

# **GUNTHWAITE AND INGBIRCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 12th APRIL 2021, ONLINE**

PRESENT; Councillors Edmondson, Karle, Berry, Ogden, Guest; A. Murphy (Clerk); 4 members of public; S. Weber (Barnsley chronicle)

Noted – a one minute silence was observed by all before the start of the meeting as a mark of respect for HRH Prince Philip who died on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April. A member of public present who had also served in the Royal Navy made a brief statement in recognition of the Duke of Edinburgh's service to the country, and was duly thanked by the Council.

### **(1) APOLOGIES**

No apologies were received.

### **(2) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

### **(3) TO AGREE AND SIGN THE LAST MINUTES DATED 1st March 2021**

Noted – re item 11 Councillor Berry pointed out that the stakeholder meeting was in fact requested by Councillor Edmondson.

Resolved – subject to the above correction minutes accepted as true and correct record and signed by the chairman.

### **(4) TO RECEIVE INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING ONGOING ISSUES AND DECIDE FURTHER ACTION WHERE NECESSARY**

4.1 Noted – offer made to Thurlstone Sports Club for a one month trial hire of the playing field in Ingbirchworth, no response received yet.

### **(5) TO ADJOURN THE MEETING SO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN RAISE ITEMS FOR ATTENTION.**

No items raised.

### **(6) TO RECEIVE ANY PLANNING APPLICATIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

2021/0157 Extension of Royd Moor wind farm operating license to 2027.

### **(7) TO NOTE PARISH COUNCIL CONSULTATION RESPONSE - PLANNING APPLICATION 2021/0315 - FOUNTAIN INN SITE.**

Noted – the response from the Parish Council (including consideration of feedback from the community) about the revised proposal has been submitted to BMBC planning. It supports and welcomes the revised proposal as beneficial for a vacant site at risk of dereliction. Councillor Berry expressed thanks to Councillor Edmondson for his work coordinating the response from the community and the Council to what is a complex and significant proposal.

(8) TO CONSIDER MATTERS FOR REFERRAL TO HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY.

8.1 TO NOTE RESPONSE OF BMBC TRAFFIC GROUP TO MEETING MINUTE OF MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup> (CHILDREN PLAYING WARNING SIGNS).

Noted – BMBC Highways team responded that specific Children Crossing signs (for School or a Playground) are legal on near the highway, but not warning signs. Councillor Berry suggested asking parents to remind children about road safety and traffic awareness, given that the Parish Council cannot erect warning signs.

Resolved – Councillor Karle will draft a suitable statement to inform parents of the situation.

8.2 TO NOTE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SNOW CLEARANCE HAS BEEN PASSED TO BMBC HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE.

Noted – Wellthorne Lane is not classed as a primary or secondary route so is not a priority for clearance. Councillor Edmondson pointed out it is a School bus route. Clerk has asked for the criteria for inclusion as a secondary route to be explained, waiting for the response.

Noted – the severe potholes on the A629 at the top end of the village, but in Kirklees district, have been repaired. Councillor Ogden was thanked for her efforts getting this resolved.

(9) TO CONSIDER MATTERS FOR REFERRAL TO NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES.

No matters for referral.

(10) TO CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY AND PUBLIC OPEN SPACES.

10.1 TO NOTE CLLR EDMONDSON HAS PUT UP FOOTPATH SIGNAGE AT SUMMERFORD.

Noted - Councillor Edmondson has put up the two permissive path signs.

10.2 TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL LITTER BIN/PURCHASE OF NEW BINS IF NECESSARY FOR HIGH LANE/INGFIELD AND MUGA/RECREATION AREA.

Noted – when asked by members of the Council, Mr. Whitbread agreed he would make a bin but nothing further has been heard. Councillor Edmondson reminded everyone that the Parish Council had agreed to cover the cost of materials.

Resolved - Councillor Karle will follow this up with Mr. Whitbread.

10.3 TO RECEIVE UPDATE ABOUT TWIGGS MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR PARISH COUNCIL LAND.

Noted – a useful meeting was had by Councillors Karle, Edmondson and Guest with Twiggs about managing Parish Council land for wildlife as well as amenity, both beneficial for residents. Some good ideas were discussed for example - cutting grass where people naturally walk instead of the

whole area, fruit tree planting on the banking on the recreation ground. A plan and associated costs is expected.

Resolved - Councillor Edmondson will follow this up with Twiggs.

Noted – Councillor Edmondson pointed out that T&D contractors do the grass cutting and it looks like they may have done Sandbeds already. Himalayan balsam is growing in Sandbeds again.

Previously T&D have cleared it mechanically which will disturb everything not just the balsam.

Resolved – Councillors will look at other options including manual clearance of the balsam possibly with volunteers, before involving T&D.

10.4 TO NOTE CLERK IS STILL TRYING TO MAKE CONTACT WITH WILDSAPES ABOUT POND ENHANCEMENT/CREATION IN THE PARISH.

Resolved – Clerk will try other ways to contact Wildscapes as emailing and phoning proving unsuccessful so far.

(11) TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER PROGRESS IN MATTER OF VISITOR NUMBERS AND CAR PARKING AT INGBIRCHWORTH RESERVOIR.

Noted - Councillor Berry completed the report which has been sent to the main stakeholders, Yorkshire Water (YW), South Yorkshire Police (SYP) and BMBC Highways (BH). Councillor Edmondson thanked Councillor Berry for all his work on this. A meeting with the stakeholders has been requested, YW and SYP have responded but nothing at all from BH. Councillor Berry said it is frustrating that BH have not had the courtesy to respond as a lot of effort has been made to provide solid evidence to back up residents concerns. Councillor Guest agreed that the lack of even a holding response is poor practice and noted a recent Yorkshire Post article about action being taken by the same stakeholders at Langsett due to parking problems there.

Resolved – Clerk to write to Director of Highways requesting an urgent response, copying in all three Borough Councillors. Councillor Berry will circulate the report again and Councillor Ogden will upload it to the community Facebook page.

(12) TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER PROGRESS ON COMMUNITY VENUE QUESTIONNAIRE.

Noted - Councillor Berry and Clerk have agreed wording of additional information slips, just need to print them.

Resolved – distribution of questionnaire likely to happen after May 17<sup>th</sup>.

(13) TO NOTE AND CONSIDER HOW TO HOLD THE MAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 24TH AS LEGISLATION ALLOWING REMOTE MEETINGS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENDS ON MAY 6<sup>TH</sup>.

Noted – Councillors felt that a return to physical meetings in the hall was appropriate while following any guidance in force when the time comes. Councillor Edmondson had provided a risk assessment to the church last year so the expectation is that one will be needed again.

Resolved – Clerk to book the room at St. Johns Church at Upper Denby for the next meeting which will be the Annual meeting.

(14) TO NOTE AND CONSIDER PROGRESS ON SUGGESTION FOR A PETANQUE FACILITY, RECREATION GROUND.

Noted - Councillors Berry and Edmondson and two interested residents met with a representative of Petanque Yorkshire and also with groundworks contractors. Quotes from three contractors have been requested for two options – two terrains suitable for twelve players and four terrains suitable for twenty four players. So far seventeen residents have expressed an interest in playing and joining the club. Councillor Edmondson noted that planning permission will be required as it is an engineering operation. Creation of four terrains will reduce the available space for the football pitch so it would end up being more suitable for junior teams and informal 'kick-about's'. This was felt on balance to be an acceptable change given the known parking and drainage issues.

Resolved – Parish Council will commit to allowing four terrains to be built on the playing field subject to getting planning approval, sufficient funding being raised by the club and a suitable use for the resulting graded topsoil being found. The Council will donate the planning application fee (£120).

(15) TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER CRIME AND SAFETY MATTERS.

Noted – Councillor Karle said she felt less safe than previously and villages like Ingbirchworth seem more at risk. Councillor Berry noted that the community looks out for each other and there is a welcome neighbourliness. A member of public who works for the police will ask a colleague about target hardening advice, and made a request that all incidents be reported as this helps the police to build up intelligence about an area.

(16) TO NOTE AND CONSIDER THE RECENTLY LAUNCHED '2021 GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN' CAMPAIGN.

Noted – litter picking activity by volunteers already happens in the parish so a national campaign probably will not make much difference. Councillor Guest noted that large objects are often fly-tipped in Gunthwaite but away from the road so BMBC will not collect them as it is on private land. Councillor Karle suggested looking into ways of collecting this with a vehicle and trailer, Councillor Edmondson noted that disposal would have to be paid for.

Resolved – Councillor Guest to get costs for some more litter pickers for use by the community. Council will investigate options for removing fly-tipped material in Gunthwaite.

(17) TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER INGBIRCHWORTH COMMUNITY FUN DAY 2021 PROPOSAL.

Noted – Councillors Ogden, Karle and a resident will organise this year's community fun day. It is planned for Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September assuming no adverse changes to the roadmap for lifting Covid restrictions. It will be on the playing field and will be a similar format to the previous one.

Resolved - Councillor Ogden will let Thurlstone sports club know that the playing field will be unavailable that day, in case they go ahead with the trial hire.

(18) TO CONSIDER FINANCIAL MATTERS

18.1 TO RECEIVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND NOTE INCOME RECEIVED.

Six accounts were put forward for payment and the necessary cheques drawn and signed.

Accounts for payment

12.04	#632	DA Edmondson	1 Zoom licence (Mar)	£14.39
12.04	#633	DA Edmondson	Permissive path signs	£54.24
12.04	#634	DA Edmondson	Chairman's Allowance (Jan – Mar)	£13.00
12.04	#635	A Murphy	Year End Account training (March 10th)	£30.00
12.04	#636	I Karle	Wool for remembrance poppies	£45.00
12.04	#637	YLCA	Membership subscription for 2021/22	£303.00

Income received

29.02	Nat West Bank	Interest	£0.01
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18.2 TO NOTE YEAR END ACCOUNT PROCESS HAS STARTED.

Noted – year end account process underway by Clerk.

(19) TO CONSIDER REFURBISHMENT AND USE OF FORMER BT TELEPHONE BOX

Noted – Councillor Ogden has received a quote of £200 for woodwork from Mr. Turner, and is currently looking for contractors to remove the paint.

(20) TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED.

20.1 YLCA WRU updates March and April

20.2 YLCA update on future of remote meetings.

Noted – legislation allowing remote meetings ends on May 6<sup>th</sup>, the government is running a call for evidence on how remote meetings have been used during the Covid pandemic.

20.3 BMBC and PCC elections and location of polling station in Ingbirchworth.

Noted – BMBC will put the polling station in the Fountain Inn car park

(21) TO CONFIRM NEXT MEETING DATE AS MAY 24TH

Noted – next meeting date is May 24th