

PRESTON UNDER SCAR PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7 p.m. on 6 December 2022 in Preston under Scar Village Hall

**Present: Councillors Amsden (Chairman), Fletcher, Higham, Knights and Sayers
Acting Clerk: Richard Stevens**

No Councillors were absent from the meeting

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Karin Sedgwick and District Councillor John Amsden

Two members of the public were present and were allowed to participate in the business of the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 3e by speaking and answering questions. The Chairman permitted the members of the public to participate as the items on the agenda arose. They were not allowed to vote.

1. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5 July 2022

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5 July 2022 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

2. To declare Councillors' interests in items on the agenda

None

3. Action taken since the Parish Council meeting held on 5 July 2022

Quarry:

The Chairman, Councillor Sayers and Gareth Woodyer (a local resident) visited the quarry on 21 July 2022.

Their observations and agreed outcomes were as follows:

- They were impressed by the running of the quarry in general and their attention to both Health and Safety and dust suppression in particular.
- The quarry has an extensive heavy duty sprinkler system that covers all of the main thoroughfares throughout the quarry, a water bowser that targets active work areas and sprinklers specifically for rock crushing areas. All were in operation when the visit took place as it was a hot dry day, as so many had been this summer.
- The visiting party were left in no doubt that both noise and dust suppression is something the quarry took very seriously.
- There are well documented legal limits for noise levels and at the time of the visit the quarry appeared to be operating within these.

- The required standards for the level of dust emissions were less clear and the Quarry Manager had agreed to seek guidance on this and come back with an answer.
- The Quarry Manager had agreed to share all dust monitoring data from now on.
- The Quarry Manager was also having the dust samples analysed to establish how much of it is actually dust from the quarry and will share the report with the visiting party.
- He confirmed that although the lease runs until 2042, he did not anticipate any extraction south of the road for at least 12 years and more likely 15. At such a point mobile processing units would be used which would reduce both the visual impact with much lower stone stacks and dust levels by processing stone next to the face rather than trucking it to a central crushing unit as they do now.

Cemetery Extension:

Councillors had undertaken a cemetery site visit to confirm the scope of the works required to prepare the proposed extension to the cemetery for future use. Quotes were currently being sought for Phases 1 and 2 of the proposed works comprising the removal of the hedge and fence line at the bottom of the existing cemetery area and for running a pasture topper over that area. Two quotes for that work had been received and were currently being evaluated. A quote had also been obtained for the maintenance of that area during 2023 once the works had been carried out.

Hillcrest Development:

Following receipt of notification that the proposed development of land at Hillcrest had been granted planning permission, a complaint (referred to in the Clerk's report at item 5 on the agenda) had been submitted to Richmondshire District Council (RDC) about how various aspects of the application process had been handled. RDC's response to that complaint was referred to at item 10 on the agenda for later discussion. Both the complaint and the response were available on the Parish Council's website.

Village Play Area:

RDC had continued to provide the Clerk with copies of the monthly play equipment reports, which had been forwarded to Councillors. Councillor Higham, Gareth Woodyer and Patrick Earle (local residents) had recently met onsite with RDC Officers. Councillor Higham updated the meeting on the onsite discussions to the meeting and that the matter was on-going.

Village Emergency Plan

Following an initial meeting with Joe Rushbrook from the Resilience Team at North Yorkshire County Council, work had started on the development of a Resilience Plan for the village. Mellbecks Parish Council, who had a Plan in place, had offered their support for this process. Councillor Knights had been due to attend a training session with Mellbecks on 30 November but had been unable to attend.

Trees in The Stanney

The Bolton Estate had completed tree felling and tree maintenance works in The Stanney.

4. Report of the Clerk on decisions taken since the last meeting

Resolved:

That the following decisions taken by the Clerk under delegated powers between 5 July 2022 and 30 November 2022 be noted:

Subject of decision:

22/00596/FULL – planning permission for erection of steel portal outbuilding for personal and domestic use at Thorfin, Preston Under Scar

Summary of information considered:

Application documents submitted by applicant
Outcome of consultation with Parish Councillors, including comments following a site visit by Councillors Fletcher, Sayers and the Clerk.

Decision:

To advise Richmondshire District Council that the Parish Council had no comments on this application.

Date of Decision: 3 October 2022

Subject of decision:

22/00612/FULL – planning permission for new conservatory at Rose Tree Cottage, Preston under Scar – *the Parish Council had no objections to this application which has yet to be determined*

Summary of information considered:

Application documents submitted by applicant
Outcome of consultation with Parish Councillors

Decision Taken:

To advise Richmondshire District Council that the Parish Council had no comments on this application.

Date of Decision: 3 October 2022

Subject of decision:

22/002200/FULL – planning permission to create new avenue from Bolton Hall to Lords Bridge etc (amended application)

Summary of information considered:

Application documents submitted by applicant
Outcome of consultation with Parish Councillors

Decision Taken:

To advise Richmondshire District Council that the Parish Council had no comments on this application.

Date of Decision: 24 October 2022

Subject of decision:

Application 21/000720/FULL - Full Planning Permission for Proposed Two Storey Detached Dwelling with off Street Parking and New Highways Access at Hillcrest, Preston Under Scar, Leyburn, North Yorkshire

Summary of information considered:

Comments made by Parish Councillors and received from village residents expressing dissatisfaction about various aspects of the Planning Authority's handling of this application

Decision Taken: To submit a letter of complaint to Richmondshire District Council about various aspects of its handling of the application (see Appendix A to this report).

Date of Decision: 20 September 2022

Subject of decision:

22/00765/FULL - Full Planning Permission for Side Extension, Detached Double Garage and Associated Landscaping at The Old Barn, Wensley Station, Preston Under Scar, Leyburn, North Yorkshire – *the Parish Council had no objection to this application, which has yet to be determined*

Summary of information considered:

Application documents submitted by applicant
Outcome of consultation with Parish Councillors

Decision Taken:

To advise Richmondshire District Council that the Parish Council had no comments on this application

Date of Decision: 28 November 2022

5. Finance and Banking**(1) Resolved:**

To note the following opening balances as at 1 November 2022:

Current Account: £8838.60

Savings Account: £2,287.50

(2) Resolved:

That Councillors Higham and Sayers be designated authorised signatories to the Parish Council's Bank Account.

(3) Resolved:

To note the following payments authorised by the Clerk since the last meeting of the Parish Council on 5 July 2022 under her delegated authority:

Payee	Item	Payment type	Amount
DCN	Grass Cutting: July	BACS	£130
	August	BACS	£240
	September	BACS	£220
Town & Parish Council Websites	Annual website hosting charge	BACS	£160
DefibWarehouse	Replacement Defibrillator Battery	BACS	£302.10

(4) Resolved:

To approve the **Second Quarter Financial Review** as submitted to the meeting

6. Budget and Precept for the financial year 2023/24

(1) Councillors considered the following items suggested by residents for inclusion in

the Parish Council's 2023/24 budget:

- (a) The continuing inclusion in the budget of the grass verges on Light Lane.
- (b) The provision of a flagpole for the village, particularly in view of the coronation To take place in 2023.
- (c) The cost of a Christmas Tree for Christmas 2023, having regard to the fact that Helen Francis was funding a Christmas Tree for this year.
- (d) Subject to there being funding left after provision for the above items, replacing the Preston Under Scar signs at the 3 entrances to the village.

Resolved:

That, having regard to the Council's financial position, the items suggested by residents for inclusion in the Parish Council's budget for 2023/24 not be so included, provided that:

- (a) Provision continue to be made for the grass verges on Light Lane;**
 - (b) Helen Francis be re-imbursed for the cost of the Christmas Tree provided for this year;**
 - (c)The Clerk contact North Yorkshire Highways Department about the possible provision of new village signs to replace those at the entrances to the village, which the Parish Council accepted were in an unsatisfactory state and did not give a good welcome to people entering the village.**
- (2) Having regard the decisions under Agenda Item 6(1) above, Councillors were invited to consider the Parish Council's draft budget for 2022/23 and the proposed precept of £4,500. The draft budget had been circulated with the agenda for the meeting and published on the Parish Council's website.

Resolved:

- (1) That the draft Parish Council budget for 2023/24, as circulated with the agenda for the meeting, be approved subject the deletion of £480 in respect of grass cutting in the proposed extension to the cemetery as the need for this was unlikely to arise in the financial year 2023/24;**
- (2) That the Clerk be authorised to apply on the Parish Council's behalf to Richmondshire District Council for a precept of £4,500 for 2023/24, as set out in the approved budget attached to these minutes.**

7. Village Maintenance

There were no issues to discuss.

8. Applications to reserve a plot in the Village Cemetery and to plant a tree or place a memorial bench in a suitable location in the village

The Parish Council considered:

- (1) An application received from a former resident of the village to reserve a plot in the village cemetery.

Resolved:

That the application be refused, but could be reconsidered once the cemetery extension had been completed and was available for use.

- (2) A request from a family member of a former resident of the village who wished to plant a tree or donate a bench with a plaque in the village in memory of her father. The family member concerned had indicated that she would be willing to contribute to the cost of installing a Village Interpretation Board, using material from a history of the village written by her parents, at a suitable location in the village.

Resolved:

That the Clerk inform the person concerned that the Parish Council would be happy for a Village Interpretation Board to be installed, subject there being no contribution from the Parish Council and to the Parish Council being satisfied as to the design and location of the proposed Board.

9. Response to complaint about handling of planning application 21/000720/FULL (Hillcrest)

The Parish Council considered Richmondshire District Council's response to the Parish Council's complaint about the handling of the planning application relating to Hillcrest.

Resolved:

That, while the Parish Council was disappointed with Richmondshire District Council's response to the Parish Council's complaint about the handling of the planning application relating to Hillcrest, the matter be taken no further.

10. Dog Fouling in the Village

Councillor Higham raised a number of concerns about dogs not being on leads and

whether existing dog fouling notices could be amended. Councillor Higham indicated that she wished to work on some possible amended wording for the existing dog fouling signs for discussion at a later meeting. This was noted, but the Chairman pointed out the legal and practical limitations on any enforcement by the Parish Council.

Resolved:

That the issue and concerns raised be noted.

11. Quarry Liaison Meeting

There were no issues arising from the Quarry Liaison Meeting held on 6 December 2022.

12. Planning Applications

New Applications

Resolved:

That the position in relation to new Planning Applications as set out below be noted:

22/00596/FULL – planning permission for erection of steel portal outbuilding for personal and domestic use at Thorfin, Preston Under Scar – *following a site visit, the Parish Council had no objections to this application for which planning permission has now been granted.*

22/00612/FULL – planning permission for new conservatory at Rose Tree Cottage, Preston under Scar – *the Parish Council had no objections to this application which has yet to be determined*

22/002200/FULL – planning permission to create new avenue from Bolton Hall to Lords Bridge etc – *the Parish Council had no objection to this application which has yet to be determined.*

22/00765/FULL - Full Planning Permission for Side Extension, Detached Double Garage and Associated Landscaping at The Old Barn, Wensley Station, Preston Under Scar, Leyburn, North Yorkshire – *the Parish Council had no objection to this amendment application, which has yet to be determined*

Upcoming Applications

None had been notified.

Update on Previous Applications

Resolved:

That the position in relation to previous Planning Applications as set out below be noted:

Application 22/00200/FULL - Planning Permission to Create a New Avenue from Bolton Hall to Lords Bridge by Converting a Corridor of Intensive Dairy Grassland to Low Intensity, Species Rich Grassland, a New Avenue of Trees, a Drive Down the Centre and a Carriage Sweep in Front of Bolton Hall at Bolton Hall, Wensley, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 4UF – *awaiting decision*

Application 21/000720/FULL - Full Planning Permission for Proposed Two Storey Detached Dwelling with off Street Parking and New Highways Access at Hillcrest, Preston Under Scar, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 4AJ – *planning permission granted (Note: the Parish Council submitted a formal complaint to Richmondshire District Council about their handling of the application, the response to which is included at item 10 on this agenda)*

Application 22/00338/FULL - Full Planning Permission for Agricultural Building (Retrospective) at Bolton Hall Farm, The Estate Office, Bolton Hall, Wensley, North Yorkshire, DL8 4UF – *awaiting decision*

13. Date and agenda items for the next meeting

Resolved: That the Clerk liaise with Parish Councillors in relation to the date of and agenda items for the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

