

AYSGARTH & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 27th February 2020 at Aysgarth Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Parish Cllrs: John Dinsdale, Linda Cooper, Robert Walker, Sandra Wilman, David Wood

In Attendance: Mrs F Cartwright - Parish Clerk
Mrs P Pointon - Reporter and Website Administrator

Members of the public: 1

1. **Consideration of Apologies for Absence** - Apologies were given and accepted from Brian McGregor, Tim Freer, Margaret Jones, Alison Sayer, Peter Windle, District Cllr Yvonne Peacock.
2. **Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on** - The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 16th January 2020 were approved as a true and correct record.
3. **Declaration of interest** - None
4. **Matters arising from the last meeting** - None
5. **Highways**

The Clerk provided an update on the responses received from Area 1 Highways re the following reported/ongoing matters:

Carried Forward from November 2019 Meeting

- **Large pot hole at the fork of the road past Town Head Farm, Thoralby** - the Highway Officer inspected this site on 15th January and advises that a repair was carried out on site.
- **Various potholes near Ashcroft, Little Burn, Thoralby** - the Highways Officer advises that this area falls into the remit of the National Parks as it is not in the Public Highway. The Ranger at YDNPA advises that the section of the route between Ashcroft and Little Burn is recorded as an Unsurfaced Unclassified Road. YDNPA will forward the request on to North Yorkshire County Council Public Rights of Way team.
- **Large pot hole near the bridge before the AA Phone Box on A684, Aysgarth** - an order has been raised for repair to this defect, passed to contractors to be programmed according to priority.
- **Condition of lane surface between Aysgarth/West Burton and Thoralby** - Highways were not aware of this enquiry. **Action - The Clerk to follow up.**

Update from January 2020 Meeting

- **Culvert stone flag over stream broken on road from Aysgarth to Thornton Rust, near first property on left (Purchase Farm)** - this area does not form part of the public highway so Area 1 Highways are unable to carry out repairs.
- **Branch precariously overhanging road on Gill Hill 1 mile from Aysgarth on road from Aysgarth to Thornton Rust between High Gill and Low Gill** - this was removed by Highways on 24th January 2020.
- **Humphrey Hill, Thoralby between Crook Arch Barn and Ashcroft, open drain on side of road requires clearing and railings are in state of disrepair. The former has caused damage of 8-10 inches of tarmac between Ashcroft and Town Head Cottage** - this area does not form part of the public highway so Area 1 Highways are unable to carry out repairs.
- **Gutter along Little Burn Lane, Thoralby requires clearing out as causing damage to tarmac** - an order has been raised to clean the gutter.

- **Two electricity poles at the top of Thoraby village are significantly leaning** - the Highway Officer has inspected these and does not deem them to pose any risk of falling. Northern PowerGrid are responsible for maintaining this equipment.
- **Eastfield Lane (Spickles), Thoraby Lane is prone to significant flooding after rainfall** - an order has been raised for contractors to excavate the verge to identify the source of the water and establish if pipework is damaged.

New Highways Issues

An Aysgarth resident was welcomed to the meeting and outlined concerns re speed of traffic on A684 at East end of Aysgarth re large groups of walkers from Aysgarth Lodges with pets, children, prams walking on the road along the blind sweeping bend (no footpath). Photographs were circulated to the meeting. The Parish Council agreed that there had been an increase in pedestrians since Aysgarth Lodges had expanded and these issues were of concern.

Action - The Clerk to e mail Area 1 Highways with concerns and suggestions that a VAS or Road Sign be installed to warn re pedestrians.

Action - The Clerk was asked to report the below new Highways Issues:

- Large pot hole at the fork of the road past Town Head Farm, Thoraby - despite the repair carried out on site, Cllr Wilman said that this has lifted and is now dangerous with a hole 2 ft square and the drain 18 inches off the ground
- Branch precariously overhanging road on Gill Hill 1 mile from Aysgarth on road from Aysgarth to Thornton Rust between High Gill and Low Gill - despite this being removed by Highways on 24th January 2020, another branch was now overhanging
- Pot holes in middle of the road outside Havenhurst, Thornton Rust
- Pot holes at the top of Richmond Gate Lan, Aysgarth to Thornton Rust Road
- Pot holes between Seata Quarry Lane and Riggs House, Aysgarth to Thornton Rust Road
- Pot holes outside South View, on both side of Westfield Lane, Thoraby

Action - The Clerk to report intermittent light out on side of property Highgarth Barn, opposite Village Hall, Thoraby. The fault is not weather dependent.

- **Street Light # 1 and # 3, Thornton Rust (RDC)** - repairs have been made and parts ordered as appropriate

6. Financial Matters

6.1 The council resolved to authorise the following payments:

Chq #	Payee	£	Description
100915	F Cartwright	188.12	Clerk Pay Feb 2020
100916	F Cartwright	10.00	Clerk Expenses Feb 2020
100917	Richmondshire District Council	266.40	Dog Foul Bin Thornton Rust
100918	Aysgarth Institute	10.00	Meeting room hire 27.02.20
<i>100919</i>	<i>Cardiac Science</i>	<i>1,015.20</i>	<i>4 x Pads & Batteries across Parish re Grant</i>
Total		£1,489.72	

The defibrillator item was not on the agenda as the invoice arrived on 27.02.20, signed off at the meeting due to the important nature of the expenditure.

7. **Dangerous State of Building - Yore Mill, Aysgarth** - See Planning Application below

8. Planning

New Applications

R/57/54A/LB at Barn Cottage, Newbiggin-in-Bishopdale, DL8 3TD - listed building consent for repairs to roof - **The Parish Council had no comment to make.**

R/53/32 at Big Laithe, Bishopdale - full planning permission for conversion of barn to create 1 No. dwelling with associated parking and curtilage works and installation of package treatment packs - **The Parish Council supported this application. Action - The Clerk to e mail YDNPA.**

After the agenda was issued - R/58/65F at Howesyke, Bishopdale, DL8 3TG - Section 73 application to vary Conditions 2, 14 and 15 of R/58/65C (full planning permission for erection of extension to existing farmhouse with incorporation of adjoining barn into the domestic accommodation; erection of two semi-detached rural workers cottages; conversion of barn to short term holiday lets with associated garages; extension of existing site office to provide kitchen facilities and erection of two agricultural barns)

C/Fwd. Action - Cllr Peacock to follow up with YDNPA re Parish Council concerns over planning at Howesyke Farm.

Updates - Approved Conditionally - none

Pending Update

R/53/27F at Land west of Kidstones Gill Bridge, Bishopdale - Section 73 application to vary/remove conditions 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8 & 9 of R/53/27 (full planning permission for creation of access gateway, upgrade of access track and erection of replacement agricultural building (part retrospective))

R/58/65E at Howesyke Farm, Thoraby - full planning permission for the demolition and rebuilding of a stone barn following partial collapse during construction works approved under decision ref: R/58/65C (retrospective)

R/51/54M at Birkbeck House, Aysgarth, DL8 35R - full planning permission for conversion of existing two bedroom "live/work" unit into three-bedroom holiday let

R/51/54N/LB at Birkbeck House, Aysgarth, DL8 35R - listed building consent for conversion of existing two bedroom "live/work" unit into three-bedroom holiday let

R/51/55P at Yore Mill, Church Bank, Aysgarth - This application has been relisted on the agenda as showing as 'Not Yet Decided' on YDNPA website. Parish Council were happy that this had been previously approved.

Other Progress Updates

Yore Mill Cottages, Aysgarth - Update re concerns over the erection of posts and chains to fence off an area in front of the Mill Cottages preventing public access

The Clerk reported that the Planning Enforcement Officer, (YDNPA) had written to the owner and would update in due course.

Stake Road, top of Kidstones Bank, Bishopdale - Update re request to YDNPA re installing locked gate/barrier to deter criminal activity

The Clerk reported that the Ranger, (YDNPA) had advised that Stake Road is a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT) a special category of right of way recorded on definitive maps. A carriageway and a right of way for vehicular traffic, also used by horse-riders, cyclists and walkers. As a public right of way the route has to remain open and available to the public at all times. A locked gate or barrier would be classed as an obstruction and the YDNPA, as the delegated Highways Authority for the public rights of way, has responsibility to ensure public rights of way are unobstructed and available for use by the public.

9. Thoralby Moss & Thornton Mire (Standing Item) - none

10. Ownership of Land/Rights of Way

The Parish Council agreed that the Clerk could contact a solicitor in West Burton to obtain an indicative price to assist with the registering of land. **Action - The Clerk to make contact.**

11. Rock Garden, Aysgarth, DL8 3AH

The Chairman circulated a letter report dated 26th February 2020 from Victoria Design Group Ltd re observations, conclusions and recommendations re structural condition of the Rock Garden. The Chairman also confirmed that the cost of the Report would be £450.00 in line with previous discussions of the Parish Council. Parish Councillors read the report and considered the recommendations to be relatively minor and not costly. The Clerk recapped on the insurance implications per the e mail from the Insurance Brokers Came & Company dated 22nd November 2019. Cllr Dinsdale suggested that bars covered in rubber be installed below the low hanging rocks, the Parish Council agreed that this would be a good idea.

Resolved - the Parish Council resolved to go ahead with the legals re the gifting of the Rock Garden to the Parish Council. **Action - Cllr Dinsdale to liaise with the owner and obtain indicative costs of using the same solicitor as the owner.**

12. Natural England Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) agreement expires in 2021. Options to apply for a new Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier (CS HT) agreement commencing 1 January 2022, or extend current HLS agreement (circulated to Parish Councillors) - Deadline for completion of Questionnaire 31st March 2020

Resolved - The Parish Council asked the Parish Clerk to contact R Harrison of PWC Surveyors to request they guide the Parish Council through this process. **Action - The Clerk to obtain costs, etc.**

13. BAWB Schools Federation Meeting with the Transport and Admissions Manager from North Yorkshire County Council at Askrigg School on Wednesday 22nd January 2020

The Chairman confirmed that he and Cllr Windle had attended the meeting which had been positive, NYCC recognised something needed to be done and were not against changing catchment areas for transport but would need to liaise with stakeholders such as Leyburn School. The School Business Manager would continue to liaise with NYCC to progress.

14. Wensleydale and Coverdale Parish Council Forum for the Yorkshire Dales National Park Local Plan at West Burton Village hall on Monday 10th February 2020

The Chairman reported that he, Cllr Cooper and Cllr Wilman attended the Forum and the submission on behalf of Parish Councils had been sent by the Clerk to the Forum.

15. Millennium Kennel Trust, Thornton Rust

The Chairman explained that he had been approached by a Registered Charity, The Millennium Kennel Trust asking if the Parish Council would arrange insurance for the Trust for Public Liability, etc. as the National Trust were no longer in a position to insure the Trust. The general feeling of the Clerk and the meeting was

that this was not appropriate as the Trust was not part of the Parish Council. **Action - The Chairman to feedback to the Trust.**

16. Came & Company Insurance Client Risk Presentation / Pre-renewal Invitation (Renewal due 1st April 2020)
(circulated to Parish Councillors)

The Parish Council considered the Risk Presentation / Pre-renewal Invitation. The Parish Clerk explained that the actual renewal comparison and costing would arrive in between meetings.

Resolved - The Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to proceed. **Action - The Clerk to circulate the Renewal, Broker recommendation and costs by e mail.**

17. The Glover Review of Designated Areas - Proposal that all National Park members should be appointed by Government, and the pressure now to reduce number of members, local representation

The Chairman and Pip Pointon explained the potential implications for local democracy, Planning Committee, etc . **Action - The Clerk to write to express Parish Council strong objection.**

18. North Yorkshire Rural Commission *(circulated to Parish Councillors)* - Eight independent Rural Commissioners investigation into the sustainability of rural communities.

The Parish Council noted the e mail address and close date of 31st May 2020 for submissions.

19. Correspondence

- **E mail from Thornton Rust resident dated 27.01.20 - Thornton Rust Parish Councillor Co-option in 2019 -** The Clerk explained that she had provided the relevant agendas and minutes demonstrating that the correct process had been followed. No further action required.
- **E mail from Richmondshire Area Partnership dated 28.01.20 - Tour De Yorkshire Event Fund -** The Parish Council had no comment to make
- **E mail from Thoraby resident dated 03.02.20 - Request re progress on Northern Powergrid Decluttering of Overhead Cables, etc. in Thoraby -** **Action - The Clerk to contact the new point of contact at Northern Powergrid.**
- **E mail from Aysgarth resident dated 20.02.20 - Complaint re light pollution from Aysgarth Luxury Lodges**
Action - The Clerk to write to YDNPA re Planning and Dark Skies Reserve Status

20. Meeting Dates for the Diary

• **Parish Meeting Dates:**

Thoraby	Monday 9 th March 2020 at 7.00pm at Thoraby Village Hall
Thornton Rust	Monday 16 th March 2020 at 7.30pm at Thornton Rust Village Institute
Aysgarth	Monday 23 rd March 2020 at 7.30pm at Aysgarth Village Institute

- **YDNPA Northern Parish Spring Forum -** Wednesday 20th May 2020 7pm - 9pm at Fremington Village Hall, Yorkshire, DL11 6AR

21. Any Other Business

The Chairman reported that he had attended the YLCA AGM and some interesting ideas were discussed about electric charging points, community composting, etc.

The Clerk asked the Parish Council where they would like to store the defibrillator batteries which had arrived. It was agreed to hold them locked centrally until the pads arrive and then the Parish Council would liaise with Cllr Jones (Newbiggin) and Steve Duffield (Thornton Rust). Pip Pointon (Aysgarth) and Cllr Wilman (Thoralby) confirmed they were happy to take receipt of equipment for their respective villages.

The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from HSBC dated 14th February 2020 to arrange a phone interview to carry out 'Know Your Customer' Checks. **Action - The Clerk would phone the known HSBC telephone number to check the request was bona fide and proceed accordingly.**

22. Items for next Meeting Agenda

Date of next meeting - Thursday 9th April 2020 at Aysgarth Village Hall at 7.30pm

Meeting closed 9.10pm