamb has confirmed that the improvements to Bramham Primary School rear entrance are still scheduled to go ahead in the summer 2024 holidays. LCC Highways have provided the amended plans for the work.
- The clerk attended the Town & Parish Forum where a briefing was given by a LCC Planning Officer. LCC are intending to introduce a template for planning responses and will be offering training to councillors re the Local Plan and for making submissions to the Plans Panel.
- A number of dead pigeons were dumped on the side of Cinder Lane. This was reported to LCC who have removed them.

24/26 Ward Councillor's Business

Apologies were received from the Ward Councillors as they were attending the LCC Budget meeting.

24/27 Neighbourhood Plan Community Projects & CIL Funding

- Cllr Blackmore is arranging a meeting with a LCC Highways officer to discuss the hedge on Bramham Road with a view to cutting it back ensure the footpath is not obstructed.
- A quote of £5214 +VAT has been obtained for replacing the guttering and fascia boards at CCSG Pavilio. This will be considered at the March meeting.

24/28 Lead Members & Committee Representatives

- Cllr Fawcett attended a meeting with LCC to discuss a number of planning issues relating to the Boston Spa Academy. The Academy had been invited to attend but did not do so. LCC Planning Enforcement have advised the Academy that 12 planning conditions which have not been fulfilled. There needs to be an agreement put in place for highways to install the agreed footpath. It was noted that the former caretaker's bungalow is being demolished at easter and this will create an additional 8 parking spaces on site.
- Several residents have complained about school buses travelling though Clifford. It is though these may be going to Wetherby High School.
- War Memorial. The clerk was instructed to contact LCC Council to request that the street signs by the memorial are either cleaned or replaced. Cllr Fawcett is contacting Yorkshire Water to request that the water hydrant signs by the memorial are moved.

Cllr Fawcett left the meeting and Cllr Blackmore took over as chairman in his absence.

24/29 The tenders for the Open Spaces contracts for 2024 were considered.

It was **resolved** to renew the contracts with the existing contactors, WVGM, S Baxter and KJE Landscape & Garden Services.

Cllr Fawcett rejoined the meeting and resumed as chairman.

24/30 Playground Working Group

1. It was noted that Glennis Allan and Martin Jones have been co-opted onto the Working Group as representatives of the Village Hall.
2. Approval of an advert in Outlook for the playground consultation was deferred to the March meeting.
3. Approval of a request to the Ward Councillors for funding was deferred the March meeting.

24/31 It was **resolved** to approve the drainage easement agreement between LCC and St Luke's Church to allow St Luke's to access the drain at Northways carpark.

24/32 It was **resolved** to purchase 4 dog waste bag dispensers, the location to be confirmed at the March meeting.

24/33 It was **resolved** to transfer the funds from the Santander deposit account and the Santander Business Bond Maturity account to a CCLA Public Sector Deposit account. The clerk will check whether CCLA will allow additional signatories on the account (s)

24/34 It was **resolved** to approve the cost of a mounting bracket for the mobile SID [£38.99].

24/35 It was **resolved** to hold a community litter pick at 10am on Saturday 20th April 2024.

24/36 It was **resolved** to arrange defibrillator training in May 2024. The clerk will contact the WY NHS Ambulance Trust to arrange this. It was agreed to consider adopting a Disaster Recovery Policy at the March meeting.

24/37 It was **resolved** to approve the cost of binding the 2020-2023 minutes and thereafter to deposit the minutes at the WYAS

24/38 Purchase of land off South View, Albion Street, Clifford. Final clarification is awaited about the right of access to the plot. Once this is confirmed the clerk will sign and return the contract and arrange for transfer of the purchase money to the council's solicitors.

24/39 Planning matters

- a) Decisions known or received:

23/05945/COND Consent, agreement or approval required by Condition 16 of Planning Application 23/00533/FU at Martin House Childrens Hospice Grove Road, Boston Spa Approved.

23/07002/COND Consent, agreement or approval required by condition 3 of Planning Application 23/04231/FU - 70 High Street Clifford. Approved.

- b) To receive an update on Planning Applications considered by the Planning Working Group 24/00164/FU/NE Erection of porch to front Site ay 36A Bay Horse Cottage, High Street Clifford. No objection.

23/06620/FU/NE Change of use of land, demolition of existing garage/workshop and provision of a modular timber lodge to form a new dwelling together with new vehicle site access, associated gravel driveway and paved terrace area at Land Off Bramham Road, Clifford. Noted that the Council has previously objected to the application.

- c) Enforcement
Westfield House. A notice has been issued to the owner to take down the workshop. They have advised to contact the Ward Councillors in relation to this.

24/40 Financial Matters

- a) The following receipts were noted :

i		CCLA Dividend	1,862.02
ii		CAHA (plot 7b rent and bond)	70.00

- 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	CAHA (hedge cutting)	60.00		60.00	
iii	BACS	K J E Landscape & Garden Services	600.00		600.00	
iv	BACS	WVGM (Allotment grass cutting)	40.00		40.00	
v	BACS	Gallagher Insurance	50.00		50.00	
vi	BACS	ScrewFix (Christmas lights socket)	19.94	3.99	23.93	
vii	BACS	Gary Germain (repair to village sign)	45.00		45.00	
viii	BACS	Cllr Blackmore (mobile SID bracket)	38.99		38.99	

- c) The bank reconciliations and managements were received and the bank balances as at 31 January 2024 were noted as:

Unity Trust Bank	£	188,556.92
Santander Deposit Account	£	57,377.92
Santander Bond	£	27,304.60
CCLA Public Sector Deposit	£	299,356.82
Total	£	572,596.26

24/41 Correspondence Updates (other than that relating to specific agenda items)

- Food for Families request for funding - no respond required
- Grants for NE Community Energy Fund – for information only
- Resident re speeding on the High Steet – it was agreed to use the mobile SID to monitor speeds at the end of the High Street.
- LCC Local Plan Site Allocation – for information only

24/42 Next Meeting

It was noted that any reports/agenda items for the Meeting to be held on 20th March 2024 need to be with the Clerk by Tuesday 12th March 2024.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.19 pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....