

**HELMSLEY TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Helmsley Town Council**  
**held in the National Park Meeting Room on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at 6.30pm**

**Councillors Present** Councillors Swift (chairman), Fairburn (from 6:40pm), Hawkins, Marsden, Rose and Parkin.

**Also Present** Two members of the public, Mrs J Pickering (Helmsley in Business), District Councillors S Arnold and S Windress, County Councillor Val Arnold and Ms V Ellis, Clerk to Helmsley Town Council.

**Part One – opening business**

**1 Apologies**

Apologies of absence were accepted from Councillor Duncombe. Councillor Fairburn had apologised in advance for possible late arrival or absence.

**2 Code of Conduct**

There were no declarations as required by the Code of Conduct.

**3 Public Comments**

Emeritus Professor of Electrical Engineering Nick Cowern addressed the council about Kevin Hollinrake MP's interpretation of the government's Climate Change Committee Report on Shale Gas extraction that it gave the green light to fracking. Professor Cowern gave a brief summary of some of the expert evidence in his report, [Global Warming Impact of a Switch from Coal to Gas-Fired Electricity Generation in the UK](#), to the UK Climate Change Committee for the Carbon Budget. His view is that exploiting shale gas and fracking is not compatible with climate change targets and that the three climate change tests had not been met:

- Test 1: Emissions. More regulation is required.
- Test 2: Gas extraction. By extracting UK gas Professor Cowern argues that more gas is being created, so more will be consumed and hasten and increase climate change.
- Test 3: Production emissions have to be offset. Professor Cowern pointed out that the problem is that it is impossible because the government cancelled carbon capture and storage plans. Fracking will cause an increase in emissions.

Councillors asked questions about trade treaties afterwards.

**4 Minutes**

The council resolved to agree and sign the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2016 and the Additional Meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

**5 Exchange of Information and items for next agenda**

**a) Chairman's Report**

**b) Clerk's Report**

- I. Helmsley – Small Business Saturday – 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2016.
- II. Complaint about Landrover with advertisements on in being parked in the carpark in front of the Black Swan, in the corner by the roundabout. Sent to NYCC.
- III. Complaints about the surface of the path by Helmsley Arts Centre. NYCC Highways Engineers cannot make any improvements as the path is not maintainable at public expense.
- IV. NYCC Highways will investigate where residents are having problems with access to drives being blocked by parked cars and may paint advisory white lines on at the resident's expense - £221.
- V. **Documents received and sent to councillors:**
  - a. NYMNPAs email re work to trees in Cleveland Way carpark area by RDC.
  - b. NYMNPAs survey of residents 'People in the Park'.
  - c. FOI Request asking if the council had or was planning to fund any celebrations/events for the Queen's birthday. Responded to within time limits.
  - d. Email from Streetscene, RDC, about the Cleveland Way Car Park area tidy up and the reporting of problems in Helmsley.
  - e. Safer Ryedale: Free Older Driver Refresher Course – one hour, drivers over 50 years old.
  - f. NALC/SLCC Being a Good Employer - A Guide for Parish and Town Councillors, 2016.
  - g. Kevin Hollinrake MP. Climate Change Committee report on Shale Gas.
  - h. YLCA Training Events.

**Additional items**

- i. Grass cutting – query about who cuts the grass behind the Town Hall – not the Town Council.
- j. Ryedale Market Towns Promotion Meeting Notes circulated.
- k. Highways – road closures and surfacing information circulated.

- I. Complaint about verge on Carlton Lane near Canon's Garth Lane. Notification from NYMNPA about the removal of two trees on their boundaries.

## **Part Two – for determination**

- 6 **Planning Applications** The council considered the following application:

**Application No.** NYM/2016/0476/CU **Applicant** Miss J Tateson  
**Proposal** Change of use of workshop/store (Use Class B1) to form out of school and holiday club with toddler group and playschool (Use Class D1) (no external alterations) at former Youth Club/TA Drill Hall. **Location** Carlton Lane, Helmsley. **Decision Support**

- 7 **Bus Services to Malton**

The council discussed the difficulty of reaching Malton Hospital by bus from Helmsley as first it is necessary to get to Hovingham. County Councillor Val Arnold will contact the resident concerned.

- 8 **Free wi-fi in the centre of Helmsley**

- a) To note that RDC offered up to £400 per town for the set-up costs.
- b) The council discussed the tenders for the provision of free public wi-fi in Helmsley, the set-up and running costs, and considered that it was not good value for money and resolved not to proceed with Ryedale District Council's project.
- c) This item was withdrawn following the decision at Agenda Item 8 (b).

- 9 **S106 Funding**

- a) The council resolved to agree the content of the second form requesting more detailed application from applicants for funding.
- b) A brief discussion was held about correspondence with the National Park about how funding bids from groups without a track record will be handled by the Park, in particular about payment in advance for certain projects where groups cannot finance them upfront and the levels of risk of non-delivery of projects in such circumstances.
- c) To note that an exhibition of proposals will take place in the Town Hall from Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October to Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

- 10 **Freedom of Information Request by the Council to RDC about the carparks in Helmsley**

The item was deferred until the August meeting for a full reply to RDC.

- 11 **The Limes Play Area**

- a) To note that the Awards for All grant application (max award £10,000) will be made for a Trim Trail and was intended to be for £9,550 before additional funding was offered (see below).
- b) To note that County Councillor Val Arnold has kindly offered £700 from the Locality Budget towards an extra piece of equipment on the Trim Trail.
- c) To consider contributing £300 to enable the purchase of extra pieces on the Trim Trail making the total cost £11,000 plus VAT – by increasing the grant application to £10,000, plus the £700 Locality Budget and a £300 contribution from Helmsley Town Council.
- d) To note that the nets and paint for the goalposts and multiplay have arrived.

- 12 **Meetings with District Councillors**

The council resolved not to request that Helmsley's two District Councillors offer occasional meetings, three or four times a year, to all Helmsley Ward parish councils and parish meetings. The District Councillors were present and will organize such meetings for a trial period.

- 13 **Trees**

The council considered the quotations and resolved to accept the quotation of £725 total for Helmsley Town Council's Trees and those of the Recreation Charity from Elliott Consultancy Ltd.

- 14 **Meetings and Representatives: To consider attendance:**

None in August.

- 15 **Cemetery**

**This agenda item was put back to Part 4 of the meeting and the council resolved to exclude a member of the public for some of the discussion.**

Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media may be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

- a) The council noted that damage to two memorials was reported on the 11th July 2016 - the back of a plinth of a polished granite memorial has a dashed line (No.454) and a concrete base has a continuous line on its surface at the back (No.447). Marks on another base have been noted, at the back of the memorial (No 446).
- b) To note that written complaints had been received about the damage to No. 454 and 446 respectively.
- c) The clerk will liaise with the insurance companies.

#### 16 Finance and Councillors' Audit

- a) The council received a report from Councillors Parkin and Swift that the Councillors' Audit for Quarter 1 undertaken on the 25<sup>th</sup> July was satisfactory.
- b) The council resolved not to buy the 2016 NALC/SLCC Good Employer's Guide.
- c) The council resolved to agree the following payments and Councillors Parkin and Swift were appointed to authorise the following Unity transactions.

Payee Name	Details	NET	VAT	TOTAL
Duncombe Saw Mill Ltd	Stake	£8.30	£1.66	£9.96
Streetscape Ltd	Climbing Wall Repair	£80.00	£16.00	£96.00
Allgardens Ltd	Grass cutting	£1,179.76	£235.95	£1,415.71
Keith Sanderson	Prints	£6.63	£1.33	£7.96
North York Moors National Park	Printing s106 leaflet	£50.00		£50.00
Power Point (Northern) Ltd	Paint for Multiplay	£38.44	£7.70	£46.14
L Pryor - post office	Postage Stamps	£13.20		£13.20
BATA	Strimmer fuel	£10.86	£2.17	£13.03
Salaries - July 2016	Salaries	£1,836.92		£1,836.92
HMRC	PAYE	£213.19		£213.19
	<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£3,629.80</b>	<b>£264.81</b>	<b>£3,894.61</b>

#### Part Three – For Information

##### 17 Planning: To receive decisions

None received.

##### 18 Meetings, training and events: To receive reports

Ryedale Five Towns Meeting Notes (circulated).

##### 19 Finance, Audit and Governance

- a) The council noted the receipt of a grant of £1,750 from the NYMNPA for repairs to the Feversham Monument.
- b) The council noted the payment by Direct Debit to the NEST Pension Scheme in July.
- c) The council received and noted the [Bank Reconciliation](#) to the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016
- d) The council received and noted the [Running Budget](#) to the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

#### Part 4 Staffing Matters

Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media may be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. Please note: this does not apply at the time the decision is made by the council.

##### 20 Job Description and Scheme of Delegation

- a) This item was withdrawn.
- b) The council resolved to add to the Scheme of Delegation that the clerk may order new streetlight columns where necessary, e.g. to replace a failing or damaged column, after checking that the streetlight or contingency budgets have sufficient unallocated funds.

Signed

Date