

KIRKBURTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5 October 2023 at 7.30 pm at Burton Village Hall

Present: Cllr B Smith (in the Chair)

Cllrs B Armer, R Barraclough, D Black, R Bray, R Burton, A Cooper, J Cowan, D Hardcastle, D Knight, A Munro, J Paxton, W Rowlands, J Taylor, C Voyce, E Voyce, C Walters and M Wheelhouse.

Officer in attendance: Mrs A Royle.

Min 94 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs C Bright, P Brook, I Carthy, M Carthy, P McGleenan, R Smith, P Taylor. Cllr C Voyce apologised for her late arrival.

Min 95 Declarations of Interest

The following declarations of interest were made:

Cllr Armer declared an interest in all planning applications as he is a member of Kirklees' Strategic Planning Committee and a reserve member of the Heavy Woollen and Huddersfield Planning Committees. He stated that any views expressed would be of a preliminary nature with the final decision being taken at the Committee meeting when in receipt of full information.

Cllr Bray declared an interest in Planning Appl 23/92770 as he knows the applicant.

Cllr Munro declared an interest in all planning applications as she is a reserve member of all the Kirklees Planning Committees. She stated that any views expressed would be of a preliminary nature with the final decision being taken at the Committee meeting when in receipt of full information.

Cllr J Taylor declared an interest in all planning applications as he is a reserve member of the Kirklees' Planning Committees. He stated that any views expressed would be of a preliminary nature with the final decision being taken at the Committee meeting when in receipt of full information. He also declared an interest in Planning Appl 23/92660, as he has had a meeting with the developer.

Min 96 Public Participation

Three members of the public addressed the Council on the subject of the biodiversity duty.

Min 97 Admission of the Public

Resolved: To hold the meeting in the public session.

Min 98 Change to Order of Business

Resolved: To bring the following item forward for the benefit of the members of the public present.

Cllr C Voyce entered the meeting during the following item.

Min 99 Biodiversity Duty

Members noted the new duties for the Council under the Environment Act 2021 as explained in the paper issued with the agenda. The means of complying with the Act was debated. A proposal was made to set up a working party including representation from local community groups with an amendment to note the duty and refer it to the Land & Property Committee to consider and make recommendations to Council. A recorded vote was taken on the amendment:

For: Cllrs B Armer, R Bray, J Cowan, W Rowlands, B Smith, J Taylor, C Voyce, E Voyce and M Wheelhouse.

Against: R Barraclough, D Black, R Burton, A Cooper, D Hardcastle, D Knight, A Munro, J Paxton and C Walters.

As it was a tie, the Chairman used his casting vote in favour of the motion. A substantive vote on the motion with the same result followed, in which the Chairman again used his casting vote in favour of the motion.

Resolved: To note the duty and refer it to the Land and Property Committee to consider and make recommendations to Council.

Min 100 Civic Appointments

The Chairman reported he had not attended any engagements since the last meeting.

Min 101 Council Minutes

Resolved: To confirm the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2023.

Min 102 Land & Property Committee Minutes

Resolved: To accept and adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2023.

Min 103 Plans

Members considered the Kirklees Weekly Plan Lists for weeks commencing 4, 11, 18 and 25 September 2023.

23/992796 *Work to TPO(s) 29/94 at Kirkfield, 50 Stead Lane, Kirkheaton.*

The Council queried whether or not the tree was diseased.

There was no comment on the following applications:

23/92570 Kirkburton; 23/92576 Shelley; 23/92577 Shepley; 23/92582 Kirkheaton; 23/92660 Shepley; 23/92677 Grange Moor; 23/92680 Houses Hill (Kirkheaton ward); 23/92707 Kirkburton; 23/92741 Lepton (GM ward); 23/92770 Kirkburton; 23/92782 Highburton; 23/92789 Thurstonland; 23/92798 Highburton; 23/92804 Kirkheaton; 23/92810 Fenay Bridge (Lepton ward); 23/92851 Kirkburton (Thurstonland/FT ward) and 23/92890 Kirkburton.

Min 104 Accounts

Resolved: To approve the accounts as presented (£4,704.29 including £300.00 agreed under LGA 1972 s137).

Min 105 YLCA Training Opportunities

Resolved: To note the training opportunities available, which included the Talking Tables Training Day on 10 November and the Training Programme for October to December 2023.

All details were circulated with the meeting papers.

Min 106 Volunteer Councillor

Members considered the election of a Councillor to administer the three grants schemes. It was proposed and seconded to elect Cllrs J Cowan and J Taylor to undertake the tasks as detailed in the Volunteer Agreement. A recorded vote was requested with the following result:

For: Cllrs B Armer, R Bray, J Cowan, W Rowlands, B Smith, J Taylor, C Voyce, E Voyce and M Wheelhouse.

Against: R Barraclough, D Black, R Burton, A Cooper, D Hardcastle, D Knight, A Munro, J Paxton and C Walters.

As it was a tie the Chairman used his casting vote in favour of the motion.

Resolved: To elect Cllrs J Cowan and J Taylor to administer the three grants schemes.

Cllr Walters left the meeting.

Min 107 Annual Report for the Year 2022-23

Members considered the draft report as circulated with the meeting papers.

Resolved: To approve the draft report. Also to publish it on the website and provide paper copies to the Councillors on request.

Min 108 Budget Process

Members noted the information circulated with the meeting papers. It was reported that there was likely to be a delay in the timing of the process this year.

Resolved: To note the budget process.

Min 109 Correspondence and Information

Members noted the written report, which had been emailed to members before the meeting. The Clerk reminded members to collect their poppy wreaths before they left. She also stated that the training session would follow on shortly.

Min 110 Agenda Items

No items were requested.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.