

STAINFORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Stainforth Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 12th December 2023 at 7.00pm.

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Present – A. Horsfall (Chairman), S. Warren, C. Smith, I. Black, D. Staveley (North Yorkshire Council), A. Blackburn (Clerk), (Sam Lewsey, Jess McMaster, Joe Bodycote – Yorkshire Peat Partnership), no public present.

88/23. Apologies for Absence – A. Sharp.

89/23. Code of Conduct – Localism Act 2011

To record any councillor's dis-closable pecuniary interests in regard to any item on this agenda. To consider any changes in members' register of interests and to consider any associated dispensations – none declared.

90/23. Yorkshire Peat Partnership, Swarth Moor.

Representatives of the partnership gave a presentation to Council on the restoration work that had been completed at Swarth Moor. The work related to the creation of water retention measures which has enabled a blanket bog to develop on the top of the moor, this had been done as part of phase one of the plan.

A consultation process was now in operation leading up to approval of phase two of the process. The second phase will include: building dams & bunds to retain water, incorporating sediment traps in timber and stone, this is to be done in order to create a habitat to colonise the peat moor with water born species of wildlife including dragon flies. It is planned to introduce the 'white faced darter dragonfly' during the final part of the process and monitor their development over time. This rare species of dragon fly has drastically reduced in number over the years but it is planned to reintroduce the species in areas over the country including Swarth Moor.

Questions were answered relating to planning and why the work had been split into two separate planning applications, this was because of the initial difficulties relating to common land and Natural England at the time of the initial planning application.

The retention of water and improved drainage at Swarth Moor will also assist to prevent flooding problems lower down and around water courses.

The Chairman thanked the representatives for their attendance at the meeting.

91/23. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 14th November 2023.

Council resolved to approve the minutes.

92/23. Matters Arising & Actions.

72/23 – NYC Highways had replied to the enquiry made by Council regarding the disappearance of the white lines in the centre of the road on the bend near Hollies Close. Highways stating that '*due to vehicle parking at this location the centre line would not make any difference to any issues*'.

81/23 – The contractor is to complete the work to the trees within the allotment on 18/12/2023. The Clerk will ensure access to the allotment for this work.

93/23. Public Participation.

Cllr Smith had received some tulip bulbs that could be planted around the village, Council discussed various locations such as underneath the new Stainforth road signs and the grass affronting Allen Close. Cllr Smith volunteered to plant the bulbs.

94/23. North Yorkshire Councillor Report.

Cllr Staveley had forwarded his December report to Council which had been placed on the Council website.

95/23. Financial Risk Assessment for 2023-24.

Council considered the assessment as presented by the Clerk and resolved to approve the document, P – S. Warren, S – A. Horsfall.

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96/23. Craven Community Land Trust.

Council discussed the request made by the trust for involvement in the financing of a housing needs survey and considered land prices and property values within the area but resolved against involvement in this project.

97/23. Friends of the Settle-Carlisle Line.

Council discussed the offer made by the friends for joint partnership working but felt that Stainforth PC had nothing to offer or benefit from any such arrangement.

98/23. Foster & Poor Close Fund.

Council had received the 2023 fund allocation and discussed difficulties in gifting monies as a third party. Cllr Warren had attended the fund meeting and had been informed that the money could be used for community projects. Council resolved to defer this item until Spring 2024 for further discussion regarding all proposals.

Action – Clerk to include item for future meeting.

99/23. Yorkshire Dales National Park Planning Applications. No new applications posted

100/23. Financial Statements & Invoices for Payment.

Council resolved to approve the financial statement including invoices for December.

Action – Clerk to process payments.

101/23. Correspondence.

Police Report

13/11/23 two calls received – Highways – tree blocking Dog Hill Brow.

17/11/23 concern for welfare/safety – joint partnership working.

HSBC banking charge for December £8

Household Waste Re-cycling Centre.

Notice received from North Yorkshire Council inviting residents to submit their views in regard to the plans for changing the rules at the waste centres. Council discussed issues regarding waste disposal including the possibility of fly tipping within the area if rules were introduced to prevent disposal at waste centres.

Action – Clerk to post the notice.

102/23. Highways, Street Lighting & Maintenance.

No issues raised.

103/23. The Date of the Next Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 9th January 2024.

Meeting closed 8.10 pm

Chairman

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