



FULL PARISH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

05 September 2022 – 7.30pm

MINUTES

Present:

Councillors: Cllr. Ashton (Chair), Cllr. Westin (Vice Chair), Cllr. Murphy, Cllr Ward, Cllr. Hall*

Clerk and RFO: Mr S Baxter **Members of the public (MOP):** None

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

Meeting was held at the SALKO Offices, Main Street, Spaldington. Due to the location, only Parish Councillors were present with no members of the community although a limited amount were welcome. All the community were invited to attend the meeting via the remote function.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

1. **Welcome to all Councillors.** The Chair will remind all that the meeting is recorded and the recordings are kept for a minimum of 12 months.

The Chair welcomed all Councillors and members of the public to the face to face Parish Meeting. He confirmed that while the Councillors and Clerk were present in person, the meeting was also to be streamed via Zoom for other members of the community and press.

2. **Members of the public participation** – Any questions will be at the discretion of the Chair.

The Clerk confirmed that there was no members of the public joining on the Zoom connection and there was no members of the public in the meeting room.

3. **Proposal to exclude members of public from participation** – but can observe

For the following agenda points members of the public can observe the meeting but cannot take part in any debate. Any persons not Councillors or the Clerk will be asked to remain silent and muted on Zoom

- *Motion to exclude any members of the public and press but they can view the meeting was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously. Motion carried.*

4. **Apologies for absence from Councillors** *

There was an apology from Cllr. Hall as he could only attend the meeting by remote access due to child care commitments. The Chair accepted his reason and the Clerk advise that while Cllr. Hall could participate in the discussions, he could not vote as he was not in attendance.



5. **Declarations of interest** – for the Council to note including dispensations presented to the Clerk

The Clerk confirmed that there were no declarations of interest submitted to him previously or at the meeting.

6. **Minutes of the last Full Parish Council Meeting** (18 July 2022) – to formally agree that the minutes are an accurate record

The Chair confirmed that the Clerk had sent the DRAFT Minutes of the last Full Parish Council meeting on the 18 July 2022

There was a discussion between the Councillors to confirm receipt and all stated they were happy it was a true and accurate record of the meeting.

- *Motion to agree the Minutes of the Full Parish Council Meeting of the 18 July 2022 was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously. Motion carried.*

7. **Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting** (28 July 2022) – to formally agree that the minutes are an accurate record

The Chair confirmed that the Clerk had sent the DRAFT Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting on the 28 July 2022

There was a discussion between the Councillors to confirm receipt and all stated they were happy it was a true and accurate record of the meeting.

- *Motion to agree the Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting of the 28 July 2022 was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously. Motion carried.*

8. **Financial update from the Clerk** (including bank reconciliations) - from the Clerk

The Clerk confirmed that he had sent the recent financial report to the Councillors for their perusal. He confirmed that the report covered the period up to the end of August 2022.

The main budget points on reflection was:

- They had to a transfer of £1,000 from the reserve account to ensure that all expenditure could be met as needed. The Clerk confirmed this was purely down to cashflow (and not solvency or budget management) as the second half of the Precept payment was due at the end of September 2022 when the £1,000 will be transferred back to the reserves. Part of the issue is that a lot of the bigger expenditure is due in the first half of the financial year - this issue may have to be reviewed in the next financial year.
- The main expenditure of the Clerking cost was estimated to be in deficit due the overtime needed for various extra work needed including dealing with the External Auditor, publishing the newsletters as well as managing the annual leave time and the work required upon return.



Spaldington Parish Council



.....at the heart of the Community, for the benefit of the Community.....

- The overall budget was still looking health in that there it is still estimated to be in a small surplus by the end of the financial year.

The Council discussed the details and stated they felt the financial operations were properly managed and that they finally felt the Council was able to look forward, not back.

- *Motion to agree the financial report laid by the Clerk to the Council was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously. Motion carried.*

9. General expenditure for approval - to formally agree that the payments are acceptable:

PAYEE	EXPENDITURE REASON	AMOUNT
Clerk Salary and overtime	Contractual for Aug & Sept 2022	Withheld due to confidentiality
Clerk's office allowance	Contractual for Aug & Sept 2022	£26.00
Clerk's travel expenses	EOM and Sept PC meeting	£48.60
Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)	Membership for Clerk	£80.00
Gallaghers Insurance	Insurance (general)	£388.50
Peninsula Insurance	Insurance - Aug 2022	£116.60 + VAT

The Clerk confirmed confirmed that the insurance expenditure was for the non-employee insurance needs such as the coverage for the street furniture and public liability.

The Councillors discussed the expenditure, including the SLCC expenditure which allowed the Clerk access to resources to allow proper advice to be given. They agreed all expenditure was in order.

- *Motion to agree the expenditure as detailed in the schedule of payments was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously. Motion carried.*

10. Planning Applications - to discuss and agree the decision on each

The Clerk confirmed that there was no planning permission applications. He stated that the Council had received an update from ERYC to the DERIBAR retrospective planning permission which had been agreed.

The Chair also opened the discussion on an issue which while is not directly in the Spaldington Parish Council area, it would have an indirect effect on the community. The issue is the very large scale building project in Howden where 1,800+ house are alleged to be being built over the next decade near Howdens Joinery.



The issue that the large scale building would cause was the possible significant traffic on the C88 road - which is still technically a single lane road which is suffering currently from extensive and increasing use of large agricultural vehicles. The fear expressed by the Councillors was that the large building and supply vehicles coming to the building site would use the C88 as a shortened route to and from the motorway. This would then cause additional and troublesome damage to the C88 which as this is vital for the local community would possible cause significant disruption to the lives of the locals living there.

The Councillors continued that they would be pushing for the C88 to have a weight limit placed on the road with 'access only' to ensure that any businesses that are actually in the community area are not prevented from using the road.

Overall it was decided that a meeting with the main building developer be organised so that the concerns could be expressed as well as a note of caution to the Planning and Highway Departments at ERYC to ensure that while the building permissions may be of an advantage for Howden as a Town, they need to appreciate the impact (albeit indirectly) on the surrounding communities.

The issue would be kept under review at future PC meetings to ascertain any immediate or long term impact.

Clerk Action: Write to the Highways and Planning teams at ERYC as well as arranging a meeting with the building developer to arrange a meeting.

11. Use of telephone box - suggestions to be discussed and consideration of decision

The Clerk confirmed he had received a letter from a younger member of the community to ask if the Council would consider using the phone box as a village library.

The Chair confirmed that there had been some informal discussions when the phone box was being renovated on the use in the future. All Councillors agree that a library idea was worth looking at but the issue may be the regular management of such a venture and that also the safety of the items that are left. However the Councillors very much encouraged suggestions from the community, both young and old, and that all would be properly considered.

Cllr Murphy updated the Council that there was still some finishing touches needed to ensure that the telephone box is fit for use and will survive all weathers.

The Councillors felt that a proper way forward is to invite the community, both individuals and community groups, to form a community group that could help with the running of any ventures in what the telephone box could be used for.

The Clerk confirmed that he would add an article to the website as well as publishing a notice for the noticeboard inviting any interest parties to contact the Council and then this could be discussed in more detail at the next Full PC Meeting in October 2022.

Clerk Action: to publish an update on the website as well as a notice for the noticeboard.



12. Discussion on pathways in Spaldington and the surrounding area

The Clerk had previously been asked by the Councillors to find a map with the pathways and bridleways in the area - this was to ensure that that signposts for the various walkways was accurate. This was also linked to the recent new gateway at the Oak Tree Farm - there was a mess left (which has since been cleared up) with the installation of the new gate. It has been found that while the main gate leading to the farm is locked, there is an open gate for walkers.

The map from the Public Right of Way Team at ERYC has been chased up by the Clerk and the issue of the pathways in the area will be discussed at the next PC Meeting in October 2022.

13. Impact of Council decision upon Councillors - safety considerations

The Chair wanted the issue of possible repercussions of decisions and recommendations on the individual Councillors brought to attention to allow the issue to be properly addressed. He continued that it would appear that from a recent decision by the Council on a planning application, he has possibly been the target of a campaign by unknown individual/s in regard to the decision. A few months ago it was found that a motor vehicle belonging to him was found to have had the air brake pipes damaged which could have had a devastating consequence - upon review it was found the damage could not have been accidental.

Then recently upon returning to his workplace, a fire had been started on a hedge on his property which had become engulfed very quickly and whilst thankfully he was able to put the fire out with assistance using fire extinguishers, it still could have been very serious. The worrying aspect was that a person was seen running away from the scene but unfortunately they were not identified.

A second Councillor has found that one occasion a person was seen walking around his business' property and when asked what he was doing, the answer was very suspicious. This was in addition to another Councillor who has been the subject of abuse and possibly being threatened with the consequences of their part in the Council's decision.

All the above matters have been reported to the Police and while there is a suspect and have noted the various details, they are unable to take action until any person is caught in any act or specific evidence is found. But all Councillors have been asked to note any unusual or odd occurrences they experience in regard to activity on their properties or workplaces.

The Councillors as a whole would like to ask the community that while of course they appreciate the frustration by some of their decisions, in planning or other matters, they are volunteers and are making the best decision for their community in what they feel is the best way.

Overall, the Councillors have been in contact with the Police and at meeting where the Police representatives will be present, the Councillors will be asking what the Police are doing to protect elected officials in communities?



14. Noticeboard - discussion on the usage

The Chair confirmed that the new noticeboard had been delivered and had been installed - thanks were offered to Cllr Murphy and his team for the great work and the new noticeboard was a great addition to the community.

Clerk confirmed that he had received various communications from the community about the use of the new noticeboard and the access that the community would have to advertise local events and local tradesman. This was following the new noticeboard currently being locked and thus some community were unable to use the noticeboard as intended.

The Council discussed the use and felt that while the noticeboard was for the use of the community, the primary use should be for the Council to ensure that any statutory items are clearly displayed for the benefit of the community as they are required. They agreed the following process:

- One side will solely be for the PC to use to publish any needed statutory or information items such as meeting agendas, AGAR documents or Council contact details. This side will be locked for the PC use only.
- The other side will be kept unlocked and will be used for the benefit of the community. The Council wanted it noting that it cannot endorse any community notices or any advertisements for local tradesman as this would not be proper or be in the spirit of governance.
- The Council did state that if they felt the area was being abused then they reserve the right to lock that side. The council did also agree that for a few times a year when there are a large amount of paperwork that needed publishing (such as the end of the financial year documents) the PC may need to use the 'community side' as well but it will only be for a limited period of time but during this time it will be locked. Once the area can be used again by the community, the lock will be removed.

Any questions on the use of the noticeboard should initially be directed to the Clerk.

Cllr Murphy confirmed that a new thumb turn screw for the community side has been ordered and that he was hopeful that it would arrive soon - whereupon it will be installed in the one side for the community.

15. Newsletter distribution - update from the Clerk and Chair

The Clerk confirmed that the newsletter special that highlighted the issue of the community member's septic tanks, had been published and had been delivered to most of the community throughout the village - only a few were left to be delivered.

He also confirmed that he would happily email any further newsletters to households if they preferred and a mailing list could be formed. He invited any households that wish to receive an electronic copy to contact me with their contact email address.



The Chair and the Council confirmed that since the delivery of the newsletter, there had been a noticeable increase in various septic tank tradesman in the area who were undertaking services and reviews on domestic septic tanks. **The Council stated they wished to thank the community for being supportive of this project and hoped that from this work, the future management of the dyke areas would be helped.**

16. Contact with the Humber Drainage Board and Environment Agency - update from the Clerk

The Clerk confirmed that he had been in contact with the EA and the Drainage Board in regard to the issue of the blocked dykes which may have been causing unpleasant odours (especially in the recent heatwaves) - this was following the discussion the previous EOM PC Meeting. Both the EA and Drainage Boards had responded both asking for more details on the issues raised.

The Councillors discussed the issues in further detail and have agreed to inspect the various dyes and drainage areas to be able to compile further details to provide to the EA and Drainage Board.

This issue can then be continued to be reviewed the next Full PC Meeting.

17. Urgent or important correspondence - update from the Clerk

The Clerk confirmed that no urgent or important communication had been received. As detailed earlier, there was some communication with the insurer but that had been clarified, and the council had received a communications about the noticeboard and the telephone box.

18. Meeting with the AD Plant - update from the Clerk

The Clerk confirmed that he had been in contact with representatives of the AD Plant in regard to the issue of the local impact (specifically the local roads) of the large agricultural vehicles servicing the AD Plant that various members of the community had highlighted.

The Clerk confirmed that the representatives had agreed to hold a meeting with the Parish Council to discuss the issues and build a working relationship to ascertain if anything can be done to limit the impact - especially the alleged impact on the local roads.

The Clerk confirmed that the representatives had recommended a date of the 29 September 2022.

19. Parishioner concerns relayed to Councillors - any update from Councillors from Parishioners



The Chair and Council stated that they had received the following notes or issues brought to their attention:

i) *Recent passing of local residents*

The Chair wished to sadly announce that two long standing members of the community, Mrs Lissiter and Mrs Nethell. Both were much loved and had been part of the community of Spaldington for a long time and thus the Council wished to pass on their condolences to their families.

ii) *There had been an issue brought to the attention of the Council in regard to the alleged state of the Post Box in the village*

The Chair stated that state of the Post Box had been asked about as it was alleged not in a good state.

The Clerk confirmed that the Post Box is the property of Royal Mail and thus if the community did have concerns over the state of the Post Box, they would need to contact the Post Office as if the Council got involved in this, they may face serious consequences and liability for any work.

Clerk Action: Contact Royal Mail to ask for the Post Box to be maintained and painted.

iii) *The large bag of rubbish which as been left at Featherbed Lane which is now stopping the grass cutting and maintenance of the area*

The Clerk stated that this had been brought to the attention of the Highways on more than occasion and it would be chased up again.

Clerk Action: To contact ERYC to ask for the fly tipping to be removed.

20. **To agree the date and location of the Full Parish Council Meeting - 7.30pm Monday, 03 Oct 2022.**

- *Motion to agree the next Full Parish Council meeting to be held on the 03 October 2022 at 7.30pm at the SALKO Offices with members of the public joining as well as a the meeting being shared by a remote digital means was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously. Motion carried.*

MEETING WAS CLOSED BY THE CHAIR AT 8.45PM.