

Skipwith Parish Council Meeting Minutes on Thursday, 6th March 2025 at 7pm

Present: Councillors Mike Ward (MW), Chairman, Jonathan Radway (JR), Andy Bushell (AB), Ian Hatton (IH), Kate Baxter (KB)
Isobel Greatrex (IG), Parish Clerk

Item No.	Discussion	Action by	Due Date
058/25	To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence None		
059/25	Declarations of interest not already declared under the council's Code of Conduct or members Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests None disclosed.		
060/25	Public Session No members of the public were present.		
061/25	To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th January 2025 The meeting minutes were approved. JR proposed and IH seconded.		
062/25	North Yorkshire Councillor Report Nothing to report.		
063/25 063.1	Information on the following ongoing issues and to decide further action where necessary: Recreation Area With information received from previous Parish Councillor, John Purcell, IH provided an update regarding quotes for progressing work on the recreation area. Whilst he had received quotes from three contractors, there was only one standalone quote, from Hagrapat, of £9,500 for a graded levelling and grass seeding of the area. As previously cited, it had proved extremely difficult to source a contractor who was interested in doing this initial work. After		

	<p>discussion it was agreed to go ahead with Hagrapat, subject to final details being confirmed. JR proposed and AB seconded.</p> <p>The PC held the existing view that levelling the area would, on its own, provide increased access, whilst members were mindful that Spring should provide ideal conditions for the work.</p> <p>A site meeting with Hagrapat and all the Parish Councillors was to be arranged as soon as possible, bearing in mind the ground would need to be grass seeded very soon.</p> <p>Going forward, the PC was continuing to work on several options to share with residents.</p>	IH	March
063.2	<p>Allotment Update</p> <p>There was still an allotment vacancy, should any resident be interested.</p>		
063.3	<p>Speeding</p> <p>KB had purchased the Community Speedwatch equipment required, which will be owned by the PC and loaned to the Community Speedwatch team. The PC was also awaiting a sign sample from Allsigns Ltd, which, once received, needs approval by the Community Speedwatch Lead before manufacture.</p>		
063.4	<p>Village Maintenance Activities for April</p> <p>It was agreed to clean the road signs on 26th April at 9.30am, meeting at the bus stop.</p> <p>Prior to the meeting, MW had checked the pavements and verges and they seemed to be in good repair.</p> <p>The sink hole opposite the church was reported on 29th January. Highways have stated it has been caused by a collapsed sewer and has referred it to Yorkshire Water, who are waiting for a report from the Network Operational Specialist team in order to resolve the problem.</p>	PC	26 th April
063.5	<p>Councillor Vacancies</p> <p>IH offered to arrange for an advert print, which the PC would then distribute around the village. The cost was £40, which AB proposed, and KB seconded.</p>	IH	ASAP
063.6	<p>Round Up Editorial</p> <p>JR volunteered to circulate draft notices for Round Up and finalise to ensure the deadline was met.</p> <p>IH suggested that the PC should include any relevant forthcoming key dates in Round Up.</p>	JR	Before 11 th April

064/25	Planning Nothing to report.		
065/25	Matters requested by councillors:		
065.1	Removal of Tree Branches Blocking 3 Streetlights in Main Steet (IH) MW also suggested that the tree which is on the edge of the recreation area also needs some branches removing. It was agreed that IG would contact Escrick Estate to ask if they would resolve the problem.	IG	ASAP
065.2	Grass Cutting Schedule (MW) The schedule had been checked and is due to start from 1 st April and end 31 st October. However, it was noted that the village green had already been cut. IG agreed to contact York Landscapes to query this and to confirm the additions to the original contract would continue to be include in the forthcoming season.	IG	ASAP
065.3	Scarrow Green Maintenance It was agreed that Scarrow Green should be monitored throughout Spring and Summer. MW volunteered to contact a resident who had shown particular interest in it last year to discuss further.	MW	Before 1 st May
066//25	Financial Matters		
066.1	<u>The following accounts for payment were approved:</u> 066.1.1 Reimbursement to KB re Community Speedwatch equipment - £159.06 066.1.2 Electricity invoice for St Helen's Church Christmas floodlighting - £65.64 066.1.3 Reimbursement to IG re Microsoft 365 purchase - £84.99 066.1.4 Parish Clerk's salary Since the agenda was published a further invoice had been received: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> John Wright Electrical Services for Christmas light repairs - £215.63 All the above was proposed by IH and seconded by AB.		

067/25 067.1	Correspondence Request to sell cakes on the village green. IG had left two messages for the seller to call her to find out more details but she had not received any response.		
068/25	To Notify the Clerk of Matters for Inclusion on the Agenda of the Next Meeting None		
	Before the meeting closed and on behalf of the PC, MW offered his sincere thanks to Councillor Kate Baxter for her significant contributions to the village and the PC, and especially for all the work she had done to ensure the village pond had been maintained during her tenure. He wished her well for the future.		
	Meeting closed at 8.10pm. Please note the next meeting will be the Annual Meeting, followed by the ordinary Parish Council meeting and will be held on Thursday, 15th May at 7pm.		

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