

Baldersby and Baldersby St James Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of
Baldersby and Baldersby St James Parish Council
held on **Thursday 10th August 2023** at The Mission Room, Baldersby at 18:30

Attendees: Cllr Hart, Cllr Brown, Cllr Shaw, Cllr Whitham, Cllr Wilson, County Cllr Brown, The Clerk and two members of the public.

2324/012 To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence.

There were no apologies.

2324/013 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

There were no declarations of interest or any applications of dispensation.

2324/014 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 30th May 2023 as a true and correct record.

The minutes were unanimously approved as a true and fair recording of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

2324/015 To receive a report from our Ward Councillor

Nick Brown, North Yorkshire Councillor, reported as follows:

He would be sending out an email to arrange bi-monthly meetings for representatives of a number of Parish Councils going forward. However this did not preclude him still attending Parish Council Meetings but was an attempt to help manage the workload that he currently had, following the setting up of the new authority. Sam Green would be providing administrative support for him.

County Cllr Brown was stepping down from full membership of the Planning Committee and would be a substitute councillor on this committee going forward. He was now a stakeholder in the Harrogate Hospital Trust and would be joining the Scrutiny of Health Committee. He drew the attention to the £10,000 he had in his Locality Budget which was available for projects that we may wish to look at, such as a second defibrillator, although he suggested that other grants were available for this project. As we had been unlucky in the ballot for a share in the previous years budget, it was acknowledged that Baldersby should be at the front of the queue for this year's allocation. County Cllr Brown also reported that he had drawn the attention of Julian Smith MP to the high cost of oil and fuel in the locality.

Cllr Hart raised the question of the bus service in Baldersby. We had been asked to respond to a survey and he felt that the service currently was minimal. It was suggested that the route of the 36 service could be expanded to run down the A61 to Thirsk. There were numerous benefits to this suggestion, including providing a link to Thirsk Station, thus reducing the number of car journeys, serving the new crematorium at Maple Park, and the obvious environmental benefits. The Clerk was asked to contact the relevant authority to express this view.

Action: The Clerk

2324/016 Public Participation

A member of the public brought up the subject of muddy pathways in Baldersby St James. The Clerk would inform Area 6 Highways. The state of the path from Wards Corner to Baldersby St James was also discussed and the Clerk would include this on the next agenda.

Action: The Clerk

A second member of the public brought up the subject of speeding in Baldersby St James and this was covered under item 2321/024b).

2324/017 To receive the Clerks Report.

The Clerk had circulated his report prior to the meeting. It was unanimously approved .

2324/018 Financial Matters

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

The Clerk reported that, after considering the outstanding cheques, the balance at the bank stood at £5,645.00. The situation against budget was satisfactory.

Resolved: The bank reconciliation and performance against budget was unanimously approved.

b) To approve the Schedule of Payments as follows.

31.5.23	DD	Gallagher	Insurance		£	543.15
2.6.23	DD	M Hullah 0025	Grasscutting		£	461.00
23.6.23	DD	Southern Electric	Sports Pavilion	£	80.69	£ -
23.6.23	DD	Scottish Water	Sports Pavilion	£	-	£ 13.52
28.6.23	DD	Clerk's Salary (June)	Salary and related costs	£	-	£ 191.86
28.6.23	DD	HMRC	Salary and related costs	£	-	£ 47.80
10.7.23	DD	M Hullah (0037)	Grasscutting			£ 377.00
14.7.23	DD	Southern Electric	Sports Pavilion	£	1.13	£ -
28.7.23	DD	Clerk's Salary (July)	Salary and related costs			£ 191.66
28.7.23	DD	HMRC	Salary and related costs			£ 48.00
3.8.23	DD	M Hullah (040)	Grasscutting			£ 200.00
10.8.23	DD	Clerk's Expenses	Office expenses			£ 9.00

Resolved: The schedule of payments was unanimously approved.

c) To note the acknowledgement from PKF Littlejohn that Baldersby & Baldersby St James PC has been recorded as being exempt from external audit for 2022/2023

Resolved: The acknowledgement was noted.

d) To update the meeting on the results of the period for the exercising of public rights.

Cllr Shaw reported that there had been no requests to view the books during the period. The Clerk thanked her for taking on the responsibility in his absence.

2324/019 Planning Matters

There were no planning applications to discuss.

2324/020 To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary:

a) To update the meeting on the situation regarding Marlpit Lane.

The Clerk reported that he had discussed this with Area 6 Highways. Although the "Give Way signs had been repainted the potholes needed attention. Cllr Shaw would arrange for some photographs to be sent to the Clerk, so he could report them to Area 6, along with the pothole almost opposite the Mission Room.

Action: Cllr Shaw, The Clerk

It was also agreed to build an incident log via social media. Cllr Whitham would publicise, requesting any incidents to be reported by email to the Clerk. The Clerk would also publicise on the website.

Action: Cllr Whitham, The Clerk

b) To update the meeting on the installation of LED lights in the village.

The Clerk reported that there were only two left to complete, and he was waiting for Area 6 to confirm the work had been completed.

c) To update the meeting on gully cleaning in Baldersby St James

Cllr Hart would check the depth of the hole at Wards Corner to see if it exceeded 200 mils. The Clerk would check on progress regarding the gully cleaning at Baldersby St James.

Action: Cllr Hart, The Clerk

d) To update the meeting on the Grass Cutting between Ward's Corner and Hergill Lane

Resolved: This had been completed.

e) To update the meeting on the issue of overhanging branches at Baldersby St James.

Cllr Wilson would contact the owner to agree a cutting strategy going forward.

Action: Cllr Wilson

f) To update the meeting on the operation of the VAS equipment.

The equipment had been installed at the western end of the village on the A61 on 16th January 2023. It was now situated at the eastern end of the village on the A61, where it had been located since 3rd July 2023. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Whitham and Cllr Brown for arranging the transfer of sites.

g) To confirm the defibrillator battery has been checked.

It had been reported that the defibrillator was unresponsive. The Clerk would inform the insurance company.

Action: The Clerk

h) To update the meeting on the bi-monthly check of the Playground Equipment

Resolved: Cllr Shaw had checked the equipment and would perform the next check.

2324/021 Correspondence

a) To discuss the letter received from a parishioner regarding the cutting of grass.

Resolved: The Clerk would send a copy of the letter to North Yorkshire and would make the parishioner aware.

Action: The Clerk

b) To discuss correspondence from North Yorkshire Police regarding speeding on Wide Howe Lane and the suggestion of organising a Community Speed Watch group.

Cllr Wilson would contact the police officer to discuss both the setting up of the group and also issues with lorries using the road as a "rat run".

Action: Cllr Wilson

c) To note the receipt of a tree preservation order from NYC for East View, The Cottages, Wide Howe Lane, Baldersby St James, Thirsk, YO7 4PU.

Resolved: The TPO was duly noted.

d) To discuss correspondence from Julian Smith's office regarding funding for defibrillators.

The Clerk confirmed that he had responded to the offer for funding. He would obtain costs for a second defibrillator at Baldersby St James, copying County Cllr Brown into the correspondence. There had been an offer of a donation from a parishioner, and it was agreed to solicit further donations from the parish if possible.

Action: The Clerk

e) To agree the annual ROSPA play equipment survey and costs (£62 + VAT).

Resolved: The expenditure was agreed.

Action: The Clerk

f) To discuss correspondence received relating to the former Baldersby St James Primary School.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed that a letter, drafted by Cllr Brown be sent by the Clerk to Savills and the Dornay Estate.

Action: The Clerk

g) To discuss correspondence received for the 80th anniversary of D-Day 2024.

The Clerk was asked to contact neighbouring parishes which had Royal Airforce connections, to see what they were planning to do and whether a joint event could be arranged. All were asked to study the correspondence, previously circulated, and come prepared to discuss at the September meeting.

Action: The Clerk, All

2324/022 To discuss Items raised by Councillors.

a) To discuss arrangements for the Autumn Litter Pick.

Resolved: The Clerk would arrange for the equipment to be available for 14th October. Details on whether we repeat what we did earlier in the year or agree a smaller pick will be arranged at the September meeting.

Action: The Clerk

b) To discuss the review and renewal of the local subsidised bus services due by 6th September 2023.

This was discussed under 2324/015.

c) To discuss Councillor Training requirements.

This was left to individual councillors to arrange as needed via the Clerk.

Action All

2324/023 To confirm the date of the next meeting.

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 27th September at 18:30

The meeting closed at 20:16.

DRAFT