

**AIRMYN PARISH COUNCIL
EXTRA ORDINARY MINUTES**

**14 DECEMBER 2022 AT 7.15PM
AIRMYN MEMORIAL HALL**

PRESENT: - Councillors A Jackson, R Lowe, M Nundy, StJ Meyers.

Councillor F Stones joined the meeting at 7.30pm and Councillor C Goddard joined the meeting at 8pm

APOLOGIES: - Councillor Staward

Ms A Hirst (Parish Clerk) was also in attendance.

No members of the public were present.

207/2122 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS** – The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all councillors.

208/2122 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – That it be noted that Councillor Jackson declared a personal and non-pecuniary interest in Rusholme Windfarm. Councillor Meyers declared a personal and pecuniary interest in the Tree Planting Project and Payments (agenda items 167/2122 and 236/2122 refer).

209/2122 **CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS** – The Clerk informed the meeting that two vacancies currently existed on the parish council.

Resolved – That the position regarding current councillor vacancies be noted.

Resident Participation Time

No residents present.

Outstanding/Ongoing Issues

150/2122 **HSBC DEBIT CARD** – The Clerk advised that the relevant forms were now complete and ready for submission to HSBC for approval.

Resolved – That the Clerk submit the debit card forms to HSBC.

(Councillor Meyers, having declared a pecuniary interest, left the room for consideration of this agenda item).

167/2122 **TREE PLANTING PROJECT** – The Clerk informed the council that, following his research, Councillor Meyers had purchased and planted four silver birch trees for planting within Airmyn playing fields. A receipt for the purchase had also been submitted to the Clerk.

Resolved – That Councillor Meyers be thanked for researching, purchasing and planting of the trees and be reimbursed for the purchase.

(Councillor Meyers returned to the meeting).

146/2122 **LAND AT THE TOP OF THE CROSSINGS** – The Clerk presented Land Registry documentation and confirmed that the land at the top of the Crossings/High Street Junction was owned by Airmyn Parish Council.

The Clerk also presented to councillors a quote for proposed works on the land. The matter was discussed at length and it was agreed that –

- the catonasta be removed from the site and stump grinding take place;
- the holly tree be removed and stump grinded.
- In principle (subject to the Clerk liaising with the Conservation Officer at East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC)) that the copper beech tree be 'shaped', under supervision by Councillor Meyers.
- A new holly tree be purchased and planted at another, more suitable, location in the parish and to revisit the agenda item upon completion of works at the 'Airmyn garage site'.

The total cost of agreed works was £432 (plus VAT) and a potential additional cost of £420 (plus VAT) for 'shaping' the copper beech tree (subject to ERYC approval).

Resolved – (a) That the Clerk liaise with the Conservation Officer at ERYC in order to gain permission to 'shape' the cooper beech tree; (b) that Councillor Meyers research cost to purchase holly tree, and (c) that the Clerk advise the contractor of works agreed and arrange a suitable date and time when Councillor Meyers could also attend site.

211/2122 **UPGRADE OF PICNIC AREA** – Councillor Meyers proposed the purchase of three picnic tables (along with 3 bins) to be installed within the 'orchard' area at Airmyn playing fields to encourage residents to make use of the grounds and surroundings and to tie in with the proposed purchase of fruit trees for this area (see item 167/2122). Councillor Jackson advised that funding may be available and he would liaise with play area contractor.

Resolved – That Councillor Jackson liaise with the play area contractor and research funding options and update councillors at the next meeting

212/2122 **DOG WALK SEATING** – Councillor Jackson informed the meeting that he was in the process of requesting funding for the purchase of three benches for siting along the dog walk in Airmyn playing fields.

Resolved – That Councillor Jackson apply for funding (see also 213/2122) and liaise with play area contractor to request a quote for benches.

213/2122 **DOG WALK PATH** – Councillor Jackson informed the meeting that he had made informal enquiries as to whether funding was available for the installation of an alternative surface along the dog walk path to make it easier to walk along / navigate in all weathers.

Resolved – (a) That Councillor Meyers research surface materials and provide quotes by the next meeting, and (b) that once the quotes were received, Councillor Jackson apply for funding (see also 212/2122).

183/2122 **GRASS CUTTING CONTRACTS/STRATEGY** – Councillor Meyers presented the meeting with the costs of purchase heavy duty grass cutting equipment that would enable local residents to assist with the maintenance of the many parish green spaces (circa £8,000). Councillors were also informed that several parishioners had confirmed that they would assist with the cutting of the green spaces were suitable equipment to be purchased. Councillor Jackson confirmed that he had secured funding for the purchase.

Resolved – (a) That the current grass cutting contracts remain in place for 2023, and (b) that once the funding was received, Councillor Meyers purchase the equipment.

189/2122 **CRICKET FIELD ACCESS** – The Clerk advised the meeting that, following the article in the Airmyn News, several requests had been received from residents for the relevant documentation to complete, supporting the opening of the footpath between the former cricket field and the Percy Arms car park. Councillors discussed the matter and agreed to research the cost of installing a 'kissing gate' should the footpath be re-opened. The former allotments along the footpath were also discussed, with the Clerk asked to explore the feasibility of them being bought back into use.

Resolved – (a) That the Clerk research the cost of purchasing and installing a kissing gate, and (b) that the council continue to promote/distribute the necessary documentation to residents who wish to support the submission to ERYC to re-open the walkway.

197/2122 **HORSE FIELD FENCING** – The Clerk informed councillors that further contact had been made with the landowner highlighting the responsibilities of the landowner and advising that the barbed wire that was encroaching / overhanging the path was causing a safety hazard to members of the public using the footpath. A response to the communication was received by Councillor Lowe which she presented to the council.

The council reaffirmed that that the landowner was responsible for their land. However, the parish council also had a responsibility to the public to ensure the footpath was hazard free and so it was agreed that the parish council and the landowner would continue to work together to resolve the issue.

Resolved – (a) That the landowner be encouraged to replace the fence that was in place to keep the horses contained within their field, and (b) that further contact be made to the landowner requesting the removal of the barbed wire.

New Issues

234/2122 **PRECEPT CALCULATIONS** – In her capacity as Airmyn Parish Council's Responsible Financial Officer, the Clerk presented to members her provisional precept calculations.

Councillors agreed from the outset that, should the finances allow, it would set a zero increase in council tax for the parish

Councillors then discussed at length schemes, activities and projects that could be implemented to enhance the parish of Airmyn, that were within budget. Ambitious projects agreed included the –

- Installation of safety matting to ensure users can access the children's slides in the play area.
- Creation of a community orchard in the grounds of Airmyn playing fields.
- Improvements to the 'dog walk' within Airmyn playing fields.
- Village King Charles III Coronation celebration.

- Community event to celebrate Bonfire Night.
- New IT finance software to assist our clerk in administering the council's finances.

Resolved – (a) That the council unanimously agreed to a zero increase in the parish precept for 2023-24; (b) that the Clerk update the precept calculations accordingly and circulate to the council members; (c) that the zero increase be communicated to residents via social media, and (d) that the Clerk submit the precept demand (signed at the meeting by the Chair and Clerk) to East Riding of Yorkshire Council.

235/2122 **PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS** – Councillors discussed the report provided by the playground inspector (Mr R Bramham) which had been previously circulated to the council by the Clerk. It was agreed that works be undertaken to the ground surface to the sides of each of the slides (circa £3450.00). Members also discussed works to prevent the trampoline surround from lifting.

Resolved – (a) That the Clerk instruct the contractor to commence works on the surfaces to the sides of the slides, and (b) that Councillor Jackson liaise with the contractor in regard to the trampoline surround and update at the next meeting.

Financial Issues

(Councillor Meyers, having declared a pecuniary interest, left the room for consideration of this agenda item).

236/2122 **PAYMENTS – Resolved** – That the following payments be approved (**Closed**)

Payee	Detail	Cost
Vodafone	Telephone, broadband & mobile	£32.59
Clerk	Wages – Nov 2022 (including Apr-Sep 2022 agreed NALC backpay - approved and paid 06/12/22)	£768.74
ERYC	Annual Clocktower Lighting	£391.10
ERYC	Annual Parish Lighting	£709.76
Heart Internet	Annual Website Hosting	£187.06
Morral PlayServices	Annual Playground Inspection	£179.40
R Bramham	Grounds Maintenance & Training Course	£141.45
StJohn Meyers	Reimburse - Tree saplings for 'orchard area project'	£315.60
StJohn Meyers	Reimburse - Padlock for Bracken Hill gate	£48.04
HAD-IT	Printer Usage 28/8/22-29/11/22	£20.43
	Total	£2,794.17

(Councillor Meyers returned to the meeting).

Any Other Business

230/2122 **DOG FOULING** – It was brought to the attention of the parish council that there had been an increase in dog fouling throughout the village.

Resolved – That reference be made on social media and in the next Airmyn newsletter.

231/2122 **BICYCLES** – It was suggested by Councillor Meyers that, due to their condition, the two remaining 'Tour de Yorkshire' bicycles located along the riverbank be removed and disposed of.

Resolved – That the two 'Tour de Yorkshire' bicycles located along the riverbank be removed and disposed of. **(Closed)**

232/2122 **AIRMYN NEWS** – The parish council appreciated the work undertaken by Megan Gill and her team in producing and distributing the Airmyn News to all residents. It was unanimously agreed to make a monetary donation as a gesture of thanks to the volunteers.

Resolved – That the Clerk liaise with Megan Gill. **(Closed)**

233/2122 **AIRMYN PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER** – The Chair informed the meeting that, with no Airmyn News in January 2023, the parish council may wish to consider producing and circulating a newsletter to all properties in the parish. The newsletter would allow the council to communicate more in depth with residents on completed and upcoming projects. The council also proposed to invite residents to actively provide suggestions for how the village can be improved and also if there were any calendar events they would like to see celebrated going forward.

Resolved – That a newsletter be produced and distributed

234/2122 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC** – **Resolved** – That Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded due to the confidential nature of the business on staffing about to be transacted. **Closed**

235/2122 **CLERK ANNUAL REVIEW** – Councillors Jackson and Goddard (as members of the council's Personnel Committee) updated members on the outcome of the Clerk's Annual Review.

Resolved – (a) That all councillors be provided with a copy of the notes of the Clerk's annual review, and (b) that councillors progress the actions identified in the review.

Date of Next Meeting: 11 January 2023 at 7pm

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.40pm.

Signed as a true record

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Chairman

Date