

## Rainton with Newby Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 14 January 2025 at 7.30pm in Rainton Village Hall.

Present: Cllr P Speed (Chairman)  
Cllr J Edwards  
Cllr C Egerton (Deputy Chairman)  
Cllr J Harwood  
Cllr O Jones  
Cllr S Price  
Cllr J Williams

Clerk: Mrs S Adamson

**95/2425 To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence:** none.

**96/2425 To receive Councillors' declarations of interest and consider any requests for dispensations:** there were no declarations of interest.

**97/2425 Parishioners' Representations**

A written representation about the establishment of a book exchange in the bus shelter: a resident had expressed a wish to start a book exchange in Rainton in the bus shelter, similar to the one in Asenby; she had already received a lot of positive responses after posting the suggestion on the village Facebook page, and was now contacting the council to ask about any necessary permissions. Councillors thought this was an excellent idea which would benefit many parishioners; the Clerk let her know that the parish council agreed in principle but as owners of the bus shelter they would like to invite her to the next meeting to agree how the books would be stored and the scheme operated.

**98/2425 County Matters**

- a. To receive update from the Public Rights of Way Officer at NYC on the signpost at start of public footpath route No 15.110/1/1: the damaged signpost (footpath to Baldersby) had been added to the list due for replacement. Due to financial constraints, these were assessed on a priority basis and work to replace those chosen took place between January and March each year. At this stage no information was available as to whether this sign would be included.
- b. To receive an update on the tree planting licence application, and agree costs for purchase of trees and planting: the Clerk reported that the Highways Project Engineer had visited the site; he had asked for confirmation that the trees would be planted in accordance with their condition that planting must take place 2.5 metres from the edge of the carriageway, which was quite tight in places on Church Lane. He was now waiting for the licensing documentation from Parks and Grounds at NYC, which was finally good news although yet to be officially confirmed.

The Clerk gave a brief summary and update of the project: the plan drawn up by Arborlutions had recommended specific species and that the optimum number of trees for a 480 metre stretch of Church Lane

starting at the A1 end, was thirty-five; as discussed at a previous council meeting, three quotations had been received from tree nurseries, one of which was local to the parish; this nursery had also quoted for planting the trees, at a lower price than the only other quote received for planting (although three had been sought, the third being too busy to take the work on).

The Clerk said she had estimated the cost of the project to be approximately £1,000 exclusive of VAT. Funding of £500 was already confirmed from the NYC Locality Budget and she would like to recommend that without having to draw on the council's reserves, other funding could come from:

1. the small amount of ring-fenced CIL funding which the council had received that year, and which could be used for 'green infrastructure'
2. the substantial VAT refund due for the current financial year.

As the next meeting of the parish council would not take place until the middle of February and as planting should ideally be completed by the end of February, she asked the council to agree a budget and delegate the decision to her in consultation with the Chairman, so that a firm order could be placed as soon as the planting licence was received. It was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously that with a budget of up to £600 the Clerk and the Chairman could agree the contract with the chosen supplier, Braithwaites.

There was a further discussion about the need for watering the trees, particularly in their first year, and Cllr Jones offered to help with this.

As an aside the Clerk reported that during a discussion with the **S106 Commuted Sums** Officer at NYC, it had been agreed that the outer verges on Church Lane would be mapped as 'Natural and Semi-natural Green Space' which would increase the number of sites in the parish which could attract future S106 funding.

- c. To receive any further Highways updates: the Chairman reported that the street lights on Carr Lane were back on, but the one on Back Lane was still not working. No other updates had been received. He intended to contact NYC Cllr Nick Brown to arrange a further meeting with Melisa Burnham at Area6 Highways, which both Dishforth and Asenby parish councils had expressed an interest in attending.

**99/2425 Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 December 2024:** Cllr Edwards asked for her departure from the meeting due to a family commitment be added to the Minutes, and with this amendment, it was resolved to approve the Minutes as a true record of the proceedings and they were signed by the Chairman.

**100/2425 Matters Arising**  
**Min 86(b)(3):** to discuss any necessary remedial work to trees on Sleights Lane: there was a discussion about a representation which had come through a third party about a tree on one of the Village Green verges overhanging a property and blocking out the light. Although the council could not act on hearsay, this was possibly the same tree which had been discussed at the December meeting. It was agreed that Cllr Edwards would speak to the householder and invite them to the February meeting in the interests of harmony and clarification.

**101/2425 Planning Matters**

- a. Applications:  
[ZC25/00002/PBR](#) Conversion of building to form one dwelling at Grange Farm, Back Lane, Rainton YO7 3PL. *The Council objected on the following grounds: Drainage: as mentioned in previous responses to planning applications within the village, the parish council has serious concerns about the capacity of the drains to support an increase in population. Highway Safety and Traffic Generation: the parish council is concerned that any increase in traffic will jeopardise the safety of residents for the following reasons:*
- *Back Lane is a single-track lane with blind bends at both ends;*
  - *it is in frequent use by pedestrians and horse riders;*
  - *it has only one street light which has not worked for a long time;*
  - *it is in extremely poor condition.*
- [ZC25/00003/PBR](#) Conversion of Building to form three dwellings at Grange Farm, Back Lane, Rainton YO7 3PL. *The Council objected on the same grounds as minuted above.*
- b. Decisions: the following was noted:  
[ZC24/03777/FUL](#) Erection of extension to existing commercial building at Manor Farm, Back Lane, Rainton YO7 3QB. *Permission granted subject to conditions.*
- c. Enforcements:  
[NY/2023/0230/FUL](#) to receive correspondence from NYC following an issue raised by the Parish Council as a possible breach of planning control: the Enforcement Officer had said that she had contacted Highways to look at the problem of vehicles reversing down Carr Lane and was awaiting a response. Yorkshire Water had advised that they had not started to implement the works in relation to the planning permission. The Clerk was asked to find out what their proposals were for finishing the works, and to ask them to note that the Recreation Ground was located off Carr Lane, and to ask for clarification about their discharging of the planning permissions relating to highways safety.

**102/2425 Financial Matters**

- a. Accounts: approved for payment:  
 Clerk's salary 28 January. Gross £294.66 Net £242.26
- b. To receive the bank reconciliation as at 31 December 2024 Q3: previously circulated to councillors, this was now noted and approved.
- c. To confirm arrangements for making payments by BACS: the Chairman had sought clarification as to the process particularly with reference to scheduling payments. The Clerk highlighted parts of the council's Financial Regulations and confirmed that scheduled payments could be set up well in advance.

Cllr Egerton and Cllr Williams, as signatories, to complete their registration on the online banking system.

- d. To receive correspondence from NYC Highways Asset Management re grass cutting of the visibility splays in the parish and decide if the council wishes to take responsibility for this in 2025-2026: it was resolved to accept the responsibility for cutting the visibility splays in the village in return for a financial contribution. The amount of money from NYC was the same as last year, £182.92.

#### **103/2425 Council Business**

To receive a suggestion of shrub planting at various locations in Rainton village: Cllr Speed said he would like to make this suggestion to enhance the appearance of the village, as he had often admired floral displays and planting in other villages, particularly at village signs. There was a consensus that this was an attractive idea, although maintenance would have to be factored in. As a first step, it was agreed to consult the Gardening Club to see if they had any suggestions.

#### **104/2425 Correspondence**

- a. To note YLCA White Rose and Law & Governance Bulletin: the Clerk reported that there were two things of possible interest in the White Rose Bulletin:

The **North Yorkshire Council Path Keeper Scheme** whereby NYC would give permission to local groups to carry out basic maintenance tasks on the rights of way network, including raising funds for improvement works. The parish council did not feel that it should take on any devolved responsibility.

The government had exempted the parish council sector from the **referendum principle** of having to hold a referendum if it wished to raise its precept by 5% or more. However the ongoing expectation that councils do not precept excessively and unnecessarily remained.

- b. To note the consultation on the budget for North Yorkshire Police and North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service: the Clerk said she had publicised this consultation, which would close on 20 January 2025, on the parish notice board. The Survey was short and gave various options for levels of expenditure.

#### **105/2425 Exchange of Information**

- a. Cllr Edwards said she had applied a second coat of oil to the wooden bench on Church Lane and would do the same to the bench on the Village Green as soon as the weather cleared.
- b. Cllr Jones confirmed that he had removed the trailer from the turning circle at the end of Church Lane.

#### **106/2425 Date and time of next meeting:**

Tuesday 11 February 2025 at 7.30pm.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.06 pm