

MELSONBY PARISH COUNCIL RATIFIED MINUTES

THE MEETING OF MELSONBY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON Wednesday 22nd January at 6.30pm at St James Church Meeting Room

PRESENT: Cllr G Angus (GA), (Chair), Cllr V Elrington (VE) (Vice Chair), Cllr J Stansfield (JS), Cllr B Bottle (BB), Cllr T Henderson (TH).

In attendance: J Pears (Clerk), Cllr Angus Thompson (AT) – North Yorkshire Council (NYC).

Item	Covering	Summary	Detail/Action	Action/By Who
1.	Apologies		RESOLVED - Cllr W Nixon (WN) – ACCEPTED .	
2.	Declarations of Interest		None.	
3.	Minutes of last meeting		RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 th November 2024 are confirmed as a true record and signed by Chair.	Completed
4.	Councillor Vacancy		RESOLVED – Mr Steven Turner (ST) was unanimously co-opted on to the Parish Council to fill position left vacant by the resignation of Councillor Sutton. Clerk gave ST the declaration of acceptance to sign and he joined the Parish Council.	Clerk/ST
5.	Rural Arts		RESOLVED – Hannah Munro from Rural Arts was invited to speak about what Rural Arts offer. They offer live performances from a variety of acts and genres across North Yorkshire and Tees Valley. It supports rural communities bringing acts from all over the globe to community venues. GA felt that this could be of interest to the Bell Project as it could help to raise funds for the project. The information will be shared with other community groups and projects.	Completed
6.	Police update	No police were present at the meeting.	RESOLVED - The December update was received and circulated prior to the meeting. This was posted on the website and Facebook page.	Completed
7.	Progress reports and updates since last meeting:			
7a.	NYC Councillor update	Update from Councillor Angus Thompson (AT).	<p>RESOLVED – AT attended the meeting and gave an update and confirmed that a report would be available at the beginning of February 2025 for circulation. AT confirmed that there would be a council tax increase. AT addressed the NYC planning concerns/issue from Parish Councillors. The planning team had experienced planning officer shortages; this is a national problem. However, planning will be turned around by Easter.</p> <p>Councillors asked if consideration had been given to the size of Western House, is there a limit to the expansion? Councillors have fed this back to NYC planning and has not had an acknowledgement or response. They also asked AT to ensure that adequate signage from Western House is in place. ST raised the question as to the usage change of Western House. AT to clarify this. Councillors raised the question again as to whether the role of reviewing and commenting on planning applications is a tick box exercise. This too has been raised a number of times and as yet has not been acknowledged or responded to.</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>AT</p> <p>AT</p>

7b.	Community Speed Watch (CSW) and VAS	Update.	RESOLVED –Andrew - CSW co-ordinator shared VAS data stats prior to the meeting. These were shared with the Parish Council. Andrew has confirmed he will attend the March meeting. Councillors discussed moving the VAS, could it be moved to outside the school from East Road. Councillors will look at the pole installed as it may not be a straightforward move. Councillors discussed the Moor Road sign as it needs recalibrating. Clerk to follow this up with Andrew.	Completed Andrew/ Clerk
7c.	35 Church Row public footpath	Ongoing.	RESOLVED – GA confirmed that Tim Westgarth agreed to the route of the permissive footpath and will help with the clearing of the footpath. GA is arranging to meet with the resident to confirm the agreed footpath. TH will attend the meeting.	TH/WN/ GA
7d.	Limegarth Development	Ongoing.	RESOLVED – The trees have been cut back. No date has been confirmed for the demolition of the bungalow. Clerk has followed this up.	Clerk
7e.	Blocked drain from West Road to Jagger Lane footpath		RESOLVED – Completed. See item 7g.	Completed
7f.	Leaking pipe on Moor Road	There is a leaking pipe, the gully has been cleared out and linking pipe is leaking.	RESOLVED – Councillors met with Steve Barker at NYC and reported the leak. NYC have confirmed they will deal with the issue. See item 7g.	Completed
7g.	Meeting with Steve Barker NYC		RESOLVED - Councillors met with Steve Barker and discussed a number of issues. GA has outlined all issues in an email following the meeting. Clerk has requested an update from Steve and will share the email with councillors.	Clerk/GA
7h.	Missing Jagger Lane footpath sign		RESOLVED – The new sign has been installed.	Completed
7i.	Play Park equipment repair		RESOLVED – GA and WN have looked at the equipment. GA instructed the supplier to go ahead and supply and fit the missing bar and grommets. Clerk has a cost of £350+VAT from GCH to pressure wash the algae/moss areas. Councillors agreed for the work to go ahead.	Clerk/GA Clerk
7j.	Dropped kerbs for wheel chair users		RESOLVED – Clerk raised the issue with Highways and asked if more could be done. The kerbs accessing the village green from Moor Road have limited access for wheel chair and buggy users. Highways will have a look at the area. See item 7g.	Completed
7k.	Dangerous kerb from A66 to Harelands		RESOLVED – WN raised the issue with AT and asked that he speak with Highways as the kerb sticks out and vehicles have hit it. It needs removing. Councillors asked Clerk to contact Steve Barker at Highways. Could a simple dotted white line be installed at the area? See item 7g.	Completed
7l.	Road Sweeper request		RESOLVED – The Road sweeper had been in village as requested.	Completed
7m.	Burial Ground Annual Review		RESOLVED – Clerk has contacted Blenkinsop's to see if they pass on contact details to the grave digger as Clerk has not had a response. Clerk suggested that an annual review is carried out in the meantime. Clerk to arrange this with VE and WN.	Clerk/VE/ WN

7n.	Relocate the defib		RESOLVED – Councillors agreed that the defib should be moved to the new kiosk on the village green. GA has spoken with a local contractor to carry this out. It was noted that children have been seen playing with the defib. Clerk will arrange for a sign to affix to the defib – ‘Do not play with it’.	GA/Clerk
7o.	VE Day 2025		RESOLVED – VE Day is on 8 th May 2025. Clerk put a post on Facebook to see if there is an interest from the community. No interest at yet. Councillors agreed to look at this again at the March meeting.	Clerk
7p.	Rubbish in residents garden		RESOLVED – Rubbish from Bon Coeur has littered a resident’s garden. Clerk has contacted street scene at NYC and Councillor Angus Thompson – NYC. This has been addressed.	Completed
7q.	Planters around the village		RESOLVED – The planters as you enter the village are in need of some attention. Clerk put a note in the newsletter to ask for volunteers. All planters have now been covered. Clerk will respond to all volunteers. GA noted that the bulbs/planters will be provided by the Parish Council.	Clerk
8.	Matters Arising	Matters arising since the last meeting.		
8a.	Burning incorrect wood		RESOLVED – An email had been received from a resident. This is not a Parish Council matter. Clerk raised the issue with NYC.	Completed
8b.	20s Plenty updates		RESOLVED – Clerk shared an email from 20s plenty. JS agreed to continue to represent the Parish Council and fed back updates and information.	Completed
9.	Finance	Clerk to provide budget report for year 24/25. See agenda Appendix	RESOLVED – Clerk provided a budget report up to 24 th December 2024. See appendix – emailed to Cllrs prior to meeting. The following payments were approved and cheques signed: G Angus – Keys cut for new electric kiosk £44.99, J Pears – salary increase and printer cartridge £ 66.88, PCC of Melsonby – Church room hire £60, NRCP – Printing costs £72. JS did ask Clerk to include something in the newsletter about the printer being accessible to all. It can offer a photocopying service in the village for 3p per copy. Clerk confirmed that the precept 25/26 for £12500 had been applied for. The urban highways reimbursement will be £209.62 for 25/26. Clerk will invoice once a Purchase Order is received.	Completed Newsletter Completed
10.	Planning Applications	As per appendix.	RESOLVED – The applications received had been circulated and reviewed prior to the meeting. Councillors raised their concerns with AT regarding Western House, see item 7a. They also shared their concerns for the planning application re the land off Jagger Lane. Councillors felt that a site visit is required by planning. There are more vehicles at the site. Clerk to request an update from NYC enforcement officer. Councillors asked Clerk to request a meeting with planning as the questions raised re the Parish Council planning process being a tick box exercise has not been addressed. ASJ would like to attend a meeting with planning to address this too.	Clerk Clerk
11.	Correspondence	Correspondence received and dealt with by Clerk since last meeting.	RESOLVED – Correspondence as per appendix. Clerk had circulated the NYC local plan update for review.	Completed
12.	Any other business		RESOLVED – GA raised the issue with NYC re squatting at quarry entrance. They have since moved on. Mole holes have appeared on the village green. Councillors agreed for this to be dealt with. Clerk will contact D+D Mole Control. A property on West Road requires the bushes/branches to be cut back. Clerk to put a letter through their door.	Completed Clerk Clerk

			<p>An email was received from Spencer House, this was not a Parish Council issue and Clerk suggested speaking with NYC and raised the issue with AT.</p> <p>An email has been received asking for the Parish Council to support Hamsterley Forest from development and to oppose a planning application received. The Parish Council agreed that it would not be right for the PC to object or otherwise on behalf of our parishioners as we do not know their views.</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p>
13.	Public participation	Opportunity for residents to bring matters to the attention of the Parish Council.	RESOLVED – None.	
14.	Items for future agenda	Opportunity for Councillors to bring up items to be included in next meeting's agenda.	RESOLVED – None.	
15.	Date of next meeting		The next meeting will be on 19th March 2025 at 6.30pm in St James Church Meeting room.	
<u>Meeting ended at 8pm</u>				