

Beswick Parish Council

Meeting of the Council held Virtually at 7 pm on Wednesday, 10 March 2021

MINUTES

Welcome to Sarah Beachell, appointed as Parish Councillor on 8 February 2021.

1 Apologies for Absence:

None.

Present:

Cllrs Reid (Chair), Quinn, Beddows, Corscadden, Beachell, Ward Cllrs Beaumont and Greenwood, Julia Bugg (Clerk) and two parishioners.

2 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests:

None.

3 Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2021 were approved as an accurate record.

4 Matters Arising from the Minutes:

13.1 Beswick Noticeboard:

Cllr Corscadden reported that he had received the new Perspex from the Clerk and would fit it just as soon as appropriate weather allowed. He would then pass the remaining sheets to Cllr Quinn for the Kilnwick notice board.

13.2 Neighbourhood Watch Signs:

Cllr Reid has yet to receive these from Ms Jackie Plowman.

8 Defibrillator - Wilholme:

Cllr Reid reported that he has yet to receive a response from the Environment Agency. Clerk to inform the donators of the delay.

11.3 Paperwork for Clerk's Salary:

The Clerk reported that Steve Butler had once again agreed to produce the necessary paperwork but that it was not expected until early April as per previous years.

5 Review of The Clerk's Performance and Salary:

In order to agree any changes in remuneration of The Clerk, currently set at £1250/annum, the clerk left the meeting. The meeting determined in her absence that Cllrs are happy with her performance which they considered to be exemplary and as a result of the extra responsibilities undertaken during the current year it was agreed that her salary for 2021/22 be £1300. The Clerk thanked the Cllrs for their kind words.

6 Planning Applications:

To discuss all planning applications received by the BPC since the last meeting including any received since the issue of this Agenda.

None.

7 Budget 2021-22:

The Clerk presented a draft Budget for consideration to be agreed at the Annual Meeting on 5 May 2021. To include requests for financial support received from All Saints, Kilnwick and St Margaret's, Beswick. Clerk's salary to be adjusted as per item 5 on the Agenda.

8 Finance:

8.1 Finance Update:

Clerk reported that once again there had been little movement of monies but that February had seen the second loan payment.

8.2 Payments:

Confirmation and payment of required payments.

Payment to Clerk to reimburse for accounts paid: Stamps £3.60 (from January meeting) and £9.06 plus Perspex for noticeboards £31.44 = **£44.10**

Clerk's Salary - **£1250** (HMRC - £250 & JB - £1000)

Cllr Reid asked Ward Cllr Beaumont how the increase in Council Tax had been determined this year. Cllr Beaumont noted that the Council Officers had requested a 5% increase, Cllr preferred one substantially lower and that a compromise had been agreed at 3.49%. The increase is necessary due to increased costs caused by the pandemic. His view being that Central Government should fund this expenditure but that it is currently not happening.

9 Annual Meeting:

It was noted that the Meeting scheduled for 12 May 2021 has been rescheduled for **Wednesday 5 May 2021** in order to allow the meeting to take place remotely and will incorporate the AM. Nominations from amongst Councillors will be required for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair. The AM will include a Report from the Footpath Wardens. Clerk to remind the Footpath Wardens of this requirement.

10 Parish Council Meetings 2021-22:

The Council was asked to consider where it wishes to meet during 2021-22 and to instruct the Clerk to book a meeting room, bearing in mind the possible restrictions associated with COVID-19. The Council approved the following Meeting dates:

5 May 2021
14 July 2021
8 September 2021
10 November 2021
12 January 2022
9 March 2022

The Clerk to book the Kilnwick Village Hall subject to meetings returning to face-to-face and it being legal to meet, with the exception of the 5 May, which is to be held virtually.

11 BPC's TSB Bank Account:

TSB required BPC to change its banking to a business account, giving two years free banking as compensation. The period of free banking will expire on or around 29 October 2021. The meeting discussed the prospect of changing bank; Cllr Quinn reported that a previously discussed HSBC account is no longer accepting new applications. He noted that the Unity Bank which specialises in accounts for Councils has an account which charges £6 per month but allows online banking. It was agreed that Cllr Quinn would investigate further and report at the May 5 meeting as well as that the Clerk would make enquiries as to what banking arrangements other Parish Councils have.

12 Newsletter 2020-21:

Cllr Reid presented a draft version (previously circulated) and confirmed that email additions and amendments had been incorporated. Council approved and asked The Clerk to format the final version ready for printing with discretion that she and Cllr Reid may amend to fit the content appropriately on the required pages; authorised The Clerk to arrange printing; agreed that Councillors will distribute the printed version and assigned districts to Cllr Corscadden and Beachell - Beswick, Cllrs Quinn and Beddows - Kilnwick and Cllr Reid all remaining areas.

13 The 18th Century Ha-Ha along Middleton Road, Kilnwick:

It was noted that correspondence between the Chair and Dr David Ryan about controlling vegetation in the vicinity of the ha-ha (previously circulated) had been received. Discussion took place as to whether action is required of the Parish Council. It was decided that the owner of the field be asked informally if it was possible to remove the over grown vegetation as the area is not within the remit of either the BPC or ERYC.

14 Diversion Channel on Kilnwick Beck at SE966979:

Cllr Reid reminded Cllrs of his correspondence (previously circulated) with regard to this item before going on to update the meeting. The historic background to the works being that the channel was deepened by a parishioner with the landowner's permission but without consultation or planning permission and has been reinstated more recently. Following discussion, it was decided that there was not a great deal that could be done about this now, at it appears to cause no problem.

15 Flooding at Wilfholme:

Cllr Reid updated Council about recent extensive flooding arising from overbank flow of the Beverley-Barmston Drain and Watton Beck. The IDB has undertaken a consultancy and had a report commissioned to see how the issue can be addressed but assessment that £10,000,000 is required to be spent makes it unjustifiable. Cllr Reid predicted that a major breach and extensive flooding would be likely in the future but as it locally affects so few people and dwellings, little would be done with the land eventually returning to swamp. Cllr Beddows noted that the mains transformer at Wilfholme Landing was at risk, which is currently having a £1.2 million refurbishment. The current levée breaches are not easy/possible to access with modern machinery and are too expensive to address.

16 AOB: *Items arising under AOB cannot be resolved if they involve expenditure or commit the Council to a course of action but will appear on the next Agenda.*

16.1 Cllr Corscadden reported that one of the lampposts in Beswick is on 24 hours a day. Cllr Reid asked that he report this using the ERYC website.

16.2 Ward Cllr Greenwood reported a second petrol station seeking planning permission at the Killingwold Graves roundabout, west of Beverley and garnered support to object to it.

Meeting Closed: 8.05 pm

Date of Next Meeting: 5 May 2021 - 7 pm Virtual Meeting