

Baldersby and Baldersby St James Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of
Baldersby and Baldersby St James Parish Council
held on **Thursday 30th March 2023** at 18:30 at The Mission Room, Baldersby

Attendees: Cllr J Hart (Chair), Cllr C Brown, Cllr V Shaw, K Pettitt (Clerk and RFO) and three members of the public.

2223/070 To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Whitham.

2223/071 Declarations of interest

a) To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under council's code of conduct or members Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

b) To receive, consider and decide upon any applications of dispensation

In both cases none were received or declared

2223/072 Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman spoke of the sad passing of Cllr Stuart Carter and his contribution to the community of Baldersby and Baldersby St James over the past 48 years on the council, and in other fields. He had passed on the parish council's condolences and sympathies to his family. A minute's silence was held in his honour.

2223/073 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17th January 2023 as a true and correct record.

The minutes were accepted as a true and correct record and signed accordingly by the Chair.

2223/074 To receive reports from Ward Councillors

Due to the absence of ward councillors, there was no report.

2223/075 Public Participation

A member of the public asked if there was any progress on the safety on Malpit Lane. The Clerk reported that he had raised it with Area 6 Highways and that they were arranging for a Highways Officer to attend the site. It was suggested that perhaps it could be arranged for a councillor to meet with the Highways Officer onsite. The Clerk would also report the potholes outside number 2.

Action: The Clerk

Another member of the public reported that there were still difficulties walking on the footpath in Baldersby St James due to overhanging branches from a property, forcing people to walk in the road. The Clerk would take up with Area 6 Highways again. He would also arrange for the petition from 2020 to be sent to them.

Action: The Clerk

The potential co-option of a councillor was mentioned, specifically to represent the Baldersby St James area of the Parish. The Chairman informed the meeting that when the process commenced notices would be put up in both Baldersby, Baldersby St James and on the website. He asked those present to canvass for potential candidates.

A member of the public reported on the sewage issues in Baldersby St James. Although it appeared that a commitment had been made by Yorkshire Water, following pressure by the Environmental Agency, to include the area on the latest Asset Management Plan, this did not seem to have been followed through. The member of the

public informed the meeting that the local Member of Parliament was now involved and he would keep the parish council informed of developments.

2223/076 To receive the Clerks Report.

Resolved: The Clerk's Report was unanimously accepted.

2223/077 Financial Matters

a) To approve the bank reconciliation and budget comparison for March 2023.

Resolved: The bank balance after outstanding cheques were accounted for was £5,719.56. The comparison against budget was satisfactory. The report was approved unanimously.

b) To approve the Schedule of Payments.

Resolved: The following payments were approved unanimously, and the schedule authorised by two signatories to the bank account.

16.1.23	DD Southern Electric	Unrestricted	Sports Pavilion		£	60.36
30.1.23	DD HMRC	Unrestricted	Salary and related costs		£	36.00
30.1.23	DD Clerk's Salary January	Unrestricted	Salary and related costs		£	144.00
1.2.23	DD HBC	Unrestricted	Grasscutting		£	43.50
28.2.23	DD Clerk's Salary (February)	Unrestricted	Salary and related costs		£	144.00
28.2.23	DD HMRC	Unrestricted	Salary and related costs		£	36.00
13.2.23	DD NYCC	Unrestricted	Grasscutting		£	744.00
23.2.23	DD HMRC	Unrestricted	VAT Refund	£	1,127.89	
7.2.23	DD Swarco	Unrestricted	VAS		£	4,005.00
28.3.23	DD Clerk's Salary (March)	Unrestricted	Salary and related costs		£	191.86
28.3.23	DD HMRC (March)	Unrestricted	Salary and related costs		£	47.80
28.3.23	DD Clerk's Expenses	Unrestricted	Office expenses		£	9.00

c) To discuss the recent commuted sums report, as circulated.

After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would investigate what the Parish Council could do with the sums of money and how much leniency there was in the areas that they could be spent. This would then be discussed at the next meeting.

Action: The Clerk

2223/078 Planning Matters

a) To note and agree the Planning Summary for the year.

The planning summary was duly noted. The Clerk was asked to enquire of the new unitary authority of what the planning process was following April 1st, with special reference to the application at Baldersby Gardens.

Action: The Clerk

Planning application 6.11.94.A.FUL 23/01195/FUL had been received following the publication of the agenda. This referred to plans for Conservation repair works to The Hill, Baldersby. (Replacement of UPVC and later timber windows with double glazed slimline timber windows and two sets of double doors. Fire surround relocated to coach house office. New upstairs bathroom and alterations to existing bathroom. Removal of northern garden walls and apple stores. Removal of coal and dairy. Opening up of wall between existing kitchen and pantry).

Resolved: The Parish Council voted unanimously neither to object to, nor support the application but to request that any alterations were made within keeping of the property's listed status.

2223/079 To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary:

a) To update the meeting on the operation of the VAS speed warning equipment.

It was reported that the equipment was working well. It was agreed that it should be re-sited in May.

- b) To receive an update following the monthly meeting between the Clerk and NYCC Highways regarding outstanding issues raised with Area 6.

The Clerk had circulated the minutes of his meeting with Area 6. The next one was due to take place on April 13th.

- c) To confirm the defibrillator battery has been checked.

Resolved: Cllr Brown confirmed the battery had been checked.

- d) To update the meeting on the bi-monthly check on the playground equipment.

It was reported that the equipment had been checked in February by Cllr Brown. Cllr Shaw would check the equipment in April.

Action: Cllr Shaw

- e) To update the meeting on actions following the playground report.

Cllr Hart reported that an offer had been made to check over the equipment by an expert, FOC. He would pursue this offer.

Action: Cllr Hart

- f) To update the meeting on the outcome of the YLCA meeting on 20th February.

Cllr Shaw reported that she had attended the meeting via Zoom. Any chance of getting new information on the operations of the new unitary authority was stymied by the lack of attendance of any ward councillor. The next meeting was on 12th June and Cllr Shaw would attend in person.

Action: Cllr Shaw

2223/080 To confirm the awarding of the grass cutting contract for 2023.

Resolved: it was unanimously approved that the grass cutting contract for 2023/24 should be awarded to the current contractor. The latest invoice of £306 was approved unanimously and the Clerk asked to pay it.

The Clerk was asked to enquire as to why the sports field was cut 17 times last year, whilst the village grass was cut 12 times and whether we could reduce the number of cuts on the field. The point was made that the contractor had made an excellent job of cutting the sports field and the Clerk was asked to commend him for his work. The Clerk was also asked to raise the state of the grass that NYCC was responsible for with them and to expediate a cut as soon as possible.

Action: The Clerk

2223/081 To update the meeting on the litter pick that took place on 18th March 2023.

The litter pick had been a great success with around 16 people helping on the day. 36 bags were collected. Thanks were expressed to Rosemarie Carter for providing much needed refreshments and to Cllr Brown for the collection and return of the equipment. The Clerk would write to Rosemary Carter expressing the Parish Council's appreciation. He was also asked to contact Sue Wood at HBC to thank her for her assistance. It was agreed that we should be arranging a litter pick twice a year with the October/ November pick concentrating on "hotspots".

2223/082 To note the response from Area 6 Highways to various issues raised in the virtual meeting with the Clerk on 23rd February.

This item had been covered under 2223/079b).

2223/083 To update the meeting on the co-option process for a councillor.

This item had been covered under 2223/075.

2223/084 Correspondence

- a) Letter received from Area 2 Highways regarding Weight Restrictions in the Asenby, Rainton and Topcliffe areas.

The Clerk reported that it was his understanding that, following the meeting on 27th March, the current weight restrictions were to remain in force, but that they may be reviewed in 6 months' time.

C/F

2223/085 Items Requested by Councillors

- a) To discuss Coronation Celebrations on 7th May.

It was agreed that all councillors should check with their contacts on the appetite for such an event and report back by April 11th. The Parish Council would make the Village Green and the Mission Room available to those who wished to celebrate the event. Cllr Whitham was asked to advertise availability of the facilities on social media and the Clerk would do so on the website. The contact for expressing interest would be Cllr Shaw.

Action: All

2223/086 To confirm the date of the next meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place at 18:00 on Tuesday 23rd May (APM, Annual Meeting of PC and Ordinary Meeting).

The meeting closed at 20:15