

Minutes of a Meeting of Middleham Town Council held in Middleham Key Centre on Wednesday, 27 June 2018 at 7.00 pm. (SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT NEXT COUNCIL MEETING)

Present

Cllr Mrs H Byford, Cllr Mrs L Stocker and Cllr Mr D Slay.

Clerk, Mr D Keep

Members of the public present as shown on the attendance sheet.

Action

1. Open Forum.

In the Mayor's absence on annual leave, the Vice Chair Cllr Byford took the chair and opened the meeting.

She reminded those present that public participation was permitted at the start of a meeting only and was limited to 15 minutes. Questions or statements would be restricted to items on the agenda and any matters not on the agenda should have been raised in advance.

Residents drew attention to the poor state of the dog waste bin on Canaan's Lane that was pending replacement which was now broken so that bagged waste fell to the floor. Mr Hopper offered to place a spare black bin beside if RDC would empty it. The Clerk agreed to put this helpful suggestion to RDC.

Clerk

Residents asked whether the current pattern of dog bin collections could be increased in frequency as they were often over-full. The Clerk would also submit this request to RDC.

Clerk

A resident asked regarding the provision of activities for young people, particularly those aged 13 to 16 over the school holidays. Cllr Byford replied that this was primarily a responsibility for NYCC's youth services team but that it would be possible to make some enquiries. It was noted that the Police and NYCC were promoting an activity programme for young people, Lifestyle 2018.

2. Apologies.

Cllrs Mrs S Fairhurst, Mr M Cade, Mr J Kirkbride and Mr S Wheeler had submitted apologies.

Standing order 3.o.was noted to state that 'No business may be transacted at a meeting unless at least one-third of the whole number of members of the council are present and in no case shall the quorum of a meeting be less than three'. Accordingly a quorum was present and the meeting was able to proceed to business.

3. Declarations of interest regarding items on the agenda.

Cllr Slay declared an interest in agenda item 7 as an applicant and Cllr Byford in agenda item 6.7 as an employee of NYCC's highways team. No other interests were declared in matters on the agenda.

4. Minutes.

4.1 Minutes of the previous council meetings

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the Council meetings held on 23rd May 2018 and 27 June 2018 as a true and accurate record of those meeting.

4.2 The schedule of agreed actions. Detailed review was deferred until a subsequent meeting.

5. Confidential and Urgent Items. There were no urgent or confidential matters for consideration at the current meeting requiring recording in the confidential minute.

6. Information/Decision Required

6.1 Councillors report of meetings attended and actions undertaken since the previous meeting.

6.1.1 Richmond (Yorks) Area Constituency Committee, 13 June. Cllr Byford reported upon her attendance at the inaugural meeting of the reconstituted local area committee which was now aligned with parliamentary constituencies. Its remit was to facilitate District representatives holding the Council to account on matters such as education and highways. The meeting had primarily been concerned with procedural matters. Cllr Byford did not feel that MTC attendance at future meetings was essential but each agenda should be reviewed for content to determine if relevant.

6.1.2 YLCA annual Richmondshire branch meeting, 7 June. The Clerk reported upon the annual branch meeting which had re-elected the same officers and received a presentation from the Yorkshire Air Ambulance. Branch officials and other councils shared the Clerk's experience that the recent annual return process had been unduly time consuming.

6.2 Land Management Issues. There were none.

6.3 Review of Health & Safety matters (standing item). The Clerk reported that EDC's Environmental Health Officer had visited the householder where rats had been reported and provided advice on the proper disposal of household waste. There had been no further reports of rats in the West End and The Clerk would make enquiries through neighbours and RDC's environmental health team to receive further assurance that there would not be repetition in that location. The Clerk would also ascertain the identity of the landlord of the property in the West End.

Clerk

6.4 Project Updates:

6.4.1 Option agreement over land on Leyburn Road. Recent email communication with the other side's lawyers enclosing a draft agreement that simply reinstated previous amendments had been circulated. It was agreed to ask Savills and Scotts to arrange a meeting with the lawyers and Mr Gillhespy to progress the negotiations and avoid repetitive emails exchanges. The Clerk would write to Mr Scott accordingly.

Clerk

The relevant outline planning application was noted to be still awaiting decision and The Clerk would obtain an update on timescale from RDC.

Clerk

6.4.2 Burial Ground. There were no matters to report. Cllr Byford suggested that a Councillor should be assigned to work closely with the Clerk on this key project and proposed Cllr Slay for this role. This was agreed.

Cllr Slay

6.4.3 MSCWA. Mr Hopper, a member of the MSCWA management committee,

provided a detailed overview of recent activity to ensure the playing field's viability. The salient points were as follows:

- A key priority was to convene a quorate EGM to adopt a revised constitution; the existing quorum required attendance by a committee members and so far this had not been possible;
- The revised constitution would incorporate policies on matters such as equal opportunities that external funders expected to see;
- Generation of additional income: Bookings for 3 events had been received; Some interest had been shown by Leyburn FC;
- Walking football and a running track on a mown and rolled area were potential new activities; community views on removing grass on the old tennis courts would be sought;
- There had been positive feedback on the new 5-a-side football posts;
- Grounds and buildings maintenance was ongoing;
- Mr Hopper would donate a marquee;
- Thanks were expressed to the work undertaken by volunteers.

Cllr Byford thanked Mr Hopper for his comprehensive report.

6.5 Events in Middleham (standing item)

6.5.1 Richard III Festival. Cllr Byford provided an update on arrangements for the 2018 event. By comparison to previous years, ticket sales were down and the event was likely only to break even rather than generate a surplus, although there would be a final push for ticket sales over coming days. She had recently communicated to participating RIII groups to generate discussion on a sustainable way forward that would reduce the workload burden on the organisers, including possibly being held less frequently than annually.

6.6 Council Priorities and Workload Planning. A schedule of all talks and duties currently undertaken by the Clerk and Councillors had been distributed. It was agreed to defer a detailed discussion until a later meeting when all Councillors would be present.

6.6.1 **Highways Issues and Resurfacing.** No response had been received from Mr Bethell of MTA to an email sent to him expressing disappointment that he had not invited the town council to a meeting he had convened between racing trainers and Richard Marr, MYCC's Richmondshire Area Highways Manager, to discuss options for improving the road surface for horse traffic. Mr Marr had separately confirmed that he had been unaware of who else would attend (except the County Member). He had undertaken to draw up a proposal from the group to reduce the risk of horses slipping so that it could be priced and informally consulted upon, although there was no funding for this work. He had assured that the Town Council would be a key consultee in this process. Cllr Byford suggested that a bespoke road surface could be developed by local partners in construction and university in support.

6.7 Leyburn Town Plan. Copies of the plan had been received and placed in reception area at MKC. It was agreed to provide a link to the plan on the MTC website and Cllr Slay would drop a number off at the hospitality venues in the Town.

**Cllr Stocker/Cllr
Slay**

It was felt that development a plan for Middleham should be looked into, although there was recognition of the significant workload involved.

7. Planning

7.1 Planning decision notices received since the last meeting:

7.1.1 Listed Building Consent and Advertising Consent, The Dante Arms Market Place Middleham Leyburn North Yorkshire DL8 4NP, references 18/00210/LBC and

18/00208/AA respectively. GRANTED.

7.2 Planning Applications.

7.2.1 Grading and drainage channels on land to rear of Ashgill buildings, provision of rear access, parking areas, construction of oil tank compound, planting, landscaping and ancillary works (part retrospective) at Ashgill, Tugill Park, Coverham R/60/7E. This application was previously reviewed by means of an urgent matter not on the agenda for the meeting held on 7 June 2018 when an objection had been submitted. The Clerk had been in contact with the Principal Planning Officer for Yorkshire Dales National Park and a meeting will take place regarding common concerns with applications submitted by the operators of Forbidden Corner.

Clerk

7.2.2 Erection of stable on land to the rear of 3 Dairy Cottages, Coverham Lane, Agglethorpe, DL8 4TQ. R/60/41. No objections.

7.2.3 Alterations and Conversion of Existing Outbuilding to Form Ancillary Accommodation at East View Cottage, East View, Back Lane, Middleham, DL8 4PA 18/00386/FULL. Having declared an interest at the start of the meeting as the applicant, Cllr Slay took no part in this discussion and the meeting was declared not to be quorate. Cllrs Byford and Stocker noted that the dimensions were not shown on the proposed plans and wished to see a maximum height specified for the roof apex. They would not wish to see roof windows in the west-facing roof as this might cast light on the neighbouring property. Subject to these comments Cllrs Byford and Stocker were however minded to approve. It was agreed to seek input from absent Councillors before responding.

Clerk

7.3 Potential Planning Enforcement Issues. There were no matters to report.

8. Finance – Information/Decision required

8.1 Full bank reconciliations as at 30 April 2018 and 31 May 2018 had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED to approve the schedule of direct debits and internet bank transfers to approve and ratify all payments since the last Meeting as set out on the payments schedule and to approve Items of Expenditure as submitted to the meeting.

9. Central & Local Government Communications.

9.1 Documents that have been emailed or circulated to Cllrs since the last meeting.

9.1.1 YLCA White Rose Update.

10. Correspondence, shared information and suggested items for the next agenda.

10.1 It was agreed to circulate details of the 'Side by Side' dementia awareness programme.

Clerk

Date and time of the next meetings: The next monthly meeting shall be held on Wednesday 25 July 2018.

It was noted that the Clerk would be on annual leave on Tuesday 3 June and 3 days week commencing Tuesday 17 July and accordingly the office would be closed and arrangements for providing some cover might be required.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.20 pm

Signed.....Date.....