

**STILLINGFLEET PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH
COUNCIL
5 OCTOBER 2023**

23028 Welcome and apologies:

The Chair welcomed all those attending the meeting as follows:

Councillors: Juan Brooks, John Cook, Richard Daniel, Emma Powell, Nigel Kemp.

Clerk: Ruth Swales

Apologies were noted and accepted for Cllr Foy, Cllr Strickland, Cllr Sears & Cllr Collingridge.

23029 Public Participation:

There was no public participation.

23030 Local Community Transport Service for the village.

Council welcomed Emily Havercroft of the 'Up for Yorkshire' Charity who explained how the Council might publicise their recruitment drive to encourage Stillingfleet residents to join the volunteer car/drivers scheme and promote the Community Transport service which operates in our area. Up for Yorkshire are wanting to offer additional opportunities for Stillingfleet residents to access Community Transport but to do so there is a need to recruit more volunteer drivers to help meet the demand.

Council agreed that such an expansion in Stillingfleet would be of great value to residents due to the limited nature of public transport and **RESOLVED** to promote the recruitment drive and the scheme through all available communication channels.

Cllr Powell agreed to post on social media, Cllr Brooks will ensure publication through the Parish Magazine and Cllr Daniel will publicise via the church and village institute.

23031 Declarations of Interests:

There were no further declarations of interest not already declared under the council's code of conduct or members Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

23032 Minutes from previous meeting:

Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Annual meeting of the Parish Council held on 3 August 2023 and the Village Green Committee meeting held on 8 August. The Chairman signed as a true record.

23033 Matters Arising from the previous meetings:

Council received information on the following ongoing issues and decided further action where necessary:

23033.1 Green Management:

- i) **Weed-wiping:** Council **RESOLVED** to obtain estimates from the IDB and from the Lower Derwent Conservation Group re the weed-wiping service they could provide to address the prevalence of docks particularly along the banks of the beck.
- ii) **Increasing bio-diversity:** Council noted that Natural England have advised that they cannot visit to provide recommendations to improve the biodiversity of the Green but urged strict compliance with the terms of the Higher level Environmental Stewardship scheme.
- iii) **Church/VI Car park (opposite Dales Court):** Cllr Daniel advised that he had scoped out what materials would be required should the Council proceed with resurfacing the Church/Village Institute car park explaining that c.16.2 tons (one lorry load) of stones would be required at an approximate cost of £600. Cllr Daniel was asked to scope out specifications for resurfacing the Chapel car park with the view that Council might approach Plasmor for a contribution from their Community Fund towards the improvement of both car parks.
- iv) Council thanked Cllr Daniel for undertaking the spraying of weeds which had been encroaching over the kerb of the Church car park. Council discussed the use of the Church/VI car park considering how it could reduce parked cars causing an obstruction to wide agricultural and emergency vehicles. Cllr Cook agreed to approach local residents who frequently park on the Green reminding them that this is not permitted and asking them to use the car park instead. Council agreed to re-visit the proposed signage for this car park at the December meeting.
- v) **Drainage problem outside Hope Cottage/The Old School House:** Cllr Kemp advised that he would bring the outcome of his investigations into this waste water drainage problem to the next Village Green Committee meeting to be scheduled for early November.
- vi) **Risk Management issues:** Cllr Daniel advised that he had examined the reported broken limb of an Ash Tree on the Green outside Rose Cottage, York Road and concluded that no further action was required.
- vii) Cllr Daniel agreed to approach the residents of 2 Hillside Bungalows and ask them to lower their boundary hedge which tends to obstruct drivers visibility when joining Church Hill from the Green.
- viii) Council noted the concerns expressed by Swallow House regarding the fallen Crack Willow and approved a budget of up to £500 for its removal in line with the estimate provided by Lewis Tree Surgeons. The Clerk was asked to arrange for the work to be undertaken as soon as possible.
- ix) The Clerk was asked to write to North Yorkshire Highways regarding the fallen road sign at the top of The Gale which has been demolished by a passing motorcycle.
- x) Cllr Cook wished to note a big thank you to Trevor Hall and Simon Smith at York Sawmill who have collaborated to renovate the damaged bench and area opposite the lych-gate at no cost to the parish.
- xi) **Daffodil and Crocus planting:** Council **RESOLVED** to enter into a licence agreement with NYC whereby NYC grant the PC the right to plant daffodils and crocus' on the verges of the entry points to the village to commemorate the WI's 100 year anniversary.

23033.2 **Playground:**

Council reviewed the safety inspection log and asked the Clerk / Play Stillingfleet to ensure the annual safety inspection is undertaken by the end of October 2023.

23033.3 Speeding Concerns:

- i) Council noted that a Speed Concern report had been lodged with the York & North Yorkshire Road Safety Partnership asking what more can be done to reduce the risk of further fatalities and address the volume, speed and noise nuisance of motorbikes using the B1222 as a race track. A response is expected within 12 weeks.
- ii) Cllr Foy's update regarding Speeding concerns was shared with Council. Council asked Cllr Foy and Cllr Powell to resurrect the application for a Community SpeedWatch initiative to be instigated for our village.

23034 Parish Charter:

Council noted receipt of the Parish Charter which sets out the arrangements for partnership working between the new North Yorkshire Council and local City, Town and Parish Councils. Council noted that although it remains the right of each parish council to determine whether or not it wishes to support the principles identified within the Charter, NYC encourages all parishes to work collaboratively in accordance with these principles.

23035 Parish Council Website:

Council agreed to enhance the PC website by the inclusion of Councillors' biogs and photographs. Cllr Brooks was asked to co-ordinate.

23036 Formation of a Village Community Group:

- i) Cllr Brooks advised that a group of 8 volunteers were considering forming a Community Action Group which could co-ordinate community initiatives for the village linking in with the PC, the Village Institute committee and the Church. The proposal is to be tabled at the up-coming VI AGM.
- ii) **Christmas 2023:**
Cllr Brooks agreed to ask the Community Action Group to formulate their ideas of how the village might enhance its Christmas preparations and to submit any requests for funding to the Charity Committee for consideration.
- iii) **D-Day 80 – June 2024:**
Council noted that an enquiry had been sent to Kelfield PC asking what their plans might be to commemorate D-Day 80. The Community Action Group will then be asked to consider whether Stillingfleet might join with them.

23037 Planning Matters:

23037.1 Council noted the following planning decisions:

- Permission GRANTED re the ground works and associated root severance to install a root barrier to 2 Oak trees covered by TPO 8/2002 at 4 Laburnum Grove (ref ZG2023/0654/TPO).

23037.2 Council noted receipt of the following planning applications:

(Any planning applications may be viewed online at www.northyorks.gov.uk under each reference no.)

- Re-consultation on a planning application for the erection of a 2 storey dwelling to replace outbuildings at Hawthorn Cottage, York Road (ref ZG2023/0667/FUL).
- Application for change of use of the conservatory at Harmony House to that of a tearoom open to the public. (Ref ZG2023/0707/COU).

23038 **Financial Matters:** Council noted:

23038.1 **Recent receipts:**

14.7.2023	VAT refund (1/12/22 – 30/6/23)	£164.61
15.8.2023	VAT refund (1/7/23 – 31/7/23)	£1,090.31
29.9.2023	2 nd instalment of precept from NYC	£3,125.00

Council noted that a further VAT refund claim had been submitted for the period 1 – 31 August claiming £431.20

23038.2 **Closing balances as at 30 September 2023:**

Parish Council current account	£9,784.00
Parish Council NS& I account	£ 243.44

23038.3 **Internal Control:**

Cllrs Daniel and Foy were requested to undertake the half yearly internal control check as at 30 September and report back to the December meeting.

23038.4 Council **RESOLVED** to make the following **payments:**

Invoice date	Details	VAT	Amount (inc VAT)
18.8.2023	DP Atkinson re cutting the Green	£374.00	£1870.00
24.8.2023	Meticulous Gardens Ltd		£70.00
5.10.2023	Ruth Swales salary (26 hours approved for July/August)		£279.70
5.10.2023	HMRC – Clerk’s tax (July/August)		£70.00
11.9.2023	Purely Payroll (July/August)		£12.05
25.9.2023	YLCA re training		£30.00
2.10.2023	Ruth Swales – reimbursement of postage costs (16 x 1 st class stamps)		18.80

23038.5 **Remembrance Commemorations:**

Council **RESOLVED** to exercise its power under S137 of the Local Government Act 1972 to fund the purchase of a RBL remembrance wreath and 10 Remembrance Tommy Lamppost flags ahead of the Remembrance service in November. The Clerk was asked to place the orders and Council **RESOLVED** to pay the invoice upon receipt.

23039 **Date of next Meeting:**

Council noted the date of the next parish council meeting as 14 December October 2023 commencing at 7pm.

Signed as an accurate record of the meeting held on 5 October 2023	Juan Brooks CHAIRMAN	14 December 2023
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