

ST MARTINS PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024**

**Present**

Cllr W Delf (Chair)  
Cllr S Thubron (Vice Chair)  
Cllr P Cardwell  
Cllr H Grant  
Cllr M Pattinson

Cllr K Foster (North Yorkshire Council)  
B Jones (Clerk)

**1.4.24 To receive and note apologies for absence**

There were apologies received from:-

None.

This meeting was deemed quorate.

**2.4.24 To receive 'Declarations of Interest' in items on the agenda**

Cllr Cardwell and Cllr Grant indicated a personal interest in Sleegill related matters.

**3.4.24 To approve the minutes of the meetings held on:**

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 were approved.

**Matters arising:**

The Clerk contacted the Council regarding the base stubs which have been left from the old lamp posts and was advised these have been added to the programme of works. The Clerk sent Cllr Foster the reference numbers. Cllr Foster escalated the requests. The Clerk received confirmation on Tuesday of this week they have been removed apart from unit 5 which has on-going issues. Cllr Cardwell to check.

The Clerk to escalate to Cllr Foster the original request to paint the street light that was replaced in Sleegill in October 2023.

**4.4.24 Notice Board**

The Clerk advised she has been checking second hand sites for a replacement notice board without success.

Cllrs discussed options moving forward and reduce the cost.

The Clerk to contact North Yorkshire Council to enquire about potentially erecting a notice-board onto the Council owned garages on Holly Hill.

The North Yorkshire Council £300 grant has to be spent by June 2024 otherwise it will need to be returned.

#### **5.4.24 Biodiversity in England**

It is a statutory requirement that Parish Councils that operate in England must consider what they can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity in England. This is the strengthened 'biodiversity duty' that the Environment Act 2021 introduces.

This means that, as a public authority, a Parish Council must:

1. Consider what it can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity.
2. Agree policies and specific objectives based on its consideration.
3. Act to deliver its policies and achieve its objectives.

The Council must first consider what action to take for biodiversity, then agree a policy and then review their actions.

The Cllrs agreed to continue maintaining the SINC on Theakston Lane. This land belongs to North Yorkshire Council, but maintained by the Parish.

The Clerk to gather documentation and create a policy to be reviewed and approved at the next meeting.

#### **6.4.24 Publication of documents (website)**

The Clerk informed the Cllrs that the current website, North Yorkshire Council host their public documentation on is ceasing in March 2025.

The Transparency Code for smaller authorities states that the parish council's data and information must be published on a website which is publicly accessible free of charge.

The Clerk to gather quotes for creating their own website.

Cllr Foster to see if he can seek any further information.

#### **7.4.24 Land registry**

The Clerk gave an update regarding the Parish Councils application to register the layby at the bottom of Sleegill into the Parish Councils name as there is no current registered owner. The

dispute regarding the wrong address linked to the application reply is still being investigated, however the Clerk advised she believes it would still be rejected following the feedback given on original application rejection letter.

The Clerk proposed to start the application again submitting more evidence.

This was duly Proposed, and Seconded.

**8.4.24 Reports of previous month's meetings etc.** - to hear from Parish/District/County Councillors on any meetings attended or other information of interest to the Parish Council

Cllr Foster gave an update on the ongoing issue regarding the public footpath in which North Yorkshire Council is dealing with.

Cllrs raised the following items for Cllr Foster,

Near Slegill House on Boggy Lane a drain lid has been removed and left a deep hole causing a safety issue.

An issue with a light being constantly on below River View on Rimington Avenue.

Cllrs asked to reinstate the double white lines on Rimington Avenue up the hill due to cars parking on a blind corner.

The condition of the trees that are growing on the old railway bridge structure which have forced the stone they sit on apart. Cllr Foster to find out who owns the bridge.

**9.4.24 Planning & Planning Updates**

8 Station Cottages requested Full Planning Permission for Demolition of Existing Outbuildings /Utility to Create an Open Plan Living Kitchen and new Utility Room to Rear.

Whilst Cllrs had no objections, a response was submitted highlighting the proposed dentil detail is not in keeping with a cottage of this nature and style.

No decision on this application as of yet.

Flowery Dell Lodges requested Full Planning Permission for Change of use of land to allow siting of 27 holiday units within boundary of existing holiday lodge park  
LOCATION: Flowery Dell Lodges Hudswell Richmond North Yorkshire.

Cllrs raised various concerns including, traffic, flooding, foul sewerage, appearance of holiday lodges, landscape mitigation and environmental impact. This has been submitted back to North Yorkshire Council and advised the outcome of these questions/issues raised may result in objections.

No decision on this application as of yet.

The clerk to seek further information regarding planting and seeding in relation to the Barn Stables planning application. No hedge has been planted adjacent as of yet.

It was reiterated to the clerk can Cllrs see all responses which are made on behalf of the Parish Council.

**10.4.24 Correspondence**

North Yorkshire Council consulted on their bus routes and the final outcome was made available. No changes have been made to the route or times.

**11.4.24 Finance**

The Clerk distributed a breakdown of the Councils finances using a new format.

The Clerk advised the Parish's current balance is £5129.33.

St Martins Parish Council is the lead for the clerks pay and discussed how quick the other organisations pay it back into their account.

It was duly Proposed, and Seconded that Cllrs accept the accounts and the new format is readable.

**12.4.24 Any other business**

The Clerk advised she will clean the notice boards for the next meeting in May.

Cllrs asked if the clerk workload is manageable with the number of contracted hours. The clerk advised the hours average themselves over weeks.

**Date for next meeting**

To confirm the dates proposed for the next financial year.

Thursday 16th May 2024 – 6.30pm annual parish meeting, followed by the AGM & ordinary meeting

Thursday 19th September 2024 - 6.30pm

Thursday 5th December 2024 - 6.30pm

Thursday 13th March 2024 - 6.30pm

**13.4.24 As there was no further business the meeting closed at 7.50pm**

ST MARTINS PARISH COUNCIL

Bethan Jones- Parish Clerk  
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