

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Lockton Parish Council held on
Monday 02 December 2024 at 7.00 pm. Venue: Lockton Village Hall, Lockton, Pickering**

<u>PRESENT</u>		
Chair: Cllr D Tomlinson, Cllr M Bentley, Cllr J Edenbrow, Cllr R Phillips and J Collins (Clerk).		
Apologies: Cllr Hodgson		
Members of public were present (mop)		
1. Welcome to all		
Chair Cllr Tomlinson welcomed all present to the meeting.		
2. Open Forum/Public Session		
No points raised for the Open Forum.		
3. To Receive any Declarations of Interest		
None raised.		
4. Guest Slot		
Holly Ramsden (NYMNPA) gave a presentation on Grubs Up project and the biodiversity initiative being driven by the Parks. Focus is on areas of quick wins like grass verges, leaving uncut. HR confirmed that although a Parish Council does not need to produce an action plan, they do however need to prove that they are thinking about it. Pickering TC has been successful in trialling grass verges. Cllr Edenbrow agreed to contact the tenant renting the piece of land Overscar, to see what opportunities exist there. HR stated that she would enable a project, assist with the initial survey and offer advice, however the project really needs to be driven by the local volunteers and needs collaboration from local village groups such as Lockton WI, and local bio-diversity groups. Consensus from the parish councillors was to support and promote as much as possible, through the PC website, public meetings and its Newsletter. A mop expressed their appreciation for the Lockton Herald's contribution to local biodiversity.		
5. To Agree and Sign the Minutes of the meeting on Monday 30 September 2024: Minutes agreed, all councillors in favour and signed by the Chair Cllr Tomlinson.		
6.	To receive information on ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary	
	Village Sign replacement: following the initial quote received, Cllr Bentley had kindly offered to produce the replacement sign, who confirmed this will be erected before Christmas. A note of thanks was again recorded for the work undertaken by Cllr Bentley, which will save the Parish Council circ. £500 in having to fund this in the 2024.25 financial year.	
7.	Planning applications received	
	NYM/2024/0746 – Cherry Tree Farm, Lockton NYM/2024/0799 – Cherry Tree Farm, Lockton	Actions: No comments
8.	Planning decisions received.	
	None received.	Actions:
9.	Finance	
9.1	To Review & Approve finance report/payments In, including Grants spreadsheet. Since last meeting: Payments In/Out: Grass cutting -£640.00/Yoga/VH rent £105.00/Clerks Salary £171.92 /Lockton Yoga Teacher -£198.00/WJPS – £501.60/Playsafety Ltd - £122.40/In: A. Collier +£600 /NYC precept + £2,750	Approved
9.2	To Consider future Payments In/Out: Grass cutting -£320.00/Lockton Yoga Teacher - £33.00/Return of Grant payment £5,000.00/Caretaker - £80.00	Approved
9.3	To Consider & Approve forecasted/projected Payments In/Out until next meeting: Moles (again) - £90.00 Caretaker -£100.00 for village/cemetery path/Tree Surgery – TBC/Clerks Salary - £221.04	Approved To leave the moles for now
10.	Chairman's report/Councillor's information	
10.1	To Consider & Approve precept for Fin Year 2025/26 All councillors voted and agreed to a 2% precept increase on the Fin Year 2025/26. Clerk agreed to confirm this in writing to the North Yorkshire Council finance dept asap.	
10.2	To Review progress on the Barclays mandate for additional authorised signatories Clerk confirmed that Cllr Phillips is now on the mandate and the PC is now able to pay electronically through the banking online system.	
10.3	To Consider & Approve actions for the urgent issue in relation to St. Giles, and Lockton Cemetery. To review quote (s) and agree expenditure for remaining Fin Year 2024/25 and possibly 2025/26	

	<p>It was agreed to instruct J Brown tree surgeon, who completed work earlier in the year at St.Giles Church. It was agreed to delete the works detailed for the side path to the cemetery, include all the tree works in the cemetery, including the ivy on the front wall, and also to cut back as agreed 2 of the churchyard Yews. It was agreed to cut back the remaining 3 Yews in the new Fin Year 2025-26. Clerk agreed to confirm the works to James (tree surgeon) and seek earliest dates in January 2025. Contractor's public liability had been confirmed earlier in the year.</p>
11.	Clerk's Information (Clerks Notes circulated)
11.1	<p>To Review progress & agree way forward for the Clerk vacancy Clerk confirmed that LPC needs to pay in line with the NALC pay scale and recommended that to attract the right and/or any candidate, include the (WFH) allowance and ensure an appropriate employment contract is in place. Clerk confirmed she will draw up the appropriate paperwork and offered to see out the financial year to ensure business continuity and completion of audit before leaving the Parish Council.</p>
11.2	<p>To Review Lockton PC website including emails/gov.uk/maintenance agreement Clerk confirmed the new website is up and running, and that the new gov.uk email address for the Clerk will start to be used (to confirm in an email). It is still work in progress, with further community information to be added at some stage.</p>
11.3	<p>To Review actions in relation to the grant monies for the Playground Clerk confirmed that the £5,000 grant awarded earlier in the year has been returned to NYC.</p>
11.4	<p>To Receive all updates on village: Biodiversity plan/Playground/Cemetery/Village Hall Garden/Pinfold To continue with the Bio-discussions at future meetings. Cllr Phillips discussed the need to understand the areas of land owned by the Parish Council, so that we can decide how we are able to progress any bio-diversity projects. Cllr Bentley agreed to action the detail on a parish map.</p>
11.5	<p>To Review all other correspondence received: Cemetery/NYC parish portal update/Flood Prevention Group. Clerk provided Clerks Notes as guidance to the items for discussion. Cemetery: Clerk discussed the need to consider a contract to cover those who are working in the cemetery to ensure Health & Safety compliance. Clerk to forward some paperwork for consideration NYC Parish portal: Clerk to re-register the PC under the resident portal as the PC one is no longer being supported. Flood prevention Group: Clerk highlighted the local initiative where funding is available for Parish Councils to help build preventative measures against flooding, such as, inserting road grips & ditches. Clerk offered to complete the initial Expression of Interest and to share measures being considered by other villages such as Ebberston and Snainton (A170).</p>
12.	<p>Urgent business: None</p>
13.	Date of next Parish Council meeting
	Monday, 27 January 2025
	Meeting closed at 20:20 hours