

ASENBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the above named Parish Council held on
THURSDAY 23RD FEBRUARY 2023 at Topcliffe and Asenby Village Hall at 7.00 PM

Present:-

Councillors M Sollitt (Chairman), D. Cockburn, S Hazelton, C Grimston

Parish Clerk P Palmer

Three members of the public.

1) ELECTION OF NEW CHAIRMAN

It was noted that the previous Chair, Councillor Rawden, had resigned from the Council in December. It was proposed by Councillor Cockburn and seconded by Councillor Hazelton that Councillor Sollitt be elected as Chair. This was unanimously agreed.

It was noted that Councillor Gallon had also resigned in December, and that Councillor Fox had resigned with effect from today's date. The resigning Councillors were thanked for their contributions to the Council.

The Chair welcomed recently co-opted Councillors Hazelton and Grimston to their first meeting.

2) APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from NYCC Councillor N Brown and Harrogate BC Councillor S. Green.

3) APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr. Cockburn and seconded by Cllr. Sollitt that the minutes of the meetings held on 14th November 2022 and 16th February 2023 be accepted as a true and fair records and signed by the Chairman. The attendees of those meetings agreed.

4) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5) MATTERS ARISING AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were matters arising from the last meeting, and the Chair agreed that matters involving public participation would to be dealt with under their specific agenda items

6) REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL COUNCILLORS

There were no reports from external Councillors.

7) FOOTPATHS

- i) The replacement hedge next to Appletree Cottage is still in the process of being specified.
- ii) A member of the public outlined plans for the fencing of fields previously covered under an old Countryside Stewardship scheme, situated close to the Asenby Allotments. The Council thanked the tenant of the land for the detailed update.

8) ASENBY INSTITUTE

At the previous meeting in February, the dilapidated state of the seat by the bus stop at the bottom end of the village was raised by a member of the public. Following the closure of Asenby Institute, the Chair of the Institute indicated that with the surplus money remaining, the Institute would fund the replacement of the seat. The Parish Council thanked the Institute for their generous gesture.

9) PLANNING

The revised plans for the extension to the Forge have been approved by Harrogate Council.

10) PLAYING FIELD

- i) The correspondence with the neighbouring residents regarding access is still ongoing.
- ii) The Clerk reported that Harrogate Council had replied to the query regarding the covenant inserted in their 2001 agreement with the Parish Council regarding the restriction of use on the playground to a “casual leisure area”. They confirmed that Harrogate Council would not enforce this covenant to exclude the use of some of the land for allotments.
- iii) Following from (ii) above, consideration should be given to formulating a questionnaire for distribution to every resident covering all potential future uses for the playground.

11) VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

- i) The tender from Farm and Land Services Ltd for grass-cutting services for 2023 was accepted.
- ii) It was agreed that the tree surgeon should be approached to re-quote for the removal of any loose branches from the lime tree.
- iii) BT are to be approached to give an indicative cost for the re-siting of their telegraph pole whose lines pass through the chestnut tree.

12) DALTON INDUSTRIAL ESTATE/HGV MOVEMENTS

Contact has been made with Topcliffe Caravan Site to remind them of the restriction on the routes they must use when transporting large loads.

13) DEFIBRILLATOR

The Clerk confirmed that our defibrillator’s software is the up-to-date version following a national warning over problems with some older machines.

14) ALLOTMENTS

A member of the public has researched the ownership of the allotment land on the Rainton Road, and it would appear that following the sale of land in the vicinity of Asenby, the Asenby Allotment land is now “not registered” with the Land Registry. It was agreed that the Parish Council should obtain its own independent confirmation of the ownership status from the Land Registry and the Rockcliffe Trust, and meet separately with the member of the public to discuss the situation.

15) FINANCE, CHEQUES AND COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION

- i) Payments listed on the agenda were approved.
- ii) **HSBC Community Account at 23rd February 2023 £ 5,094.67**
HSBC Business Money Manager at 23rd February 2023 £ 2,549.92

Following the payments listed on the agenda, the balance on the Community Account will reduce to £4,210.33.

Next meeting date to be confirmed.