

Grewelthorpe Parish Council

Chairman: Cllr. Sarah Dawson
Parish Clerk & RFO: Rob Bareham
e-mail: clerk@grewelthorpe-pc.org.uk

The Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council Held on Wednesday

17th January 2024 at 19.30hrs

in the Meeting Room, Grewelthorpe Village Hall.

Attendees: Cllr. C Harrison (CH), Cllr. S Dawson (SD), Cllr. A Hodges (AH), Cllr. C Stelling (CS), Cllr. E Threapleton (TT)

Members of the Public: 2

FCL = Cllr F Cunliffe-Lister (Local Councillor)

Abbreviation List: AMP = Annual Meeting of the Parish, PC = Parish Council, AONB = The National Association for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, BB = Broadband, DoI = Declaration of Interests, ECRP = Electronic Community Resilience Plan, GPC = Grewelthorpe Parish Council, GSSA= Grewelthorpe Sports & Social Association, NYC = North Yorkshire Council, MoP = Member of the Public, RBL = Royal British Legion, VH = Village Hall, VMP = Verge Management Plan, W3W = What 3 Words.

Minutes

<u>Item</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Action By</u>
2324/106	Welcome by the Chairman The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30 pm and welcomed everyone. SD then informed the council that she would be standing down with immediate effect as chairperson of Grewelthorpe Parish Council citing a lack of time to commit to the role and the personal harassment known to the council, by a member of the public which had taken its toll on her. CH was proposed as Chairman by AH. Seconded by CS and elected unanimously.	
2324/107	a) To Receive Apologies. N/A b) To approve reasons for absence given by Councillors. N/A	
2324/108	Dispensations & Pecuniary Interests. a) To receive, consider and decide upon any applications for dispensations. The clerk, acting at the "Proper Officer" informed the council that an application for dispensation had been received (previously circulated) from CH for items covered by item 2324/114 (f). As Proper Officer, the clerk confirmed that the dispensation had been considered and approved upto the 31 st December 2028 and has been shared with the Monitoring Officer. CH was reminded to inform the clerk when relying upon this dispensation to discuss an item at the start of a parish council meeting.	

- b) To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's Code of Conduct or a member's Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.
 AH & SD declared a non-pecuniary interest to item 2324/113 (g).
 CH declared a pecuniary interest to item 2324/114 (c).
 TT declared a non-pecuniary interest to item 2324/113 (e).

2324/109 Approval of Minutes:

- a) To approve the minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on the 20th December 2023
Resolved: The minutes were signed as a true record.

2324/110 Public participation Session (for the public to talk to councillors about items on the agenda)
 There was no public participation

2324/111 To receive the Councillor's report
 The chair agreed to defer this item pending FCL's arrival.

2324/112 To receive the Clerk's report (Items received after the publication of the agenda or for items needing discussion)
 a) RB to update the council on the advice received from YLCA on the "Carbon Neutral/Reduction Plan/Policy".
Resolved: The clerk confirmed that YLCA were not aware of any legal requirement for the PC to adopt a Carbon Neutral/Reduction Plan/Policy.

- b) To note the MoP's complaint to NYCC over the road condition near the Mickley turning.
Resolved: The council noted the complaint.

2324/113 Matters arising from previous meetings (Items requested to remain on the agenda or to be resolved)

- a) An update from FCL on the collapsed drain (W3W - clown.parrot.headlight)
Ongoing: See item 2324/111 **FCL**
- b) An update from FCL on the blocked drain opposite the duck pond (W3W – sprint.braves.initiated)
Ongoing: See item 2324/111 **FCL**
- c) An update from FCL on the widening of rural broadband to include mobile signals and the use of Smart Tech
Ongoing: See item 2324/111 **FCL**
- d) SD to update on the moving of the bin by the bus stop with NYCC
Ongoing: SD confirmed that she is meeting with a member of NYCC to arrange the moving of the bin closer to the Crown Inn. **SD**

(Councillor Cunliffe-Lister joined the meeting at 1950hrs)

- e) TT to update the council on behalf of the British Legion, the D-Day 80 event.
Ongoing: TT confirmed that the RBL is arranging an event to commemorate the event. This is likely to include a church service, a display in the village hall, church bells ringing at 6.30pm, and rounding off with the lighting of a beacon.
 The plans are at their infancy and TT will update at the next meeting. **TT**



2324/111 To receive the Councillor's report
 FCL presented her report (see Appendix C) and invited any questions **FCL**

- It was highlighted that point 3 was still flooding – FCL will request a survey on the drain and update on the outstanding issues at the next meeting.
- FCL updated the council that NYCC Highways are inundated with road issues and they were struggling to “keep on top of”.
- The Highways budget for 2024/25 has already been allocated and the only spare funding has been set aside for emergency repairs only.
- The “downgrading” of HS2 has released some funding for pothole repairs and the criteria is quite specific.
- AH asked regarding the Broadband if there was any further involvement required from Masham or Grewelthorpe. – FCL advised that contribution was being sought from “interest groups” only.

2324/113 f) The clerk is to update the council on the playground repairs & consider the report and quotation from Streetscape
Ongoing: The council thanked Streetscape for the quotation and asked the clerk to see if Streetscape would be able to quote for the restoration of the slide & swings and then lay a new playground soft surface.

RB

g) AH to update on the sale of the Crown Inn, Grewelthorpe
Ongoing: AH confirmed that the buyer had pulled out of the sale of the Inn with Admiral Taverns. AH will update the Council at the next meeting of any further developments.

AH

2324/114 **Items for discussion from Councillors or a member of the public.** (These are new items that have been requested to be included in the agenda)

a) SD to propose the council meet the first Wednesday of each month rather than bi-monthly as it is currently undertaken. (See Appendix B)
Resolved: The council agreed to move the meetings to the second Wednesday of each month. The clerk will amend Appendix B accordingly and book the “café” in the Village Hall.

b) CS to inform the council of the car parking at the village’s primary school and for the council to consider and further action.
Ongoing: CH will print a plan of the school for the council to evaluate the possibilities of further action that can be taken at the next meeting.

CH

c) SD to ask the council to consider the request from GSSA to become a “sponsor” for either £20.00 or £50.00 per annum (see Appendix A).
Resolved: The council agreed to become an annual £50.00 “sponsor” of the GSSA and will continue to consider any grant requests on their merit.

d) CS/SD to inform the council on “the current state of the roads and flooding issues” and consider any further actions.
Resolved: See item 2324/111

e) AH to update the council on Northern PowerGrid’s webinar on “Transparency in Network Planning” held on the 9th January 2024
Resolved: AH felt that the webinar was not suitable for the PC level of government but was aimed at town councils and above.

f) CH to inform the council on Common land CL73 (moorland) within the parish boundary and the council to consider any further actions to be taken.
Ongoing: CH highlighted to FCL the need for the PC to be a part of the Sustainable Farming Incentive Scheme. FCL offered to ask the Swinton Estate Office for the best advice on how the PC can be involved in meeting its “Bio-Diversity” responsibility and will ask the Estate Office to liaise

CH/FCL

directly with the chair. CH will update the council at the next meeting on any developments.

2324/115 Area 6 Highways

- a) RB to update the council on any developments from highways.

Ongoing: The clerk informed the council that there had been no meeting with highways since the last meeting

RB

2324/116 Planning Matters (Any planning applications received before the meeting date will be discussed at the meeting).

- a) To consider Planning Application ZC23/04437/FUL

Holly Tree Cottage
Hutts Lane
Grewelthorpe
HG4 3DA

Resolved: The council had no objections and no comments to make on this application.

2324/117 Financial Matters

- a) To consider the budget for 2024 - 2025

Resolved: The council agreed to adopt the budget for 2024 - 2025 and will review monthly.

- b) For the council to approve the bank reconciliation dated 30th December 2023

Ongoing: The clerk apologised for not including the reconciliation with the supporting papers and will send out prior to the next meeting.

RB

- c) To note the clerk's final salary (see also 2324/118(a))

Resolved: The council noted the clerk's final salary.

- d) To consider the clerk's expenses for December 2023 & January 2024 (see also 2324/118 (b))

Resolved: The council approved the clerks' expenses

2324/118 Payments to Consider:

a) R Bareham (January Salary)	£652.55
b) Clerk Expenses (December 2023 & January 2024)	£60.00
Total	£712.55

(The clerk informed the council that there was an additional payment to be made of £48.00 to Yorkshire Accounts Ripon for financial services in July/August/September).

2324/119 To confirm the date(s) of the next Council meetings:

- a) **Provisional Planning Meeting 21st February 2024 @ 1930hrs**
(Items for the agenda to the clerk before the 15th of February 2024 please)

The council noted the meeting date.

- b) **Annual Meeting of the Parish 6th March 2024 @ 1900hrs**
(Items for the agenda to the clerk before the 29th of February 2024 please)

The council noted the date and requested the clerk to send out the invites to organisations within the parish.

RB

- c) **Ordinary Meeting 6th March 2024 @ 1930hrs**
(Items for the agenda to the clerk before the 29th of February 2024 please)

The council noted the meeting date.

Temporary exclusion of press and public: Pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission at meetings) Act 1960. (The Public and Press be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed)

- a) To note the resignation of the clerk and their last day being 31st January 2024

Resolved: The council noted the clerk's final day to be the 31st January 2024.

- b) To arrange a "handover" date with the clerk before the 31st January 2024.

Ongoing: AH to arrange with the clerk a suitable date & and time to hand over the parish equipment and paperwork.

AH/RB

- c) To note the clerk's outstanding holiday pay

Resolved: The council noted the clerk's outstanding holiday pay.

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Appendix A

"The GSSA would like to thank the parish council for their generous contribution of paying for the insurance this year. The event was a tremendous success. We would like to keep the parish council on our sponsorship board (either £20 or £50) if they are willing, but we have had a good boost of funds after bonfire night. We are already planning next years bonfire."

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Appendix B

Parish Council Dates for 2024/2025 (second Wednesday of the month)

<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Meeting Type</u>
Wednesday 10 th April 2024 @ 1930hrs	Ordinary Meeting
Wednesday 8 th May 2024 @ 1900hrs	Annual Meeting of the Parish Council
Wednesday 8 th May 2024 @ 1930hrs	Ordinary Meeting
Wednesday 12 th June 2024 @ 1930hrs	Ordinary Meeting
Wednesday 10 th July 2024 @ 1930hrs	Ordinary Meeting
Wednesday 14 th August 2024 @ 1930hrs	Ordinary Meeting
Wednesday 11 th September 2024 @ 1930hrs	Ordinary Meeting
Wednesday 9 th October 2024 @ 1930hrs	Ordinary Meeting
Wednesday 13 th November 2024 @ 1930hrs	Ordinary Meeting
Wednesday 11 th December 2024 @ 1930hrs	Ordinary Meeting
Wednesday 8 th January 2025 @ 1930hrs	Ordinary Meeting
Wednesday 12 th February 2025 @ 1930hrs	Ordinary Meeting
Wednesday 12 th March 2025 @ 1900hrs	Annual Meeting of the Parish
Wednesday 12 th March 2025 @ 1930hrs	Ordinary Meeting

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**CLlr Felicity Cunliffe-Lister Parish Report
Grewelthorpe : January 24**

Transport/Highways

I spoke to Area 6 on Thursday last week :

1. The replacement street light in the village is in situ but not yet working. There are delays in the street lighting team due to staff shortages, but this is on the list to be actioned. I have had an email from Barrie Mason, Assistant Director Highways regarding this which reads : *"We have a number of vacancies in the street lighting team at the moment but I'm pleased to say that we have made positive progress and plan to have all of the vacancies filled in the next three months. I am aware that as a result of the capacity issues caused by the vacancies and the increasing demand since Local Government Re-organisation we have seen a drop in the level of service you would normally expect to see, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for bearing with us. We are working hard to get the vacancies filled as soon as possible but this does mean that for the next three months the team will be prioritising emergencies such as damaged or vandalised equipment, and safety critical defects such as section faults, mandatory signs, flashing school signs and zebra crossing beacons. On-line reporting of routine street lighting defects should continue as normal and we have ensured that we have resources in place to manage requests but in the short term the challenge is linked to ensuring that the technical resource is focused on safety critical matters."*
2. I have chased up the lack of progress with the Hackfall Farm drain referred to me at the end of '23. Highways will follow this up with Heather Yendall to action and report back this week. Now that the gully wagon has been, has the drain near the duck pond been draining OK? If not, I will ask for further investigation.
3. I have raised the issue of the blocked drain on the road leading into Grewelthorpe from Ripon. As per the photo below, this is a gully which is not working and requires a camera survey. If works are required, over and above routine clearing, there will be a significant delay until funding is found.



Community Partnership (Ripon)

Ripon is one of the pilot schemes for these new networks. I attended an initial meeting today, where various local groups were represented and the role and objectives of the partnership was discussed. I will keep you posted as this progresses, in the meantime please advise if there are any areas of interest where a Ripon initiative could benefit Littlethorpe Parish.

Rural Broadband

I have had a response from the Executive in response to the following queries that I raised with them regarding properties that have not been supplied with an NYNet connection :

Now that the delivery of Phase 4 by NYNet has been confirmed, we know that approximately 1,300 dwellings within the Ripon and Skipton constituency are not going to be provided with FTTD broadband. I have also been advised that within the County, 37,000 premises fall within Voucher Priority areas, which have been identified as having a good likelihood of delivering gigabit coverage faster than the procurement route and represents good value for money. I would just like to add for complete clarity, the Phase 4 delivery is not yet confirmed, this will not happen until the contract has closed. The figures recently sent out were based on the most recent plan.

Following the suspension of the voucher scheme, I wrote to the Secretary of State to request that these households are provided with some alternate form of financial support to enable them to connect to the internet, such as either via satellite or wireless signal. Most of these houses are in very remote locations, and are heavily dependent on the internet to study, operate a business or go about their daily lives. Meanwhile, those in urban locations, who will have or will be already benefitting from the NYNet delivery, are more likely to also have access to good mobile phone signals and easy access to public wifi such as via libraries and the NYNet market town service.

The response from the Secretary of State, Sir John Whittingdale, is attached. Please can you confirm for me :

1. Where the 50 Voucher Priority Areas are that have been identified within the County, and how many qualifying households fall within each of these. **Voucher Priority Areas are managed by BDUK, we do not know exact locations or how many UPRN are in each. It is also unlikely that all 37,000 will be built. In addition, many of these will already have Superfast broadband.**
2. When the temporary pause on the voucher scheme will be lifted. **This should be 6-9 months after the award of the Project Gigabit contract, however BDUK are responsible for lifting the pause as they manage the scheme.**
3. Who funds the voucher scheme. If this is NYC, what budget is available and what has accrued during the suspension of the scheme. **BDUK manage the scheme and use it with funds from HMT. NYC has no role in the funding or management of the voucher scheme.**
4. With NYNet now finalising delivery of Phase 4 I am assuming that the intervention area has now been defined, but please advise if this is not the case. **The intervention area is defined by those which do not have Gigabit connectivity and will not be covered by Commercial coverage. This has been defined for a few months. However, there is no guarantee that the winner of the Project Gigabit Lot will bid 100% of the area.**
5. Please confirm, if the voucher scheme is not reinstated, whether these households will be eligible (either as hard to reach locations or otherwise) for internet connection via the gigabit scheme. My concern, based on the wording in the letter, is that the gigabit scheme will not be made available to those within voucher areas, even if the voucher schemes have been suspended. **All premises which do not have Gigabit already and have not been included in a commercial providers plans will be in scope of Project Gigabit. After the contract has been awarded BDUK will be aware of those which will not be completed. Any programmes to cover these will be led by BDUK.**
6. If this is not the case, please confirm what support will be available to these households, if they do not have access either to the voucher or gigabit scheme, or have access to the satellite capital grant.

Council Meeting & Executive Decisions

The draft budget for 24/25 is now in circulation, which I am reviewing. Whilst the headlines might have announced that there is a 6.5% increase in local government funding, this is a national figure and also assumes Council Tax rising by the highest permitted amount. In reality, NYC's funding is dropping by £1.5M, compounded by increased levels of demand in some areas (particularly with SEND in education) and increasing costs of labour and materials. Some further savings are anticipated due to the move to unitary authority, but there will still be a shortfall.

Destination Management Plan

I recently raised queries of the Executive following my concerns about the progress of the DMP, the quality of the current draft and the impact that the ongoing lack of strategy will have

on tourism in the area. I have also asked for confirmation of how the LVEP funding will be allocated now this has been awarded to North Yorkshire and York jointly, and I have asked for an update on progress with establishing further partnerships in order to promote the Yorkshire brand. My questions and responses from Cllr Bastiman are set out below :

1. At the Member's Seminar in April this year, we were advised that the Destination Development Plan was being developed ready for adoption in June 23. Can you please confirm this is also what is referred to as the Destination Management Plan (as opposed to the Destination Development Partnership?). [The Destination Development Plan is just an earlier term used to refer to the Destination Management Plan. We now only use the term Destination Management Plan. This doesn't relate to a Destination Development Partnership.](#)
2. I am now advised by Gemma Rio that the aim is for this to be completed by February 2024. I have yet to see a second draft, having been advised that the consultants would be working on it in September and then to be advised that this was now being drafted in house with the consultants only reviewing the document at the sign-off stage. I appreciate that the LVEP submission may have been given priority recently, but this is a significant delay which could impact North Yorkshire tourism negatively. Can you please confirm that the DMP is now to be allocated full resource? [The Destination Management Plan is in the process of being developed. This work is being done alongside the development of the York & North Yorkshire LVEP as well as a review of the internal resource dedicated to tourism. At this point the Head of Service and wider team are juggling multiple priorities. Although these more strategic projects do inevitably take time, they are not impacting on the vast amount of work continuing to be delivered to support the visitor economy.](#)
3. Janet Deacon advised in September that the consultants had advised that the Action Planning Forums be held as soon as possible so as not to delay the next draft. I understand from Gemma Rio that these have not taken place – her intention was to issue invitations end November for December dates for the Action Planning Forums. I raised my concerns with her then that attendance might be very low at such short notice and during the busiest trading months of the season for the hospitality trade. I have not heard further, and I would like to attend. Have any dates been released or invitations sent? [These are now scheduled for the 15th, 16th and 18th of January. The team is in the process of finalising the availability of facilitators with a view to issuing invitations in the next week or so.](#)
4. Gemma Rio has advised that she is only going to invite those who volunteered for this from the groups who attended the August consultations. I am very concerned that this group will not be properly representative of the industry, please can you confirm who is or will be invited. Can you please also confirm that the second draft will be circulated before these forums take place to ensure that those attending have proper opportunity to scrutinise what is proposed. [This year we have held 34 consultation workshops across North Yorkshire. For these sessions we invited every contact on our collective lists \(totalling over 1,600\) and as well as promoting the sessions extensively on the Council's social media channels and through the press. This resulted in 457 industry stakeholders booking a place. At these sessions we asked every attendee if they would like to be involved in the next set of Action Planning Forums. Those who said yes will receive an invitation in the next week. We have scrutinised this list of volunteers and identified any gaps in terms of sector representation. This has led to additional names being added to the list to ensure we can have a balanced and robust discussion at each of these Forums. We are comfortable that this may lead to smaller numbers at these sessions because the idea of these sessions is to encourage smaller working groups to develop action plans. This approach has been successfully delivered by our consultants in the management of the Northumberland DMP so we are confident that it will be effective for us too.](#)

[The second draft is being further developed alongside the planning for the Action Planning Forums and therefore we don't anticipate circulating another draft ahead of the Forums. However for each Forum we will be providing an outline of the priorities and the sub themes](#)

I met the senior officer responsible for the delivery of the DMP last week to discuss progress. There are further consultations taking place this month and the final draft should be available in February for sign off in March.

Locality Budget

Funding from my current budget is all allocated. Please remind your community groups to apply to me if they require funding from next year's fund.

Youth Councils

I have not made any further progress with this. I am continuing to work with Cllr Brodigan in Ripon to help with the establishment of a Ripon Youth Council as a hub for rural groups.

Cllr Felicity Cunliffe-Lister

Cllr.felicity.cunliffe-lister@northyorks.gov.uk

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