

GUNTHWAITE AND INGBIRCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 31st JULY 2024, 7.30 PM, FOUNTAIN VILLAGE PUB FUNCTION ROOM

PRESENT; Councillors Berry, Edmondson, Hazeldine, Ogden; Clerk.

2024/041. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND APPROVE REASONS FOR ABSENCE.

Noted – all Councillors were present.

2024/042. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

Noted – Councillor Hazeldine declared an interest in item 2024/049.1 and will make a factual statement only.

2024/043. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 26TH JUNE 2024.

Resolved – minutes approved as accurate by the Council and signed by Councillor Berry.

2024/044. TO ADJOURN THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING TO RECEIVE COMMENT AND QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS.

Noted – no members of public present. However, Councillor Hazeldine was contacted by a member of the public who wants to have a bench placed at Summerford to commemorate a relation who lived in Ingbirchworth. Clerk has been passed the details and will follow up.

2024/045. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER ANY PLANNING APPLICATIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING.

2024/0633 Single storey side and rear wrap around extension to dwelling, Wellthorne Lane, Ingbirchworth.

Resolved – no comment from the Council.

2024/046. TO NOTE THAT THE CLERK HAS EXTENDED THE NOTICE ASKING PEOPLE TO APPLY TO BECOME A COUNCILLOR BY CO-OPTION.

Noted – Clerk has not received any applications to date.

2024/047. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE UPDATED FINANCIAL REGULATIONS POLICY AND A NEW BIODIVERSITY POLICY.

Noted – Councillor Edmondson will create and circulate a report covering what the Council has done towards improving biodiversity on its land.

Resolved – the updated Financial Regulations policy and the new Biodiversity policy were both adopted at the meeting.

2024.048. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO PROVISION OF PARKING IN INGBIRCHWORTH VILLAGE.

Noted – Councillor Berry has contacted the interested parties and further discussion will be postponed until after the holiday period.

2024/049. TO CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY AND PUBLIC OPEN SPACES.

2024/049.1 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO THE NEW SHELTER AND PATH BEING BUILT NEAR THE PETANQUE TERRAINS AND A PROPOSED NEW BENCH.

Noted – Councillor Hazeldine noted that the petanque terrains are now fully accessible for mobility scooters. The petanque club has some building materials and grant money left over and proposes to (i) extend the path adjacent to the terrains; (ii) place an Ingbirchworth Petanque club sign on the shelter; (iii) get two new benches like the existing commemorative bench nearby. One bench will be purchased with club grant money, the second will be paid for by a club member as a commemorative bench for a relative. Councillor Hazeldine will check that the club member intends that the bench will be donated to the petanque club who will maintain and insure it.

Resolved – Council approves the proposed additional work subject to the donation of the new bench being confirmed.

2024/049.2 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MATTERS ABOUT THE ANNUAL MUGA INSPECTION (£78 EXCL. VAT) AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS (REPAINTING OF FRAME SECTIONS AND RESETTING OF THE FLAGSTONE AT THE ENTRY).

Noted – the worn away areas around the concrete flag at the entrance to the MUGA have been filled in.

Resolved – Clerk to request the annual MUGA inspection.

2024/049.3 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MATTERS ABOUT DEER DAMAGE TO THE APPLE TREES PLANTED ON THE RECREATION FIELD.

Noted – only three or four trees look likely to keep growing, gardener has suggested protecting these with some stakes and chicken wire.

Resolved – Councillor Edmondson will get costs for stakes and wire to provide protection for the young trees.

2024/049.4 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO PURCHASE OF A NEW DECORATIVE ‘RUSTIC STYLE’ CHAIN LINK FENCE (POSTS, CHAIN, HOOKS) FOR THE GRASSED AREA AT THE ‘OLD VILLAGE GREEN’ AT £200.05 PLUS £40.01 VAT. NO OTHER SIMILAR SUITABLE FENCING COULD BE FOUND FOR A COST COMPARISON.

Noted – Councillor Edmondson looked at alternative fencing suppliers, but the options available were plastic or less ‘rustic’ and would not suit the proposed setting. Further proposal for the old village green was to have gaps in the fencing for access, and possibly some concrete required if the ground was found to be too shallow for the posts to be properly installed.

Resolved – an extra £75 can be spent to cover additional materials. Once the inspection has been done, Clerk to be advised by Councillor Edmondson and to make the purchase.

2024/049.5 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MATTERS ABOUT IN-PROGRESS VILLAGE MAINTENANCE AND GARDENING WORKS.

Noted – Councillor Hazeldine will take the dismantled planters to the local disposal site Clerk noted that Mr. Wood will repair the picnic table and benches in Summerford and Sandbeds. Also noted that BMBC has restarted inspections of lampposts for hanging baskets.

Councillor Edmondson noted Sandbeds stream is clogged with Himalayan balsam again.
Resolved – Clerk to ask Greenotes CIC to provide advice about managing Summerford including mowing regime for the Council to consider. Also to follow up with BMBC about lampost inspections. Councillor Ogden will ask for community group volunteers to do some balsam removal at Sandbeds.

2024/050.TO CONSIDER MATTERS FOR REFERRAL TO BMBC HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY.

Noted – Councillor Edmondson noted that on New Row Lane the sides of the road are being worn away and Mill Lane is badly potholed.

Resolved – Clerk to report these to BMBC.

2024/051.TO CONSIDER MATTERS FOR REFERRAL TO NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES.

Noted – no matters raised.

2024/052.TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER CRIME AND SAFETY MATTERS.

Noted – no matters raised.

2024/053.FINANCIAL MATTERS

2024/053.1 TO RECEIVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND NOTE INCOME RECEIVED.

Accounts for payment

31.07	#767	BL Lonestar Ltd	Hire of Fountain function room 31st July	£30.00
31.07	#768	BL Lonestar Ltd	Replacement for cheque 750 (now cancelled)	£30.00

Income received

31.05		NatWest bank	Bank interest	£10.04
13.06		HMRC	VAT reclaim 2023-24	£684.16
28.06		NatWest bank	Bank interest	£9.08

Debit card account payments made by Clerk

none

2024/053.2 TO RECEIVE AND NOTE BANK RECONCILIATION REPORT TO JUNE 28TH.

Noted – a bank balance totalling £17,031.77 reported.

Resolved – the bank reconciliation report was checked by a Councillor and signed as accurate.

2024/053.3 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE BUDGET MONITOR REPORT TO JULY 31ST.

Resolved – budget monitor report accepted.

2024/053.4 TO NOTE THAT THE PUBLIC INSPECTION PERIOD OF THE COUNCIL'S ACCOUNTS HAS ENDED, AND NO INQUIRIES WERE RECEIVED.

Noted.

2024/054.TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED.

2024/054.1 YLCA WHITE ROSE UPDATES/LAW AND GOVERNANCE BULLETINS (JUNE/JULY).

Noted – Councillor Berry attended a Micro Councils event organised by NALC with the Centre for Aging Better, Councillor Berry has offered that the Council will work with them, all Councillors are included.

2024/054.2 YLCA ANNUAL REVIEW 2023-2024

2024/054.3 SOUTH YORKSHIRE COMBINED AUTHORITY – BUS TIMETABLE CHANGES FROM SEPTEMBER.

Noted – replacement service 90 is an improvement to existing 350 service.

2024/054.4 BMBC – COUNCILLOR'S REGISTER OF INTEREST FORMS - TO BE RETURNED BY AUGUST 30TH.

2024/055.TO CONFIRM THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING DATE AS WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2024.

Noted – actual meeting date is Wednesday 18th September, typo by Clerk in the July Agenda.

Resolved – next meeting date is Wednesday September 18th, 2024