

HESLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD IN THE MEETING ROOM, HESLINGTON ON TUESDAY 17 MAY 2016 AT 7.00 P.M.

Present:

9 members of the public including Parish Councillors Mr D Blacketer, Mrs P Bramley, Mr R Bramley, Mr B Hall, Lady D Lawton, Mr B McClean and Mrs Z Richards

In attendance:

Fiona Hill - Parish Clerk
CYC Cllr K Aspden

APM2016/1 Apologies
Parish Cllr Mrs P Clements, PCSO Barge and Mr M Dodson (Sportsfield)

APM2016/2 Confirmation of the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 16 June 2015
These were approved and signed by Parish Councillor Mrs Bramley, who was Chairperson for this meeting

APM2016/3 To receive the Annual Report of Heslington Parish Council
See Attachment One

APM2016/4 Representations/Reports by:

Meeting Room	–	See Attachments Two and Three
Sportsfield	–	See Attachment Four
Village Trust	–	See Attachment Five
North Yorkshire Police	–	See Attachment Six
Heslington Church	–	Nothing received

The Parish Council Chairperson read a statement as follows: I find the Village Trust Chairs final paragraph, of his report, offensive to the PC. The Village Trust, may have a representative on the Committee, but is not responsible for the Meeting Room success - that is down to the hard work of all the volunteer Committee. The Parish Council has never suggested selling the Meeting Room – in fact, I as Parish Council Chair, with the backing of fellow Cllrs, when the previous committee suddenly resigned on mass, arranged meetings to ensure its continuity, working alongside the committee as it grew. We too have a representative on there, receive regular reports and have contributed and will continue to contribute to its present healthy status. I would like this to be on record and hope Cllrs give their support.

APM2016/5 Parishioners question and answer session:
None.

Chairman's Signature.....

Date.....

Attachment One

HPC ANNUAL REPORT CHAIRPERSON'S REVIEW May 15 -May 16

Welcome everyone

It is very encouraging to see residents attend our meetings and we welcome your input. The Parish Council continues to monitor planning applications in the village. We respond to concerns raised by residents and register objections where appropriate

CYC are in the process of a review on University Road "calming scheme". We continue to press for the bus stop to be moved to the lay-by to create a gap between the two bus stops for a safe zebra crossing for students. We believe this will eliminate the need for the speed humps.

It is very disappointing that the cycle path has not produced the desired result: it was not made wide enough to separate cycles from pedestrians with cyclists preferring not to use it.

We are very grateful to the University Estate Team for refurbishing our Notice Board and for providing a replacement seat in Main Street.

We are in the process of renovating the three remaining village seats

Daffodils and maintenance of the grass are under a management programme which we hope will improve the verges

The Village signs have been approved and will be erected in the very near future.

We were fortunate to receive grants towards the costs from both Ward committees.

Thank you to Niall McTurk for his help in taking this forward.

After careful consideration of the budget and finances, the Parish Council, regretfully had to increase the Parish Precept to prevent a "shortfall". Councillors, with the Clerk's help, work hard to keep the precept to a practical level and to spend it prudently for the benefit of the Parish.

The development of the Neighbourhood Plan is progressing; albeit at a slower rate than we had hoped.

A consultant has been advising the working group on the way forward. We have applied for a grant to cover the initial costs.

Anyone who wishes to actively join the Working group will be made most welcome.

We hope that in due course, residents will respond to the questionnaires and give their support and views in attending public meetings.

The Community Governance Review will be towards the end of the year.

We expect it to re-unite both North and South Heslington back into the one Parish

The final public consultation on the draft Local Plan is expected to start the 2nd week of June. We know Heslington Parish will be affected but do not know the extent. We will be very pleased to hear resident's views before making our submission.

Consultation is the opportunity for residents to express their views, in writing, to City Of York Council within the 8 week consultation period and the Parish Council urge you, as individuals, to do so.

As always our thanks go to

- Tony Barge, our local PCSO, for his regular monthly reports
- The Meeting Room committee, for their hard work as they continue to improve both the inside and outside.
- Dave, our lengthsman, for his hard work in keeping the village tidy and keeping an eye on the village and residents.
- Paula for looking after the website
- Bill for producing the newsletter
- Keith Aspden, our York Councillor, for his help and support.
- Fiona, our Parish Clerk, who guides us.
- Thank you to those many Residents who take a pride in the Village, helping to maintain its attractive appearance. And for the support that they entrust in us as their representatives.
- Final thanks go to my fellow Councillors, for giving their time free of charge, and their support and help during the year.

Councillor Pauline Bramley – Chair, Heslington Parish Council

May 16

Attachment Two

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HESLINGTON MEETING ROOM COMMITTEE
7.30 pm TUESDAY 10th MAY 2016

Present: Nick Allen, Chair
Dot Lawton, Treasurer
John Lawton
John Micklethwaite-Howe
Liz Boreham

Apologies received from Pete Atkinson, Secretary.

No members of the public attended.

1. Minutes of 2015 AGM were approved.
2. No matters arising from 2015 minutes.
3. Chairman's report for year ending 31.3.16
The year has been a positive one as we have increased the use of Heslington Meeting Room following a drop off the year before. As the Treasurer points out we have also undertaken a number of improvements and plan to continue in this vein next year.
Business has come from both new (e.g. music teaching) and existing regular bookings (e.g. The Lighthouse Church), as well as a greater number of one offs including children's parties.
We now have a website and this has helped increase our exposure. We have also streamlined processes such as bringing the booking form and conditions of hire more accessible and up to date.
Nick Allen has taken over as Chair so this is my last report. We look forward to another good year ahead.
Pete Atkinson (Chair to March 2016)
4. Treasurer's Report for year ending 31.3.16
We started the year with a total credit balance of £7996.47. Income from room hire and bank interest was £4802.56 – almost twice the £2571.21 for the year ending 31.3.15. We have received a Ward Grant of £139.75 towards the finger post but the expenditure will not show until next year's accounts. British Gas gave us a golden handshake of £120 towards electricity costs when we changed from npower and that is not yet used up.
Expenditure on utilities (apart from electricity) is as expected and we paid £300 towards the new boiler, £500 for our excellent new website. We hope to recoup the £234 for the barrier mat from the next round of Ward Grants.
Our overall balance is now a healthy £9890.65 but we expect to spend some of this over the next twelve months on more improvements such as loft insulation, a deep clean and some much needed redecoration.
Dot Lawton (Treasurer)
5. Election of officers – all officers agreed to be re-elected as follows
Chair: Nick Allen
Secretary: Pete Atkinson
Treasurer: Dot Lawton

Attachment Three

HESLINGTON METING ROOM**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2016****Credit Balance as 1.4.15**

Current Account (Nat West)	£1,894.32
Bonus Saver Account (Nat West)	£6,078.96
Cash in Hand	£23.19
	<u>£7,996.47</u>

Income

Room Hire	£4,799.50		
Bank Interest	£3.06		
Ward Grant for Finger Post	£139.75		
Credit Bristish Gas for electricity	£36.11		
	£4,942.31		

Expenditure

Gas		£479.27	
Electricity		£52.69	
Water		£127.60	
Cleaning		£520.00	
Cleaning Equipment & Liquids		£12.00	
Toiletries		£16.00	
Ant Bait		£7.51	
Business Rates (2 years)		£105.38	
Public Liability Insurance		£79.50	
Gardener			
Rural Action Yorkshire		£35.00	
Music Licence			
Committee Expenses			
Yorwaste/Boiler		£300.00	
Coat Hooks		£67.98	
Door Stop & Touch Up Paint		£4.54	
Barrier Mat		£189.00	
Barrier Mat Fitting		£45.00	
Chopping Board		£5.99	
To Parish Council		£500.00	
Alex Webb Allen Website Design		£500.67	
		£3,048.13	

Excess of Income over Expenditure£1,894.18**Credit Balance**

Balance at 1.4.15 + Excess of Income over Expenditure

£9,890.65**Credit Balance comprises**

Current Account (Nat West)			£3,772.98
Bonus Saver Account (Nat West)			£6,082.02
Cash in Hand			£35.65
			<u>£9,890.65</u>

Attachment Four

Annual General Meeting, Heslington Sportsfield,
The Pavilion, Heslington Sportsfield,
The Outgang, Heslington,
Thursday 7th May 2016, 7:30 pm.

Annual Report

As only three nominations were received for the five places on the Management Committee, an election was not needed. As well as these three members, the Committee has five Representatives of Nominated Organisations and one co-opted, giving a total of nine members.

Despite significant outlays for buildings, equipment and maintenance, our financial position is satisfactory at the moment, with a modest surplus this year and an improvement in the reserves. All the 106 money for renovating the Pavilion and improving the grounds has been committed or spent. Savings made in changing the utility provider have helped considerably, but on the other hand insurance costs have been increasing. More competitive insurers will be sought and the finances will be monitored carefully. Discussions with the City of York Council on rate relief continue but for the moment securing a discretionary reduction seems the only practicable way forward.

The charity has received a number of donations or pledges over the last year. We are very grateful to the donors, some anonymous but mostly if not entirely local, and to the sustained efforts of the Trustees in securing them. The outlook remains very uncertain but we are working to achieve a sound financial basis for the charity.

This annual competition, organised by Bill, was held in Main Street on Saturday 21st March. The weather could have been warmer but the day was again successful and makes a very useful addition to our finances. The potatoes will be judged and prizes awarded in 2 July, also planned to be the date of the Opening Ceremony for the new play equipment.

The Pavilion with its attractive modern facilities functions well and continues to be a great success. It is regrettable that occasionally the facilities are still being left in a mess. It is important to maintain the attractiveness of the Pavilion and steps will have to be taken if users do not look after them properly.

The very wet winter resulted in some minor but fortunately temporary pooling. However, thanks to the efforts of the clubs and the help of the University Estates, the grounds have come through the football season very well. The sports clubs continue to require cleaning up the field after matches. We also benefit from the good will of neighbours and citizens who have helped keep the field clean and tidy.

To meet further concerns raised over liability and the proper use of the Sportsfield, two safety signs are being planned with a contact telephone number being considered. These notices will be put up around the play equipment.

Football and cricket continue to flourish. The ages of the players ranges from the under sixes to adults and includes several girls football teams.

Thanks to the sustained efforts by the Committee, led by our Parish Council representative Bill McClean, a lot of the older play equipment has been removed, repaired or replaced by other equipment, including a nest swing, more traditional swings, climbing frames and picnic tables. A zip wire has also been purchased and is in the process of being installed. The projects were made possible by substantial donations, the first from Yorventure and the second by a grant from the Big Lottery Fund. Both projects relied on a number of generous gifts, some anonymous, from individuals and local organisations, including the Halifax Charitable Trust, two Shepherd Trusts, the George A Moore Foundation, Sinclair Properties and the University of York.

All play equipment is being checked and maintained annually. The Sportsfield and its excellent facilities continue to be popular with families and young people from the local area and further afield from York.

An Opening Ceremony and Family Barbeque to celebrate the installation of the new play equipment is being planned for Saturday 2 July. It is also the day for judging the Potato in a Bucket and the Tallest Sunflower Competition and so should be a popular combined event, to which everyone is very welcome.

It is a pleasure to report that the area of the Outgang used for parking remains in good condition, despite heavy use and the wet weather.

There has been a complaint about excessive and thoughtless parking on the Outgang which blocked access for local residents and farmers. The Committee takes this very seriously. Team Managers of the clubs have been reminded that they must make full use of the University car parks available on match days. Steps have been taken to ensure that the Outgang will not be obstructed in this way again. However, it must be pointed out that the problem can be aggravated by walkers, people exercising dogs and even occasionally by horse riders, with horse boxes in attendance. While the clubs have no control over these other users, they will nevertheless do all they can to ensure that parking associated with football is better regulated in the future.

Discussions over plans for improving the Sportsfield website, currently linked to the Heslington village site are continuing. It was accepted that it is desirable to publicise the facilities, particularly the new playground equipment and activities of the Sportsfield. The Committee is currently seeking the option most suited to its needs.

The hard work of the Secretary and Treasurer and the positive support and initiatives of other members, particularly the Parish Council representative, have been vital to the Committee. The Sports Clubs also play their part in the smooth running of the Sportsfield by cooperating and liaising over arrangements for fixtures and maintenance. I would like to express my thanks to all Trustees of the Committee for their support and commitment over another busy year. The thanks of the Committee also go to the Heslington Parish Council, Halifax Estates, City of York Council, the University of York and other organisations and individuals for financial support.

Maurice Dodson,
Chair, Heslington Sportsfield Management Committee

Heslington Village Trust

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

28 April 2016

Chairman's Report

There has been a small increase in the number of planning applications this year, several of them fairly significant, and as usual, I'll deal with the specifics in the OGM.

Several significant actions are currently underway that will affect the village, and again. I'll deal with the details in the OGM.

The single most important event affecting Heslington is the Local Plan and Whinthorpe, and the next public consultation is not now likely before early summer. Related to this, the development of a Neighbourhood Plan is progressing, and Bill will report on that in the OGM.

Another action is the application to the Council for an Article 4[2] Direction covering the Conservation Area. This gives the Local Authority greater control over alterations to unlisted buildings. The application has to come from the Parish Council, but the initiative came from the Village Trust, and as a result, I wrote the lengthy justification for the PC on which to base their application. Progress has been made and I'll detail this in the OGM.

Last year saw the completion of the not entirely satisfactory cycle path along University Road, and resulting from that the Village Trust and Parish Council have been campaigning to improve traffic flow along University Road by moving the north bound bus stop opposite the Library into the adjacent lay-by. Details in the OGM.

Once again, The Village Trust organised a leaf sweep in November.

Finally, the Village Meeting Room. I sit on the Committee, which re-formed 18 months ago with the intention of securing a viable future for it. The concern was that if it started to lose money, it would revert to its owners, the Parish Council, who might at some point sell it, and it would then be lost to the village. I'm happy to report that we have turned it around and it now has a new website, increased bookings and a healthy bank balance, despite a significant expenditure on maintenance and repairs.

Nick Allen, Chair.

Heslington Annual Meeting – May 2016

Over the last twelve months I am glad to say that we have seen no particular increase in Crimes within the parish, we have of course had the one of note which was the ATM theft on Main Street and enquiries are on-going into this. Anti Social Behaviour occurs occasionally and is usually linked in with alcohol in some way, be it a noisy party, people making their way home or minor damage to property and street furniture.

A large amount of complaints are made relating to the behaviour of cyclists and are usually centred around cycling on the footpath and not using lights particularly during the winter months. This has always unfortunately been a problem and I hope that you are aware that the local police team do conduct operations to target this type of behaviour. A new approach that we will be taking during the start of the university term is that we will be producing information that will be presented to ALL new International Students as we do find that a lot of the student cyclists that we stop are from other countries.

Overall the last twelve months have followed a similar pattern as in previous years and I would like to reassure residents that reported incidents that result in police attendance are low within the Heslington ward compared with other parts of the city and the local police team will do their best to ensure that this continues.