

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020

	<b>Present</b>
Parish Councillors:	J Asquith; S Cross; C Gill; J Kennedy; I Marr; N Pocklington; R Ryde
District Councillors:	C Les; M Barningham
County Councillor:	
<b>Apologies:</b>	A Wilkinson; J Noone

15) **Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair thanked everyone for attendance in this our very first virtual meeting and noted the apologies.

16) **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest received at this stage but would be declared for any relevant items.

17) **Covid-19**

The clerk stated that the parish had been receiving various updates from NYCC, YLCA and other government source and these had and will continue to be sent to Councillors when appropriate.

The Chair stated that they had hoped a normal meeting would be possible but after advice from various sources it has been come clear virtual meetings may be the only way forward at present. The clerk had been requested to investigate various options to ensure the meetings are easy for members and residents to attend.

18) **Clerk / Councillor Matters**

The Chair requested a councillor to volunteer to be involved with the clerk's appraisal along with himself. A requested to arrange a suitable date for herself, Cllr JA and himself to complete this task.

**Action: Clerk to arrange suitable date for appraisal.**

19) **Minutes from all meetings dated 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

The minutes accepted as a true and accurate record.

**Resolved**

20) **Matters Arising / Action from last meeting not on this agenda.**

Ref 19/20	Person	Details	Action taken
134	Clerk	<u>Aiskew Bank lighting</u> Clerk to continue to try and resolve asap	Email to Highways 20/7/20 On the Agenda
142	Clerk	<b>Highways</b> <u>Land between Church and Cottages on Bedale Road</u> Clerk to email Highways to find out how this can be enforced include Cllr AW	Email Highways again Sleepers are in place to stop parking Completed
4		<b>Clerk / Councillor Matters</b> Outstanding Clerks Appraisal.	On the Agenda

10	Clerk	<u>Playgrounds</u> 1. Freemans Play Area The bench is to be mended by Farm and Land Services as soon as possible.  3. Mattison Play Area Organise letter and poster. Also quotation for steel railings around this area	Completed On the Agenda  On Agenda
14	Clerk	<u>Councillors Reports</u> 1. <u>VAS</u> The Vas sign in Leeming Bar is not working and hasn't since it was put in place in Leeming Bar. Cost of new VAS? How is that managed when moving around or turning off and on? Cost of usage?  2. <u>Signage for Aiskew</u> This still has not been completed.  3. <u>Repeater 30mph</u> Contact Highways to see if this can be put in place in Aiskew / Leeming Bar  4. <u>Weight Restriction Notice on roundabout near Corner House Hotel.</u> The notice states a weight restriction but with access and therefore is being abused by some drivers because of this. Can this be changed?	Clerk to continue discussions to offer 66/33 split on VAS with Exelby, Leeming and Londonderry PC.  Completed except for Highways England sign that is still under discussion via Cllr.AW  Chair to forward information to clerk to try and take this further with Highways. <b>Action Required</b>  Clarification on difference between the two cases and answered by Cllr AW <b>Action required</b>

21)

**External Sector Reports**

**1. Police Report**

A report had been circulated before the meeting to all councillors. The main issue this month had been vandalism in both Freemans Way and Mattison Play Area. The police had been to local houses in both areas but without success but they will continue to try and monitor the play areas but requested residents contacted them immediately of any damage. The Police wanted to thank Cllr. JK in her continued role to promote action by residents to the police. The councillors were advised that the camera at the Co-Op is 360° but doesn't always get everything but when it does the images are very clear.

**2. County Council Report**

Cllr. CL and all councillors wanted to initially congratulate Cllr. MB on becoming the Chair of HDC yesterday.

Cllr.CL stated that the back school figures were very encouraging at 88% with teacher and leaders working to insure the number returning to school were high. There are some cases of parents exercising caution due to the pandemic. NYCC has had a couple of Covid-19 spikes in Selby and Harrogate.

*Question IM: I had witnessed in Richmond at school release time some 200-300 children and parents from various schools with none of them Social Distancing. Can different schools be encouraged to have different end of day times. Perhaps a 30min interval between schools closure times?*

*Answer: Cllr.CL stated he would feed that back into the relevant system.*

Although Cllr AW was not available the following message had been sent:

**1. Update on the ownership of the road going up to Leases Hall.**

Leases Hall – Richard Christon advises me that it was established at the site meeting that this section of road is part of the public highway. The cost to break up the existing carriageway and reinstate it as a verge, to prevent vehicles from parking here, would be £7,000. This is including the cost of providing topsoil but the overall cost may be reduced if the topsoil is provided free of charge by an adjacent landowner, which I believe was discussed as possible at the recent site meeting. We would be looking for this cost to be covered by the landowner and possibly via a contribution from your Locality Budget. Engineers are also looking to extend the clearway order to Leases Hall which would make it an offence to park here, but of course this is likely to be less effective than physically removing the carriageway completely as it would require parking enforcement.

**3. District Council Report**

Cllr. MB stated that the major item was the current restructure of NYCC that is being overseen by government inspectors. How the council will look in the future is still not clear but due to be implemented by 2022. At present County and District have different views but hopeful a way forward will become clearer in the near future.

Cllr.CL stated that there are a number of video presentations available via the county website with opportunity to leave suggestions or questions.

The PSPO is being enforced with a number of tickets being given out.

The other issue is the refurbishment of Bedale Leisure centre with £134K being spent by HDC on new equipment.

25) **Burial Board**

The Burial Board had met and had discussed the maintenance of the trees around various parts of land, the implications and issues that may arise between the board and the church regarding their maintenance. The board also discussed the maintenance of Headstones in the older part of the church grounds.

The other main issue discussed was the precept that at present is disproportional between Bedale and Aiskew Leeming Parish Councils. The number of residents in Bedale always outnumbered those in Aiskew Leeming Bar but due to new buildings the number of residents is almost equal and therefore there is a feeling on the board that the Precept should reflect this. However, that being the case the number of representatives on the board should also be reflected accordingly. On reflection the current Precept of £4.5K that Aiskew Leeming Bar pay may rise to approx. £6K.

The Chair stated that any changes required in the Precept amount sent to the parish asap to ensure we can also reflect that in our own budget.

*Question Cllr.SC: What is the precept responsible for and are there any policy documents that shows what/ how the board is required to use the funds?*

*Answer: Cllr.IM stated he would get the Burial Board Clerk to forward the documents.*

**Action: IM to provide doc / info from board on use of funds and precept increase.**

23) **Strategic Industrial Estate Planning by HDC**

**1. Leeming Bar**

1. Industrial Estate Planning / Action Group

Cllr.SC had shared a document that had been completed by the Action Group about key issues that HDC had appeared to leave out from the documents sent with the plan.

The Chair made it clear that the Parish Council want HDC to know of our own concerns that may not necessarily be the same as the Action Group. However, we do support the overall fundamental issues raised by the group.

2. Housing

The Chair stated that the action group had raised issues which were totally justified about the inadequate housing especially with the affordable housing market.

**2. Aiskew Housing**

The Chair stated that it was likely a further 80+ houses would be built in the same location as the Wilbert Farm. The parish has indicated to HDC via their planning portals that these sites should be linked with alternative access to Bedale Road.

Cllr.MB stated that we should bring our concerns to John Berry (details to be provided to clerk).

Cllr.IM also wanted assurances that adequate footpaths would be made along Sandhill Lane.

Cllr.IM also stated that the security on the Wilbert Farm Site is inadequate a youth who had gained access had been injured and all three emergency services had to be called.

**Action:**

**1. Clerk to ensure Planning are aware of the parish issues around the new building projects.**

**2. H&S HDC are made aware of safety issues with Wilbert Farm**

24) **Bedale Hall**

The Clerk wanted to inform the parish that documentation had and was completed during lockdown regarding tenancy agreement of the nurse.

26) **Business Plan 2020/23**

This has been completed and ready to be added to the website.

The Chair reminded everyone that is a working document that would always be subject to change or amendments.

**Resolved**

27) **Planning**

All planning documents received are sent immediately to councillors for observations or comments.

28) **Playgrounds**

1. Kingfisher

Both the Chair and Vice Chair stated that they felt that due to the amount of vandalism on the site they felt it would be wrong to put any further equipment on the site at present.

**Agreed**

2. Mattison Play Area

The councillors were aware of the damage to the wooden railings and want to try and replace with a more suitable fence and make the area more pleasing for residents. The clerk is continuing to get information regarding who all the fencing belongs to and also quotations for railings and possible Tyre Mulch ground covering.

**Action: Clerk to try and sort costings for the next meeting. Cllr JA to assist with Land registry enquiry about fencing legality**

3. Freemans / Leeming Bar Play Areas

The Chair stated that due to the on-going issues at Freemans the Clerk should explore the possibility of relocating the equipment from Freemans to Leeming Bar before it gets totally damaged. The clerk did suggest that perhaps some adult steel exercise equipment could be put in that area.

**Action: Clerk to seek costing for the next agenda.**

29)

**Allotments**

The Clerk confirmed that all the plots were now in use and was looking much better. The Chair stated that he had been made aware that two plots had been taken up by members of the HUB with the intention of using it as a communal area. At present the current Tenancy Agreement does not allow this and views of other councillors was being sort if we should change the agreement or if another plan could be adopted. The councillors had a long and frank discussion on the issues raised with the following being proposed:

- The current Tenancy Agreement for the Grange Road allotments to remain as private allotments
- To advise the HUB that the local school are trying to establish a communal allotment / garden
- Possibility of allowing land within the Freemans Way Park area to be used – need to seek legal advice on change of use.

**Action: Clerk to work with Cllr.JA to get answers for the next agenda**

30)

**Grassing Cutting / Verges / Trees**

1. Planters up keep

The councillors thought that the HUB had adopted all the planters but it was clear that one or two were not being maintained.

**Action: Clerk to seek inform from HUB about which planters they maintain / or want to maintain. Clerk then to offer other planters to residents to either support or maintain themselves.**

2. Hedge near Freemans Way needs cutting.

This is the RAF hedge that needs to be cut.

Cllr.LM stated that the hedge on Kingfisher PA needs to be cut before it gets too high.

**Action: Clerk to contact RAF Leeming.  
Clerk to raise issue with Alasdair**

3. Grass Cutting Issues

The clerk stated that she had already spoken to the contractors about not cutting when the grass was wet because it just pulled the grass up and made a mess. The footpath off Sandhill Lane needs to be cut.

**Agreed that the verges and playgrounds should only be cut when it is dry.**

31) **Highways**

1. Land Outside Co-Op  
The clerk stated that Broadacres had confirmed that a maintenance program was in place but how often that would be.  
**Resolved but we need to vigilant and ensure that the area is maintained.**
2. Aiskew Bank Lighting - on going  
The Chair stated that this was a long ongoing issue that needs to be resolved. The lighting on Aiskew bank is not adequate and HDC stated they would consider Bulk Head lights because a lamp could not be fitted.
3. Potential yellow lines on Leases Road near Vale of Mowbray  
The issue is parking in that area is a long standing issue with residents which has been exasperated recently with a lorry also parking. The parking is not illegal but does cause some issues. Clerk to seek advice from Cllr.AW and Highways about what we could do in that area.
4. 7.5 tonne weight restriction in Leeming Bar and signage. Sign on the roundabout near Spring House Farm shop guiding wagons along A684 to industrial estate.  
Cllr.SC was not sure about the answers provided by Cllr.AW due to what appeared to be conflicting advice on similar issues.
5. Roughly Bank Drains  
The drains have been damaged due to constant parking of lorries and needs to be reported to NYCC.

**Action Cllr.MB to clarify item 2**  
**Clerk to seek clarification from Cllr.AW on item 3 and 4**  
**Clerk to report item 5 to NYCC**

32) **Financial Matters**

1. Monthly Details  
Verbal report to Councillors including bank account balances of £67K.  
The Clerk also stated that the Parish would need to look at a draft budget for 2021/22 next month including request for donations.
2. Payments Due
  - Clerk
  - HMRC
  - Farm and Land Services
  - Internal Auditor**Agreed**
3. S106 money  
Clerk to work with HDC and Leeming Bar Councillors to sort this out.

33) **Charity Commission**

Clerk had completed the relevant documentation.

- 34) **Correspondence / Information / Other Business**
- 1. Debfib Site back at Railway  
**Resolved**
  - 2. Regency Flats bins  
**Issues raised about bins have been resolved**

- 35) **AOB / Urgent Matter**  
None

**Meeting Closed at 8.45pm**

Signed:.....

Dated:.....