

HELMSLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Helmsley Town Council Meeting held in the National Park Meeting Room on Monday 14th December 2015 at 6:30pm

Present Councillors Duncombe (Chairman), Fairburn, Hawkins, Marsden (from 6:50pm), Parkin and Rose

Also Present 3 members of the public, Ms V Ellis (Town Clerk) and Mrs L Pryor (Assistant Clerk).

Part One – opening business

1 Apologies

Apologies were received and approved from Councillor Marsden who expected to arrive late and from Councillor Swift

2 Code of Conduct

Councillor Duncombe declared a pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 6.

3 Public Comments

No members of the public wished to make a comment.

4 Minutes

The council resolved to agree and sign the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting on the 30th November 2015.

5 Exchange of Information and items for next agenda

a) Chairman's Report

The Tour De Yorkshire would be coming through Helmsley on Sunday 1st May 2016.

The chairman thanked Dr P Harris and Mrs J Barker for their efforts to get the path between Pottergate and Bridge Street reopened.

b) Clerk's Report

I. Email from Martin Vander Weyer about the Magna Carta facsimile, which he will have framed, and the Magna Carta Barons Association report.

II. Documents received and sent to councillors:

a) NYCC Asset Management has agreed that the council may claim £531.95 for cutting visibility splays in 2016 and need not do the Harome/A170 visibility splay.

b) Pottergate surface water – Yorkshire Water carried out a Jet Van investigation in early December, Yorkshire Water Case Ref: 3243618. NYCC had a site visit on 8th December and will lower the height of the drain.

c) Letter from a resident about the budget and precept, and advice about the level of reserves required.

d) Ryedale Crime Statistics.

Part Two – for determination

6 Planning and Tree Applications: The council considered following trees application.

NYMNPA has received notification approved before the council meeting on safety grounds, to fell 7 Horse Chestnut Trees on the A170 Thirsk approach to Helmsley (western side of the road).

7 Consultation: The council resolved not to respond to the following consultation:

NYCC/NYMNPA/City of York [Minerals and Waste Joint Plan – Preferred Options](#)

8 'Fracking' Working Group

The council resolved to set up a working group to pursue the following aims in relation to shale gas exploration and drilling (fracking) in the Helmsley area and across Ryedale.

1. Monitoring changes in the wider context, e.g. in policy, planning or legislation, that are potentially relevant to Helmsley
2. Informing and consulting with residents about fracking as it may affect Helmsley
3. Liaising with other local councils/councillors for mutual benefit in building capacity to act effectively in relation to fracking on behalf of residents in Helmsley and across Ryedale.
4. Reporting back to the Town Council with regard to the above

Councillor Rose was appointed to the working group.

9 Finance, Audit and Governance

The council resolved to agree the following payments and Councillors Duncombe and Marsden were authorised to carry out the Unity online transactions as per the list provided.

			NET	VAT	TOTAL
UNITY	V Ellis	Expenses - mileage & stationery			£41.17
UNITY	Staff Salaries x 3	Staff Salaries x 3			£1,528.90
UNITY	HMRC	PAYE/NI			£149.22
		TOTAL			£1,719.29

Part Three – for information and decisions

10 Planning: To receive planning decisions

None received.

11 Streetlights

- a) The council resolved to ratify the decision of the clerk to order a new LED light, Ashdale Road LP27, as it has failed, ahead of the order due for the 2016-2017 financial year.
- b) The council noted that NorthernPowergrid has disconnected LP27 on Ashdale Road following a report to them from a neighbour about electrical problems following NorthernPowergrid fitting new cabling.

12 Churchyard Trees

- a) The council received the delegated decision of the clerk, made in consultation with Councillors Parkin and Swift, to the proposed works to the trees in the Churchyard.
- b) The council resolved to write to the National Westminster Bank to ask the bank to maintain the trees adjacent to the Churchyard.

13 Meetings, training and events

- a) Streetlights owned by Helmsley Town Council. Tuesday 8 November - Meeting with Mr P Ball, NYCC. Councillors Hawkins and Parkin and the Assistant Clerk. Councillor Parkin gave a verbal report and an email summarising the follow-up work has been received from Mr Ball. The council discussed adopting the light at the northern end of Elmslac Road which has been up for about 15 years and decided not to extend Elmslac Road LP78.
- b) Library Working Group Meeting on Thursday 10th December 2015. Councillor Parkin and the assistant clerk gave a verbal report.

14 Finance, Audit and Governance

- a) The council discussed the draft budget.
- b) The council received and noted the [Bank Reconciliation](#) to the 30th November 2015.
- c) The council received and noted the [Running Budget](#) to the 30th November 2015.

Signed

Date