

MUSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs B Williamson, High Hal, Yedmandale Road, West Ayton, YO13 9JP.

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 10th January 2023 in Muston Village Hall.

Apologies: Cllr. Bailey.

Present: Cllrs. G Owen, F Warters, G Allanson, J McClusky, R Hambridge, S Chalmers, Mrs B Williamson (Clerk), NY Cllr. M Donohue – Moncrief.

Notice of meeting: Cllr. Owen declared public notice of the meeting had been given in accordance with Public Notice 1972 schedule 12 para 1-(2) of the Local Government Act.

Chairmans' opening address: 1/23

Cllr. Owen welcomed all to the meeting & wished everyone Happy New Year. She welcomed new Councillor Richard Hambridge. The framed certificate of Freedom of the Parish of Muston was presented to Cllr. Allanson. The Village Hall have agreed to display a copy in the hall. Cllr. Warters will deliver it to a committee member.

Declarations of Interest: Cllr. Warters – King Hill footpath. 2/23

Public Open Forum: No public present. 3/23

Reports: 4/23

a) **Police** – Circulated as received. Recent Teams meeting cancelled.

b) **NY Cllr. Donohue Moncrief:**

- Provided an overview of the consultation undertaken by Highways on the proposed King Hill footpath & double yellow lines. Overwhelming response from the public in favour of the proposed scheme. She has requested that Highways confirm they have met all the necessary legal requirements. Discussion in which all councillors participated. They were sympathetic to the residents concerns but accepted that the decision was with Highways who feel the initiative will make it safer for pedestrians but also improve safety at the junction which the Parish Council has been campaigning for many years. Clerk requested to write to residents explaining their position.
- An overview of the new North Yorkshire Council provided. Officers still being appointed. A £30 million debt will be inherited so cutbacks possible and streamlining of services to reduce deficit is likely.
- Community Network scheme still being considered, concerns that this would probably undermine the effectiveness of Parish Councils.
- Parish Charter to be circulated soon & responses encouraged.

Cllr Allanson enquired if it was likely that the number of Councillors would be increased to share the workload & if local customer service centre would remain. No suggestion for more councillors. No definite decision on local service centres but there is a commitment to provide similar in each area.

c) Clerks report:

- A suggestion for a community orchard proposed by a resident for a memorial to the Queen.
- Grass cutting tender due to be renewed & tenders requested. Cllr. Chalmers will update the schedule & it will be circulated to interested contractors.
- Various light issues, potholes, road markings & empty salt bins reported.

d) Reports from other councillors: Cllr. Allanson attended a Highway's meeting. Issue of new footpath & double yellow lines raised.

e) Chairman's Report:

- Christmas lights switch on enjoyable but not well attended.
- Tree taken down & will be removed by P Wilson.
- Potholes appeared on Carr Lane. Will be reported by Clerk.
- Cllrs. Chalmers & McClusky will check salt bins & notify clerk if any require refilling.
- Dog fouling continues to be a concern on Carr Lane. Cllr. Chalmers will put out additional signs.

Approval of Minutes from meetings held on 8th November 2022: 5/23

Circulated in advance & assumed as read.

Proposed to accept Cllr. Allanson, seconded Cllr. Warters. All agreed – carried. Signed by Chair.

Finance Report: Circulated in advance. 6/23

Income – Nil.

Outgoings - £6497.87 (a two-month period), include payment for VAS sign & tree maintenance work.

Proposed to accept – Cllr. Chalmers, seconded Cllr. McClusky. Carried. Signed by Cllr. Owen & Warters.

Parish Precept 2023 - 2024.

Clerk circulated information on previous years' spending, expenditure so far, likely forecasts on forthcoming year budgets & any proposed schemes likely to be undertaken by the Parish Council.

Examples of the impact on households on different budget increases for each house band.

Discussion on all aspects. Proposal to increase the precept by 20%. Vote taken, 1 in favour 5 against. A second proposal by Cllr. Warters to make an increase of 10% in line with inflation, seconded by Cllr. Hambridge. Vote taken. All in favour. Carried. Clerk will notify SBC of request for funding of £8250 pa.

Planning: No applications received. 7/23

Parish Issues: 8/23

- **Pond Clearance (Hunmany Street):** Trees have been cleared / pruned. Silt still needs to be removed. Cllr. Allanson has not been able to identify anyone to undertake this work. Clerk will contact planning & conservation officers for any necessary permissions. Cllr. Chalmers will explore possible alternative contractors.
- **Village Green drainage:** Weeds growing in the area. Cllr. Chalmers will speak to P Wilson to see if he can undertake this work.

- **Queen Elizabeth Memorial:** The idea of a community orchard was discussed & the difficulty of identifying suitable land. As an alternative Cllr. Owen proposed the idea of a community fruit press for residents to bring their own fruit. It was suggested that this could possibly be housed in the shed behind the Village Hall. Clerk will contact the Village Hall committee to see if this is a possibility. All councillors in favour of this suggestion.

Date & Time of Next meeting:

TUESDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 2023 @ 7.00PM

Meeting closed @ 9.05pm