



Skipton Town Council

Minutes of the Public Services Committee meeting of Skipton Town Council held in the Council Chambers on Thursday 7th April 2022

Those Present.

Chairman: Councillor D Shaw
Councillors: Councillor E Jaquin, P Madeley, Councillor K McIntyre, Councillor C Nash & Councillor R Judge
Officers: Mrs L Close (Chief Officer) Mr M Robinson (Estate Supervisor), Mr D Wilkinson (Estates), Miss S Lawson (Allotment Officer)
Public: Ms D Hennessey (Broughton Road Allotment Association)
Mrs Lesley Tate (Craven Herald)
4 members of the public

2021/063

ITEM 1 – Chairman’s remarks

Councillor Shaw thanked and welcomed everyone to the last meeting of this committee before the elections.

2021/064

ITEM 2 – Apologies for Absence

Councillor R Mahmood who had a prior engagement

2021/065

ITEM 3 – Disclosures of Interest

None declared.

2021/066

ITEM 4 – Dispensations Requested

None requested.

2021/067

ITEM 5 - Representations from public

Broughton Road allotment association thanked the Council for the recent skip day and to Summer for organising this. Everyone found it very useful. They requested some hard core for the car park if possible. They also advised that they would be joining with the associations on the 28th of May to raise the profile of allotments and to sell seedlings and other produce to raise funds. This would take place at the front of the Town Hall along with other organisations. They confirmed that work was in progress on Plot 5 and that trees would be planted for the Queens jubilee with an invite for an open day soon to be circulated. They further confirmed that them along with Middletown association were intrigued with the request for a community plot on number 75 which was to be discussed later the agenda.

Mrs S Carpenter presented the council with a donation of £400 that had been raised for the Broughton Road playground. The Chief Officer received this from her and she and all involved were thanked.

2021/068

ITEM 6 – Minutes of the previous meeting

Proposed by Councillor P Madeley
Seconded by Councillor K McIntyre

RESOLVED that with the amendment, the minutes of the Public Services Committee meeting held on 6th January 2022 are a true and accurate record.

(unanimous)

2021/069

ITEM 7 – Matters Arising

War Memorial - It was confirmed that the Chief Officer was struggling to find a company to quote for the clean of the war memorial to complete the grant application however Mark had supplied a list from Craven crematorium so this would be worked on, and Councillor Jaquin confirmed he would look for a historical report where this matter was investigated previously.

Church Wall Repair - It was confirmed that further discussions were being held with the tree officer from Craven and the surveyors with regards to the repair of the wall and would be reported back to the next meeting.

Road sweeper – Council Madeley confirmed he had received both positive and negative feedback to this proposal and that the project needed to be moved forward with the next council. He further confirmed he had obtained 2 quotes and will bring them to the Chief Officer and the next committee.

2021/070

ITEM 8 – Budget

Councillor Madeley confirmed that as a council the need was there to ensure that staff were not over stretched, and that workload was managed. This was confirmed by the Estates team that they did not require anymore staff and that workload was managed with no back log. Councillor Nash asked what the situation was with community payback. Councillor Madeley further advised that it was important that as a council staff and workload was measured.

2021/071

ITEM 9 – Wildflower Verges

An update of the wildflower verges was given, and everybody was pleased with the progress. A proposal of the verges to not cut and allow to grow was given and accepted.

2021/072

ITEM 10 – Grass Cutting

The actual costs of the verge grass cutting were presented and discussed, and this was confirmed to Councillor Madeley who had requested this information, identifying the costs involved for cutting Highways visibility verges and Councillor Madeley advised that he felt the Town Council should not be cutting the grass for North Yorkshire County Council. Councillor Nash advised that if it was visibility grass then it was presumed this needed to be cut. Councillor McIntyre advised that the Chief Officer should speak with NYCC and enquire what the options were. This was supported and the Chief officer confirmed she would report back to the next meeting with a copy of the Tivoli contract that the Town Council holds for the remainder of the estate grass cutting and bin emptying.

2021/073

ITEM 11 Street Lighting

Councillor Madeley had requested an actual spend of the street lighting, this was circulated and confirmed. It was discussed if grants were available for street lighting, and this would be investigated. Councillor Nash advised that she thought the light on Harewood road could be removed and the residents were previously willing to contribute to this along with another light numbered STC 010.

It was confirmed to find the cost for this work and to write to the residents to ask if this were something they would like to happen.

It was confirmed that the Estates supervisor and the Chief officer would review the street lighting and work needed.

2021/074

ITEM 12 – Benches

The reallocation of benches from the front of the town hall was agreed.

Pasture Close dog run

Bowling green next to the hospital

Raikes road playground

Friends of Raikes Road burial ground *(unanimous)*

2021/075

ITEM 13- Allotment update

An update report given by the allotments officer was circulated prior to the meeting. This included the following items

Feedback was positive and thankful for the recent skip days.

The allotments were at full capacity with a healthy waiting list.

Northern rail were continuing to investigate the flooding issue at Broughton Road and it was asked if compensation could be given to those effected in terms of reduced rent.

A quotation for digital mapping of the allotment gardens would be presented at the next meeting.

A quotation for the pathways at Middletown would be presented at the next meeting as they were slippery and muddy and had limited disability access.

Lighting was needed, especially for tenants with pony plots.

The allotment officer was looking at the possibility of compost toilet facilities at the sites.

A community fridge scheme was being investigated.

2021/076

ITEM 14 – The Exclusion of press and public

It was resolved that this committee would be considering business of a confidential nature and the press and public will therefore be excluded. (Public Bodies Admissions to Meetings Act 1960, s1 [2]).

2021/077

ITEM 15 –

2021/078

ITEM 16 –

2021/079

ITEM 17 - Notification of Business for future agenda

No items for the next agenda were given at this stage.

Thanks was expressed to Councillor Jaquin for his service on the committee and to the Town Council as he was not standing in the forthcoming elections.

With no further business discussed the meeting was closed at 20:38pm