

HELMSLEY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES of the Additional Meeting of Helmsley Town Council
held in the National Park Meeting Room on Monday 23rd January 2017 at 6:00pm

Councillors Present Councillors Duncombe (chairman), Fairburn, Marsden, Parkin and Swift.

Also Present County Councillor Val Arnold, District Councillor Steve Arnold, NYCC Highways Communications Officer Sharon Fox, PCSO Sean Simpson, seven 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 Councillors Hawkins and Rose.

2 Code of Conduct

Councillor Duncombe declared a Pecuniary Interest in Item 6b.

3 Public Comments

No comments were received.

4 Minutes

The council resolved to agree and sign the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting on the 19th December 2016.

NYCC Highways - Parking in Helmsley

5 The Highways Customer Communications Officer, Sharon Fox and PCSO Sean Simpson answered questions from councillors about the status of the parking review in Helmsley and other highways matter.

Comments, discussions and questions included:

- The Helmsley Parking Review had been delayed as the senior engineer appointed by NYCC had not taken up the post and the recruitment process had been slow. Another engineer has been appointed but the review will be delayed as there will be a period of purdah before the NYCC elections on the 4th May.
- Mr James Smith is the team leader. The review will be carried out by the senior engineer.
- Highways will be working with RDC, the town council, Helmsley in Business and other interested parties.
- The Black Swan's parking arrangements were debated, particularly its use of the carpark at the front of the hotel which is maintainable by NYCC Highways. There was a debate about the issue of the Black Swan's own parking vouchers, the lack of enforcement and confusion about whether there should be any at the moment and the overall the confusion amongst residents and visitors of Helmsley about the use of the car park. Ownership is unclear and a Land Charges Search cannot be relied on. It was also pointed out that the Black Swan has its own carpark at the back of the former Crown Hotel.
- Use of the Black Swan of the pavement in front of the hotel for tables and chairs, which leaves people with only the car park to walk through as there is no alternative pavement on that side of the road. A licence is required from NYCC Highways.
- Ryegate – parked vehicles can make it too narrow for lorries and emergency vehicles have had to reverse and go round. No emergency services have raised the matter with Highways. On the other hand the parked vehicles slow the traffic on what could be a shortcut.
- Parking by cash machines.
- Parking on Borogate, sometimes blocking an access, by shoppers.
- Disabled parking on double yellow lines. Any obstruction has to be dangerous rather than inconvenient. The police can take action if the obstruction is dangerous.
- Obstruction of 'feeder' lanes at junctions by parked vehicles with a disabled badge.
- Parked vehicles on Canon's Garth narrowing the road and making it difficult for farm traffic.
- Carlton Road junction with Bondgate and how traffic leaving Bondgate cannot turn north up Carlton Road due to parked vehicles on the west side of Carlton Road from the corner up.
- The introduction of limited free parking outside Nice Things.

- The use of Bondgate by people who work in Helmsley to park all day for free.
- A one-way system around Helmsley to improve the traffic flow.

Part Two – For Determination

6 Planning Applications. The council considered the following applications:

- a) **Application No.** [16/01959/HOUSE](#) **Applicant** Mr J Lindeman
Proposal Erection of two storey side extension following removal of existing single storey attached garage. **Address** Corogan House, 37 Pottergate, Helmsley YO62 5BX
Decision No comment

Councillor Duncombe left the room during consideration of the following item.

- b) **Application No.** [NYM/2016/0678/FL](#) (amended) **Applicant** Hon Jake & Melissa Duncombe
Proposal Construction of 64 no. apartment extra care facility with associated parking and garden areas and 35 no. open market dwellings, each with associated parking and amenity space together with access off Ashwood Close and landscaping works.
Address Land west of Ashwood Close, Helmsley
Decision The council has the following concerns:
- The extra traffic which this development will generate through Ashwood Close, Feversham Road and all the way down to the A170/Carlton Road intersection.
 - Some sort of physical defence does need to be considered in the grounds of the Extra Care Facility facing the cricket pitch. Cricket balls land in that area every season.
 - Toughened glass should be considered for the Extra Care Facility windows which look towards the cricket pitch.
 - The existing footpath on the southwest edge of the site should be illuminated, preferably at a low level to prevent interference with cricket matches, and must remain open and fully accessible at all times.
 - The lack of footpaths directly linking the development to other public footpaths; for example at the top north-west corner, there is no direct link to the Helmsley Recreation Charity sports facilities, play area, pavilion and outdoor pool; and the plan incorporates no direct link at the south-west corner near the cemetery.
 - Insufficient provision of parking spaces for staff and visitors at the Extra Care Facility.

7 Staffing Matters

Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the council resolved to exclude the public 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.

- The council considered the recommendations of the Staffing Group following the three Salary Evaluations undertaken by the Yorkshire Local Councils Association (free of charge) with a view to deciding upon the Spinal Column Points for the Clerk and the Assistant Clerk to Helmsley Town Council (and Council as Sole Trustee of Helmsley Recreation Charity). The council resolved to uplift the Clerk to SCP 39 (w.e.f. 1st April 2017) with the Assistant Clerk remaining on SCP 24.
- The council resolved to instruct the Staffing Group to update the job descriptions of the Clerk and Assistant Clerk.
- The council resolved not to make YLCA's Salary Evaluations available to the Clerk and Assistant Clerk.

Signed

Date