

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 9th JANUARY 2025

Attendees: Charles Brader (CB)
Gordon McIllroy (GM)
Charlotte Russell (CR)
Eileen Birrell (EB)
Gerald Bainbridge (GB)
Pauline Foster (PF)
Keith Bristow (KB)

Apologies: David Griffin (DG)
Carol Dixon (CD)

1. Minutes from the Meeting 19th September 2024.

The minutes from the meeting were accepted as a true record.

3. Matters raising

- a. Village signs: The quote from "JACS" for three Gateway signs (£2680) has been accepted and an order placed. They will be delivered to CB at Manor Farm. EB to progress.
- b. Passing Places: Installation of signs on Fridaythorpe road has been completed by NYCC.
- c. Thixendale Parish Website: GB has agreed to discuss with David Lake the structure and format of PC information on the Thixendale website.
- d. Martinholme Flooding: Recent heavy rain resulted in water and debris overwhelming the gulleys on Martinholme. There remains a serious risk of floodwater entering nearby properties and debris on the road creating a danger to traffic, particularly cyclists. GB to progress with NYCC.

3. AONB

The formal consultation phase, during which individuals have been able to express their views, is now coming to the end. Karen Bisby, in a letter to the PC expressed concern that the Parish Poll was no longer valid due to two factors. Firstly, since the poll was carried out the village population has changed. Figures provided by CR show that of approximately 65 homes 8 have new residents. Of these 8, 5 are rental changes. In discussion the PC felt that if all the new residents voted for the AONB status it would not alter the overall majority decision. Her second concern was that the poll was carried out before the formal consultation began and new information may have altered peoples views. The PC consensus was that the Poll was accompanied by extensive information of AONB status including "For's" and "Against" based upon experience from other AONB's. The recent "AONB walk in session" added no new information. As a result of this discussion the PC's view remains, as previously stated, for Thixendale to be excluded from the designation AONB.

See Attached letter from Karen Bisby to the PC and "Consultation Response to Proposed AONB" submitted to Natural England by PC Chairman David Griffith.

4. Financial update

- a As of November 2024 there was £7580.20 in the parish account. The precept of £1600 is due in April.

5. AOB

- a York Local Council Association: EB has applied for PC membership. The cost per annum is approximately £140. See link: <https://www.yorkshirelca.gov.uk/>

7. Road Works -

- a Burdale. GB forwarded feedback, collected by CD, to NYC Highways. GB to ascertain if the surface is to be treated with chippings.
- b Aldro Farm. GB to request NYC Highways inspect the condition of the road.

8. Parish Plan:

CD has proposed the PC reconsider for update the existing Parish Plan which was created in 2009. The PC agreed the item will be included in the Village Meeting prior to the AGM in May.

Dates for PC meetings in 2025 are as follows (All in the village hall at 1800hrs):

Next Meeting : 15th May + AGM

LETTER FROM KAREN BISBY

Dear Parish Councillor Chair and members

I writing to you about the proposed AONB, (and as I understand it) the PCs proposal to involve members of Parliament and indeed the Secretary of State should Thixendale be included.

If I've understood it correctly this very strong reaction is based on the belief that the Parish Council is representing a strong mandate from its Parishioners to reject the proposal and keep Thixendale out.

I would like to put on record that I believe this assumption is no longer valid. It being based on a vote more than 2 and a half years ago, which only half the village participated in.

I understand the process caused quite a lot of angst in the village at the time with even those voting expressing different but strongly held views.

It was also well before the full consultation exercise on the AONB proposal itself got started.

I would expect that both the thinking and detail behind the proposal together with access to information about it as developed. We can't assume that this hasn't had an influence on peoples original thinking.

Nor can we ignore that there have been a significant number of changes to the village itself, with for its size, a relevant number of leavers and new comers.

Parishioners (including Parish council members) have been given the opportunity via the Natural England project to put on record their views, which I understand many have done.

I dont believe there is any need for the Parish council to take any further action. I would ask they reconsider their original intentions and await the overall findings/conclusions.

I would appreciate my opinion being put on record.

Thank you for all you do for the village. I do appreciate it's not easy balancing all priorities.

Yours sincerley
Karen Bisby

"Consultation Response to Proposed AONB" submitted to Natural England by PC Chairman David Griffith.

See separate communication

