

REETH FREMINGTON & HEALAUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council – Lisa Bridge
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MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, REETH ON Monday 28th March 2022

Present: Councillor M. Bearpark (Chairman), Councillor G. Frankland (Vice-Chairman), Councillor J. Kendall, Councillor H. Guy, Councillor C. Longstaff, Councillor B. Rutter, Councillor P. Terry, L. Bridge (Clerk) District Councillor R Good.

1. Apologise for absence and approve reasons for absence.

Apologise received from County Councillor Y Peacock.

2. Declarations of interest.

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the last meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting Monday 24th January 2022, having been circulated were approved and signed by Councillor Bearpark. Councillor H. Guy proposed, and Councillor C Longstaff seconded the proposal.

4. Public session.

Dr John Ross attended the meeting and spoke for 5 minutes about the two items he had requested on the Agenda, Items 16.9 & 16.10.

5. To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary:

5.1. Playground.

5.1.1. It was noted that the clerk and Councillor Frankland were waiting for the weather to improve before doing various repairs to the playground. **Ongoing.**

5.2. Green Agreements

5.2.1. Councillors discussed the applications at length and letters will be sent out detailing the decisions. The remaining applications will be discussed next month. **Ongoing.**

5.3. Memorial benches

5.3.1. The location of the Midgley bench was discussed and approved by all Councillors. **Resolved.**

5.3.2. The request from Sandra Finlay was considered and it was decided as her family are non-residents the clerk will put her on the list for an available space to become available.

5.4. White lines on High Row and Parking spaces for Community Buses.

5.4.1. The price of the paint was considered and approved. **Resolved.**

5.5. Reeth Bandstand Top

5.5.1. There were a number of letters received, registering concerns about the construction of a bandstand top. Councillor J Kendall made a speech and proposal outlining various reasons why she felt it should not go ahead. The full transcript is at the end of the Minutes. The Councillors discussed it further after hearing this, followed by a vote which was carried unanimously. **Resolved.**

5.5.2. The prices of the quotes received were considered during the above discussion. **Resolved.**

5.6. Footpath No. 44 by Yorkshire Dales National Park

5.6.1. To note that talks are still going on and National Parks will update as soon as anything is known. **Ongoing.**

5.7. Martin's Farm, Healaugh, roadside white stones.

5.7.1. There was a meeting at Martin's Farm on Thursday 24th March which was attended by Parish Councillor Bearpark, County Councillor Peacock and Steve Barker from Highways. Various concerns such as safety from both sides were discussed and it was noted that all the other roadside properties had sets, curbing, in front of their houses. The householder was happy with this option but until Highways can find the money the white stones will stay in place. **Resolved.**

5.8. Dustbin for the area below the Burgoyne.

5.8.1. It was noted that the clerk has ordered one for below the Burgoyne and another for near Blenkiron's Yard. Waiting for Richmondshire Council to confirm an installation date. **Ongoing.**

5.9. Overton Garth, streetlight.

5.9.1. No further progress has been made with this and District Councillor Good expressed his frustration with this but will continue to seek a solution even if it involves a further site meeting. **Ongoing**

5.10. Traffic mirror at Copper Kitchen.

5.10.1. It was noted that the bush has been trimmed and the mirror repositioned and thanks were expressed to the Greenkeeper for this. **Resolved.**

5.11. Loss of streetlight from Low Cottage, Reeth

5.11.1.1. The ongoing situation with this streetlight was considered and District Councillor Good said he would try and organise a site meeting for this also. **Ongoing.**

5.12. Changing banks to enable Online Banking.

5.12.1. This new information was considered and Councillors completed the details required to enable the switch. **Ongoing.**

5.12.2. It was considered that the clerk would need online access to be able to set up payments. **Resolved.**

5.13. Emergency Response Plan for Reeth, Healaugh and Fremington Parish Council.

5.13.1. It was noted that the template had been sent to Michael Evershed at Hudson House, who would assist with the creation of it.

5.14. Reeth Parish Council website.

5.14.1. The Councillors considered the quotes received from Vision ICT, Ben Stones and Purple Creative Studio and decided to proceed with Ben Stones as he had also created Marrick Parish Councils site and it could be used as a template that would keep costs down. **Resolved.**

5.14.2. Refer to above.

5.14.3. Refer to above.

6. Planning applications to consider.

6.1. Householder Planning application for the erection of two-storey rear extension and side porch at Shore Gill House, Healaugh DL11 6UF R/07/46D was not considered as withdrawn. **Resolved.**

6.2. Full planning application for change of use of land to domestic curtilage; works to access and parking area; erection of two-storey rear extension and erection of side porch at Shore Gill House, Healaugh, Richmond DL11 6UF, R/07/46E was considered and supported by the Councillors. **Resolved.**

7. Planning decisions received.

7.1. It was noted that the National Park has given consent for the removal of lower branches from No 3 Sycamore located on the boundary of Castle Manor and AD Manor, Fremington.

7.2. It was noted that National Park has received a notification to remove 1 no Larch and a reduction (by up to 50%) of 4 no Larch located at Woodyard Farm, Reeth.

7.3. It was noted that the Householder planning application for Shore Gill House, Healaugh had been withdrawn.

7.4. It was noted that planning application R/07/362 has been approved, conditionally.

8. To discuss any updates regarding the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June 2022.

8.1. No further updates.

8.2. Councillor H Guy went through the progress and plans that Hudson House had done so far, it was considered and supported by all Councillors. **Resolved.**

9. Matters requested by councillors:

9.1. The issue of a childproof catch for the playground gate and the tightening of the existing gate spring was considered by the Councillors and Councillors Rutter and Frankland volunteered to deal with this and provide receipts for expenses incurred. Item incorrectly on Agenda as 16.11. **Resolved.**

10. Matters requested by Clerk.

- 10.1.** The clerk reported on the meeting held at Arkle Cottage on the 4th of March with County Councillor Peacock. The remaining flooding issue of the old ford which leaves a gap in the wall. It was discussed the possibilities of closing this gap and what would be required.
- 10.2.** It was noted that the repairs to the paving stone down the alley between Black Bull and Middle House have been repaired.
- 10.3.** It was noted that the clerk had been in contact with BT regarding the damaged pay phone and they said they would arrange an engineer to attend.

11. Financial matters:**12. Financial Statement** To consider next month.**12.1. It was resolved to make the following payments.**

Person	Purpose	Amount
L. Bridge	Salary March	£281.24
Memorial Hall	Invoice Meeting February	£15.00
Smith of Derby	Invoice for Church Clock service	£249.60
HM Revenue and Customs	National Insurance deducted from clerks pay	£68.76
Stephen Longstaff	Invoice for Kings Arms alley	£37.50
YLCA	Membership Invoice	£309.00
Anti Virus Software	Renewal	£19.99
NFU Motor Insurance	Renewal	£116.94
To note the following receipts		£0.00
Bank Account Balance as of 7th March		£43,356.44

13. Market Report and Honesty Boxes

- 13.1.** Councillor Frankland reported that he had received and banked £1241.00 from the Honesty boxes.
- 13.2.** No receipts from Market Stalls as none charged until Good Friday.

14. Highway matters:

- 14.1.** It was noted that a notice from Highways about Bridge and parapet wall repairs on Brunt Acres Road, Hawes.
- 14.2.** It was noted a road closure notice for Marske to Fremington Road, Marrick Moor between 23rd March and 31st March, BT installing fibre cable.

15. Streetlights:

- 15.1.** No new requests.

16. Correspondence received.

- 16.1.** The latest playground inspection report for March 2022 was noted.
- 16.2.** The Two Dales Police report for February was noted.

- 16.3. The YLCA Remote conference in March was noted.
- 16.4. It was noted the various emails received about training courses from YLCA.
- 16.5. It was noted details of YLCA's remote conference on 25th March 2022.
- 16.6. It was noted the details of an Upper Dales Partnership meeting in March.
- 16.7. It was noted the email received from The Green Lane Association.
- 16.8. It was considered if there were any issues that the Councillors felt the Small Council Committee could assist them with and decided there were none at present.
- 16.9. It was noted the notification about Rally the Globe which happens in July. Councillor Kendall wanted to enquire about the route, as this was not provided.
- 16.10. The request from Dr Ross to fly the Ukrainian flag until the next meeting or until hostilities ended was considered. The Councillors were concerned that this was not actually performing any practical assistance for the Ukrainian people. Councillor Guy supported flying the Ukrainian flag but none of the other Councillors did. It was proposed by Councillor Bearpark that the Council would donate £5,000.00 to the Red Cross for Ukraine.
- 16.10.1. To note that after further investigation the regulations prevent Parish Councils from donating to foreign causes only local ones which will benefit the parish. So the Council will not be making a donation.
- 16.11. The further request from Dr Ross was also considered to express solidarity by signing up to the statement by the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) which strongly condemns the multiple attacks and violations of the territorial sovereignty and integrity of Ukraine at the following website https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdsMU6TtDJUM9JiOvBo29LHV_kHVIIuhbj8vmlw34loTatUdQ/viewform It was proposed that the Councillors did not sign it as it would not actually make any improvement to the situation in Ukraine, two councillors were for, one abstained and four were undecided. So, it was decided that the Councillors would examine this further and it was postponed until next month's meeting.
- 16.12. Considered under 10.1.
- 16.13. Natural England's proposal was considered that the Coast-to-Coast path becomes a national trail, the Councillors decided to support it. **Resolved.**
- 16.14. A proposal to make the track of the lane to Marske at Fremington and leading up to High Fremington, is made into a dedicated Route for the exclusive use of cyclists and pedestrians, was considered. It was decided not to support this as farmers used this path on quad bikes plus there were other users such as horse riders that would lose out. **Resolved.**

17. District Council Report

District Councillor Good his items had been covered previously but wanted to check the clerk would be making an appointment with the Election office of Richmondshire Council to deliver the Nomination papers.

18. County Council Report

There was no report from County Councillor Peacock.

19. Future meetings

The next Parish Council meeting would be held on Monday 25th April 2022 just after 7 pm in Reeth Memorial Hall, following the Annual Parish Meeting

Meeting finished at 20.55 pm.

Councillors J Kendall's speech regarding Item 5.5.1

I made a list of observations regarding the covering of the bandstand soon after the last meeting and the majority are included in the letters and comments already made by some members of the public, but I have added to them.

When the present stand was erected, the PC at the time agreed to it as long as it was low and as unobtrusive as possible. The two letters refer to this as 'sensible, discreet and not to spoil the view'. A cover would be at least 8 feet high including the base and at least 7-foot head clearance, many people being well over six feet tall. Then the pointed roof, bringing it to 9 feet or almost 3 metres, at the minimum.

A roof over the bandstand will only stop rain that is coming straight down, which is not very often in this exposed position, wind and rain will still blow through. If the weather is bad enough for performers to need protection, would there be many people, or even any, brave the elements to watch or listen to them?

Many people watch activities on the bandstand from other positions round the Green as well as close by, for example, from the seats or sitting in parked cars just in front of the Burgoyne, from windows in houses etc around the Green, especially elderly people who have problems getting out of cars. A roof and posts would drastically spoil their view and hence their enjoyment.

The whole attraction of outdoor performance is the ambience. Covering the bandstand will negate this.

Regarding the comment that kids have to have somewhere to meet up and play, is this what it will become with the same problems over the years that there have been with the bus shelter. There is a perfectly good, recently refurbished playground in the village and yes, still the bus shelter. One letter refers to litter, cigarette ends, damage and vandalism. I can add to that. Having lived in Reeth for nearly 60 years, I have seen people come out of the pubs, urinate and be sick on the cobbles. Will this happen in a covered bandstand where there would be a bit more privacy for these people? Not a very nice job for someone to clean up.

The Parish Council needs to be consistent with its reasons for giving approval or otherwise. Not very long ago, an application to plant a memorial tree with a bench around it was not agreed to, yet now we are considering something, to quote Mrs xxxxx that 'is alien to the character and design of the straightforward and sturdy buildings that ring the green'. That open space, so well maintained under the guardianship of the parish council is the greatest of assets to villagers and visitors alike etc. We **must** be consistent with our reasons for approving and disapproving any applications otherwise we will be as criticised as our local planning authority.

I haven't seen many bandstands, but most are in parks, and I don't mean national parks. If they are not in a corner, they have been on flat land, not with the panorama of and from that of Reeth Green.

Reeth Green, which includes the cobbles, **is** the village's greatest asset. Let us, as the Parish Council, appreciate it. The view from it is unique and worth preserving.

Finally, the cost. Any bandstand in this dominant, windswept position, needs to be robust both in construction and fitting, with a guarantee of both. I seem to remember seeing a comment that an engineer should be consulted. These costs will not be cheap, as well as insurance, maintenance and cleaning.

In the present economic climate, is this the right time to be even considering it, something that will probably be used less than ten times a year, or maybe even less if the comments regarding the band become facts? Will we have the same income from the honesty boxes in future years? The rate payers have not paid a parish rate for many years and I would hate to see this council need to fix one in the future that would be added to our already very high annual council tax bills.

I propose that the PC gives no more consideration to what would be a carbuncle on Reeth Green.