

HAXEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes from the meeting held on Tuesday 30th January 2024 at 7pm at the Foreman Carter Centre, Westwoodside.

Present: Cllrs Bond, Booth, Carlile, Harris, Holgate, Knowles, Lindley, Martin, Rowbotham, Skelton, Steers, Thorpe & Taylor.

Also Present: 2 residents, 2 Quickline representatives & Ward Cllr Kennedy.

Chairman: Cllr Holgate presided.

Clerk: Deb Hotson

2401/01 Apologies and reasons for absence received from Cllrs Parkin & Cunningham.

2401/02 Resolved - to temporarily suspend the meeting for a period of normally, no more than 15 minutes, but at the Chairman's discretion to allow for a period of public participation. Members of the public may raise subjects, which they wish to bring to the attention of the Parish Council. Items relating to matters on the agenda will be taken first and any decisions will be made when the meeting is declared opened.

A resident stated she was here to discuss the state of the repair to FP/BR97. She had brought along samples of the rocks that had been placed into the PROW. The resident read out the following statement:

There is a large body of Governmental Legislation, Statutory Instruments, Codes of Practice and Guidance Notes which relate to the Use and Maintenance of Public Rights of Way, (PROW's) which includes Footpaths and Bridleways. Additionally, there is much guidance and advice produced by interested charitable organisations.

These include:

The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000

The Town and Country Planning Act 1990

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

The Effect of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 s 67(1)

The Road Traffic Act 1988 s34

The Highways Act 1980

The charitable organisation most often referred to and included by Government Agencies and Authorities during legislative review are;

The British Horse Society and The Byways and Bridleways Trust.

Whilst with each review of statute has made minor alterations to the Acts and their subordinate codes of practice and guidelines, the definition of what constitutes a BRIDLEWAY has not changed and is as follows:

“a highway over which the public have the following but no other, right of way, that is to say, a right of way on foot and a right of way on horseback or leading a horse, the public also have a right to ride a bicycle on any bridleway but in exercising that right cyclists must give way to pedestrians and persons on horseback”.

Although the overall responsibilities regarding public rights of way rests with Local Authorities, the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, includes in its definition of 'Local Authority', Parish Councils.

Local authorities are required to ensure PROW's are in good condition and feel safe. There is also a responsibility to ensure this extends to persons who are blind, partially sighted and others with mobility difficulties, this can of course include those who require using aids to safe mobility or transport for children such as prams/buggies.

North Lincs Councils PROW Statement of Action and Improvement Plan appears to go beyond the statutory requirements by including the following on the use of PROW's, "fair to say, mainly, for simple pleasure of exercise and exploring and enjoying the countryside". There is the recognition of provision of the benefits of exercise on health and the use of PROW's in providing alternatives to mechanically propelled vehicles (MPV's). It also includes a proposal on identifying the need for 'quiet lanes' and identification of 'dangerous places'.

The use of MPV's on bridleways has been illegal since the 1930's. The Effect of the Natural Environment and Rural communities Act 2000 s67(1) on 2 May, "extinguished all public rights for mechanically propelled vehicles, that were not already recorded on the definitive map on that day, subject to certain exceptions. Provisions were made for **PRIVATE** rights to be retained where MPV access to land is necessary, e.g. farm/field/SSSI areas access.

The Road Traffic Act 1988 s 34(1) states: "subject to the provisions of this section, if, without lawful authority, a person drives a MPV on to ... any road being a footpath, bridleway or restricted byway, he is guilty of an offence.

Advice and Guidance provided by the British Horse Society includes.

Horses vary considerably in size and mass between breeds, items for consideration in safe walking and/or exposure to risk of damage and injury resulting in large vet's bills and permanent lameness.

A horse's hoof varies in size from 100mm to 280 mm diameter.

The hoof comprises an insensitive outer layer of horn surrounding and protecting the sensitive inner structures. The sole of the hoof appears hard but is relatively thin and easily bruised. On flat, compacted surfaces it will not come into contact with a path surface but on unconsolidated stone surfaces sharp edges of stones may protrude into and bruise the sole of the foot, causing lameness. Any loose stone surface, even rounded pea gravel may be uncomfortable. Loose stones may also become between the shoe and the sole, exerting painful pressure on underlying tissues. Infection within the hoof resulting from stone punctures can cause serious problems requiring veterinary intervention. Stony surfaces will therefore exclude a number of horses due to the pain caused. Aggregate or grit at the surface of a path can be very damaging both to the hoof and ultimately the legs. (just like humans walking on gravel). Sudden pain could also result in the horse losing balance, throwing its rider with ultimately extremely dangerous outcomes for riders and horse.

Unshod or partially unshod horses are becoming increasingly common due to multiple factors, therefore a stone free or compacted surface is preferred to avoid injury.

Clerk to circulate the information provided by the resident.

Presentation from Quickline from 2 representatives Jon Wright and John Pilkington. The presentation will be sent to the Clerk and circulated to Councillors.

Quickline stated that KCOM are in Haxey so this only relates to Graizelound, East Lound, Owston Ferry & Westwoodside. They would check if Low Burnham has any planned works.

Clerk to provide details of the WPFA & HPFA for Quickline engagement with broadband.

Clerk to also provide the information on the flower bed that Cllr Booth raised which had been destroyed on installation of cabling.

2401/03 To approve the following minutes:

Resolved – approval of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19th December 2023.

Proposed: Cllr Thorpe, seconded: Cllr Skelton. All in favour.

Resolved – approval of the minutes of the Finance Meeting held on 23rd January 2024.

Proposed: Cllr Rowbotham, seconded: Cllr Booth. All in favour.

- 2401/04** To record declarations of interest by any member of the Council in respect of the agenda items listed below. Members declaring interests should identify the agenda item and type of interest being declared.
 Cllrs Holgate, Lindley, Steers & Harris declared a personal interest in agenda item 2401/31 & 37.
 Cllr Rowbotham declared a personal interest in agenda items 2401/31, 37, 38 & 39.
 Cllr Martin declared a prejudicial interests in agenda item 2401/23 & 33.
 Cllr Taylor declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 2401/23 & 33 and a personal interest in agenda item 2401/38.
- 2401/05** To note dispensations given to any member of the Council in respect of the agenda items listed.
 Dispensation granted regarding item 2401/14 due to the Parish Council being Sole Trustee of WPPFA.
- 2401/06** **Planning**
To note the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 24th January 2024.
 The minutes of the meeting were noted.
- 2401/07** **Clerks Report**
- a. NLC information on litter and fly tipping fines.
 - b. Keadby & Cottam, Keadby & West Burton National Grid response – this is a separate project from the North Humber & High Marnham project. Both are part of the Great Gride Upgrade. The latter is to increase the capacity of electricity transmission network between the north of England and the Midlands. The proposed Keadby refurbishments are needed to ensure that the lines continue to provide a safe and reliable supply of electricity to homes and businesses in the area. Cllr Steers stated that although there has been public consultation advertised, he thought residents should be made aware by writing an article with a map and place this in the Arrow.
Resolved - Cllr Steers to provide the draft this week, the Clerk will then circulate and give Council a few days to allow time to place in the Arrow. Clerk to also place on the notice boards and Facebook page. **Proposed: Cllr Booth, seconded: Cllr Thorpe. All in favour.**
 - c. Comments regarding the Haxey Hood. It was noted that the volunteers cleared the streets very well. There was no police presence this year.
 - d. Tunstall Telecom – Dispersed care call alarms /Mobile Phone coverage update.
 - e. Footpath repair/tree down. Cllr Lindley stated that she had reported a further fallen tree.
- Improvement / Projects**
Highways / Neighbourhood Services / North Lincolnshire Council items
- 2401/08** To determine actions required regarding the installation of electricity on Greenhill, Haxey and Christmas Street Lighting.
 Clerk to contact NLC to obtain an update on the uplighting.
 Cllr Holgate to obtain information from the Belton Lighting Group for the next meeting.
- 2401/09** To receive an update regarding the Church Street, Lowcroft Avenue and Low Street parking issues determining any actions required.
 The venue is booked for the public meeting on Tuesday 20th February at the Church Hall in Haxey 6-8pm. NLC are attending. Clerk to inform both Ward Cllrs.
 Cllr Rowbotham agreed to deliver leaflets advertising the event to residents of Church Street. Clerk to email the resident of Church Street who raised concerns.
- 2401/10** To receive an update on the incident with the bus shelter on the High Street in Haxey determining actions required.
 Item deferred until a quote has been received from NLC on a replacement shelter.
 A resident left the meeting.
- 2401/11** To be notified of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England – Community Governance Review determining actions required.

The Council voted on the following questions raised in the review. The clerk will submit to NLC.

1. Whether your council wants to create, merge, alter or abolish your parish?

Resolved – No. Proposed: Cllr Booth, seconded: Cllr Lindley. All in favour.

2. Does your council wish to amend the name of your parish?

Resolved – No. Proposed: Cllr Booth, seconded: Cllr Lindley. 12 for with 1 abstention.

3. The views of your council on the electoral arrangements for the parish i.e the ordinary year of election, council size, the number of councillors to be elected to the council and parish warding.

Resolved – Leave as it is now. Proposed: Cllr Booth, seconded: Cllr Carlile. All in favour.

4. Does your council wish to be grouped with another parish under a common parish council or the de-grouping of parishes?

Resolved – No. Proposed: Cllr Booth, seconded: Cllr Lindley. All in favour.

A resident re-joined the meeting.

2401/12 To be notified of the correspondence received from a resident of Haxey Lane regarding speeding traffic determining any actions required.

It was agreed by several Councillors that the email received was rude and aggressive.

The Local Authority and Police have done speed checks.

Cllr Lindley had been given some 30mph signs from a local resident and she had passed these to the Ward Cllrs who would check with NLC about putting them up.

Clerk to ask NLC again if any further signage could be erected.

Resolved – Clerk to inform the resident that the relevant authorities have deemed Haxey Lane as not being a priority and as they are the experts the decisions on Haxey Lane would be left with them.

Proposed: Cllr Skelton, seconded: Cllr Thorpe. All in favour.

Reports / Updates

2401/13 To receive a report from the Ward Councillors on activities within North Lincolnshire Council.

Cllr Kennedy updated the Council on the following issues:

Nick Fletcher, the next MP for the area will be visiting various locations over the next month. This information will be provided to the Clerk to share with Councillors.

Clerk to make contact to see if he will attend the March meeting.

The drainage issues at the pond have been reported and Cllr Kennedy has provided contact details for the Clerk to follow this up. This is now a Ward Priority.

Blackmoor Bridge is being monitored.

An appeal has been verified for 12 Greenhill, Haxey. The Clerk is yet to receive this information from NLC.

There is a new timetable available for the 97-bus route which started yesterday.

The consultation on Devolution has finished, the information will be analysed in February and in March the 3 Councils will meeting to discuss if they would like to go ahead.

2401/14 To receive a report from the Westwoodside Playing Field Management Committee.

The minutes were circulated prior to this meeting.

2401/15 To receive an update report on Westwoodside Pond determining actions required.

Clerk to contact the testing companies as recommended by the EA for quotes.

2401/16 To receive an update report from the Planting Group determining actions required.

The In Bloom grant has been submitted.

Cllr Bond asked for an update on the removal of the privet and repair of the wall at the toilet. Clerk to chase up this response and copy in the Ward Cllr.

A monthly Planting Group meeting was required now to move this year's projects forward.

2401/17 To receive an update report from the 80th D-Day Event Working Group determining any actions required.

The next meeting is scheduled for 6th February.

The grant has been submitted for the soldier silhouettes.

2401/18 To receive an update report from the Haxey Parish Culture & History Group determining any actions required.

Cllr Holgate provided an update and a summary of feasibility project for the site which council had received prior to the meeting.

2401/19 To receive an update report and costs to install CCTV in the parish determining actions required.

The second quote is still to be obtained.

The Clerk has spoken with the PCC Clerk, and he has stated that if specialised then one quote would suffice. The one quote received is now being firmed up.

General Items

2401/20 To notify the Clerk of items to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Items to be sent to the Clerk.

2401/21 To notify the Clerk of items to be submitted for inclusion into the next edition of the Arrow.

- Cllr Steers to provide a write up with map for the National Grid information.
- The Clerk was asked to chase up the repair of the Nooking sign which has been laid on the floor for several months.

2401/22 To be notified of the Hedgehog Highway project determining any further actions required.

Clerk to notify the school and place into the Arrow.

2401/23 To be notified of the concerns raised regarding FP/BR97 determining any actions required.

It was stated that the Bridleway was for pedestrians, horse and cyclists and the material that has been placed on to the FP/BR should be removed.

Resolved - the Clerk contact the PROW Officer asking if there is a lawful right allowing people to drive on a BR and if there is what is it.

Clerk to ask the PROW Officer to visit the site to access the state of repair to it, this should be carried out urgently.

Proposed: Cllr Booth, seconded: Cllr Lindley, 9 for with 4 abstentions.

Cllr Taylor stated that the FP/BR is full of dog faeces.

2401/24 To determine actions required regarding the Westwoodside & Haxey mobile phone coverage situation.

Responses have been received from MP Andrew Percy and several other items of information have been circulated. This is a national issue, and it is believed that it is being addressed by the relevant authorities.

2401/25 To consider 2024 events determining actions required.

Cllr Martin asked if there was anything planned for the Isle of Axholme Day. As this is so close to the 80th D-Day event it was thought not.

2401/26 To consider the remodelling of the triangle of grass at the Hood Stone determining actions required.

It was reiterated that this land was owned by NLC who had given permission for the Parish Council to weed. At the next Planting Group meeting this was to be discussed and then Cllr Rowbotham to provide a proposal for the Clerk to submit to NLC for a refresh of the area.

2401/27 To consider when the parish assets are inspected and when/how Health & Safety issues are dealt with determining actions required.

Clerk to create an asset check list and this will be checked on a regular basis.

Finance

2401/28 To receive a copy of the Financial Statement up to 30th January 2024.

Item noted.

- 2401/29** To consider the recommendations from the Finance Committee for the 2024/25 Budget/Precept.
Resolved – the budget was agreed, and the precept will be set at £39,404.27 which will keep band D at £23.13 the same as 2023/24.
- 2401/30** To consider the next steps for Dr Dysons Garden refurbishment determining actions required.
 The works have been completed to make the area safe.
 Cllr Taylor stated that there was a laburnum tree that still needs removed. Cllr Booth to organise.
 Due to the cost of the quote received a further 2 are required. Names of local landscapers to be provided to the Clerk.
- 2401/31** To consider a grant request from Haxey Parish Culture & History Group.
 Cllr Holgate explained that the group have been offered the toilet block to use as an exhibition centre.
 The grant would be for a feasibility study to see if this was possible.
 The building would be rebuilt with accessible toilet facilities and would be managed by the Group.
Resolved – approval of a grant of £1500.
Proposed: Cllr Thorpe, seconded: Cllr Harris. 8 for, 1 against and 4 abstentions.
- 2401/32** To consider attendance to the ERNLLCA Essentials of Being a Good Employer.
 Item noted.
- 2401/33** To consider the cost of taking on the bin located on Blackmoor Lane determining actions required.
 Cllr Martin stated that this was being offered to the Council, if not required it would be removed.
 Cllrs Martin & Taylor left the room.
Resolved – the Council agreed that there are sufficient bins in the area, and they would not like to take this one on as access would mean using a vehicle to empty.
Proposed: Cllr Booth, seconded: Cllr Lindley. 8 for, 1 against with 2 abstentions.
- 2401/34** To consider the increase in costs for the Arrow Publication determining actions required.
Resolved – continue to use the Arrow Publication as a good form of communication with residents.
Proposed: Cllr Booth, seconded: Cllr Thorpe. All in favour.
- 2401/35** To consider the costs for wooden structures to be placed round the parish determining actions required.
 These have been included in the 80th D-Day grant application.
- 2401/36** To consider expenditure for the 2024 Over 70's Party.
Resolved – a sum not to exceed £2000.
Proposed: Cllr Lindley, seconded: Cllr Booth. All in favour.

Grant Requests

- 2401/37** To consider a grant request from Haxey Parish Cultural & History Group.
 Discussed under item 2401/31.
- 2401/38** To consider a grant request from Haxey Parish WI Group.
 This was not a grant but a request to manage the Dr Dyson site. It was agreed that due to the current works being undertaken at the site this would be deferred until the works have been completed.
- 2401/39** To consider a grant request from Haxey & Westwoodside Bowls Club.
 Cllr Harris declared a personal interest.
Resolved – approve a grant of £300.
Proposed: Cllr Knowles, seconded: Cllr Martin. 11 for, 1 against and 2 abstentions.

Expenditure

- 2401/40** To approve the following accounts.

Salary, expenses & admin		
H M Revenue	Employers NI / Tax	
NEST	Pension contributions	£148.17

BT	Phone & Broadband	£108.07
Arrow Publication	Article Fee	£84.00
Cloudy IT	IT Support	£42.58
NS Groundcare	Dr Dysons Garden	£660.00
Post Office	Postage – Over 70's	£75.00
Total Expenditure 30 th January 2024		£1,884.31

Resolved – approval of the monthly accounts for payment.

Proposed: Cllr Bond, seconded: Cllr Lindley. All in favour.

2401/41 To agree the time and date of the next meeting as 6.45pm on Tuesday 27th February 2024.

2401/42 To consider the exclusion of the public and press in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s1(2) due to the confidential nature of the item to be discussed if required.

Appendix A – Abbreviations

AA	Allotment Association
CCC	Caravan & Camping Club
CEP	Community Emergency Plan
Cllrs	Councillors
DPD	Development Plan Document
EA	Environmental Agency
ERNLLCA	East Riding & North Lincolnshire Local Council Advisors
FP	Footpath
HPFA	Haxey Playing Field Association
HMRC	Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs
HWRCC	Humber Wolds Rural Community Council
ICCM	Institute of Cemetery & Cremations Management
LDF	Local Development Framework
LWP	Land Working Party
LWT	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
NATs	Neighbourhood Action Teams
NHW	Neighbourhood Watch
NHP	Neighbourhood Plans
NLC	North Lincolnshire Council
NLH	North Lincolnshire Homes
PCC	Parochial Church Council
P&CC	Police Crime Commissioner
PP	Planning permission
PPAG	Parish Plan Action Group
PROW	Public Right of Way
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
TEN	Temporary Event Notice
T & PC	Town & Parish Council
WLHH	We Live Here Haxey
WPFA	Westwoodside Playing Field Association
WPFMC	Westwoodside Playing Field Management Committee
WWS	Westwoodside