

BISHOPTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 28th March 2017.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.02 pm.

The Chairman, Cllr. Harrison, declared a personal interest in Little Green Rascals because his daughter is employed at their Tadcaster Road Nursery.

Mrs Rachel Carew of Palace Garden Cottage, Bishopthorpe Road, attended the meeting to represent the views of Bishopthorpe Play Group to the Parish Council. A representative from Little Green Rascals Nursery, a new Nursery that will open shortly and be based at the Old School, attended the February meeting of the Parish Council. Mrs Carew explained that she wished to discuss two separate matters:

Firstly, Bishopthorpe Play Group currently operates as an 'unincorporated charity'. As such all Committee Members are also the Charity Trustees and would be personally liable if anything went wrong. This organisational structure is now considered to be quite outdated and it was proposed in 2014 that they should convert to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). A new Charity (with the same name 'Bishopthorpe Pre-School Play Group') will come in to existence on the 31st July 2017. A new charity number (1159473) will also be registered on this date.

Secondly, Bishopthorpe Play Group wishes to express concern that a new Nursery, operated by Little Green Rascals, will open in the village shortly. Mrs Carew explained that Bishopthorpe Play Group operates on tight margins as their costs (mainly staffing costs) cannot be reduced to increase their revenue. An amount of £540 was declared as their operating profit for the last financial year. Mrs Carew perceives that Little Green Rascals Nursery may pose a real threat to the long-term survival of Bishopthorpe Play Group and stated that they are part of the community and make a contribution to the village, which will be lost if they are forced out of business.

Cllr. Mrs Green asked Mrs Carew if there are enough children to fill vacancies offered by two Play Groups in the village. Mrs Carew feels that the fall in birth rate projected in the coming years will affect their intake.

Cllr. Mrs Gajewicz questioned the competitiveness of Bishopthorpe Play Group and their ability to attract children to them instead of Little Green Rascals Nursery. If the Bishopthorpe Play Group charges the minimum rate why would parents be willing to pay a higher rate to place their children with Little Green Rascals Nursery?

In response Mrs Carew explained that that age differentiation will play a part i.e. Little Green Rascals Nursery will take two-year olds (Bishopthorpe Play Group can only take children from the age of three) and also operating time: Little Green Rascals Nursery will open earlier at 7.30am. The facilities at the Sports Pavilion are inadequate to set up a breakfast club to compete with the new Nursery but Mrs Carew confirmed that they are considering opening at 8.30am (instead of the current 9.00am). Mrs Carew also explained that Little Green Rascals Nursery has more financial backing and is savvier on social media sites, thus proving very attractive to new parents. Cllr. Jemison asked if this is the case, why doesn't Bishopthorpe Play Group become more commercially attractive and thus more competitive. Perhaps some of their resources could be transferred to marketing the Group?

Mrs Carew asked the Parish Council to consider making representation to the City Council (who have an interest in the Old School) to ask for input in terms of the lease offered to Little Green Rascals Nursery. Cllr. Harrison stated that the Parish Council has not been consulted or involved in any of the negotiations between Little Green Rascals Nursery, the Old School or the City Council. This is a private company and the Parish Council would not consider becoming involved.

Mrs Carew left the meeting at 7.29pm.

In conclusion, it was agreed that Play Group may need to look at their marketing campaign and broaden their appeal to compete with Little Green Rascals Nursery, another commercial company who will now offer competition. The Parish Council is not comfortable to approach the City Council to intercede between two competing companies. If Bishopthorpe Play Group were to fail, the Pavilion could return fully to its former use as a sports pavilion.

The Parish Council meeting commenced at 7.36pm

Council Members Present:

Cllr. Harrison (Chairman), Cllr. Mrs Gajewicz, Cllr. Mrs Conley, Cllr. Mrs Green, Cllr. Askew, Cllr. George, Cllr. Mellors, Cllr. Jemison, Cllr. Featherstone and Cllr Mrs Gentry

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All recording must be undertaken in an obvious way and the wishes of any members of the public who do not want to be recorded must be respected. All persons recording the meeting are reminded that the 'Public Participation' period at the beginning of the meeting is not part of the formal meeting.

17/38 2 **Apologies for absence.**

None

17/39 3 **Declarations of Interest**

At this point Councillors are asked to declare any prejudicial interests they may have in the business on this agenda. The following interests were noted: The Chairman, Cllr. Harrison, declared a personal interest in Little Green Rascals because his daughter is employed at their Tadcaster Road Nursery

17/40 4 **Minutes of Meeting 28th February 2017**

Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Cllr. Mrs Gajewicz and seconded by Cllr. Mrs Green. Carried unanimously by all who attended the meeting.

17/41 5 **Consideration of Planning Matters and recommendations of the Planning Group**

5.1 Notice of Applications received

- 5.1.1 **18 Newlands Road.** Single storey rear extension. 17/00410/FUL. No Objection
- 5.1.2 **28 Bridge Road.** Two storey and single storey side extension, single storey rear extension and dormer window to rear. 17/00475/FUL. No Objection
- 5.1.3 **14 Sim Balk Lane.** Replacement window to second floor aside elevation, replacement windows to rear dormer and Velux Cabrio roof light window with balcony system to rear roof plane. 16/02918/FUL. No Objection
- 5.1.4 **8 Neville Drive.** Single storey side extension. 17/00315/FUL. Whilst there is no planning objection there is a surface water drainage issue which will be highlighted to the City Council

452 Notice of decisions given (*Parish Council decisions are highlighted in red*)

- 5.2.1 **Garth Cottage, Sim Balk Lane.** Single storey side and rear extension. 16/02775/FUL. (**No Objection**) Application withdrawn
- 5.2.2 **Garth Cottage, Sim Balk Lane.** Internal and external works including erection of a single storey side and rear extension and alterations to internal layout including removal of internal stack and formation of toilet space to first floor. 16/02776/LBC. (**No Objection**) Application withdrawn
- 5.2.3 **White Cross Cottage, 36 Main Street.** Alternations to roof including raising height of ridge and dormer window to rear, reinstatement of chimney to side elevation and alteration to front roof canopy and front openings. 16/02889/FUL. (**No Objection**) Approved
- 5.2.4 **84 Montague Road.** Erection of dwelling to side. 16/02861/FUL – Amendments: Height of the proposal needs to be reduced and removal of dormer windows. (**Objection**). Approved

5.3 Large Householder Extension Notifications

- 5.3.1 48 Copmanthorpe Lane. Single storey rear extension. 17/00134/CPD. Permitted development. Noted.

5.4 Other Planning Matters

- 5.4.1 *S106 payments* – Nothing to report.
- 5.4.2 *Proposed new telecommunications base station at Yorkshire Water Pumping Station,*

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Sim Balk Lane – The email explained that Telefónica UK Limited has entered into an agreement with Vodafone Limited pursuant to which the two companies plan to jointly operate and manage a single network grid across the UK. A proposal has been made to install a twenty-one metre high telecommunications mast at the pumping station on Sim Balk Lane.

The Parish Council agreed that the new mast would not be acceptable in this location. At twenty one metres high it would be three times taller than the telegraph pole currently at this site and would be visibly obstructive at the entrance to the village and out of keeping at the edge of a green belt and conservation area. It was agreed that a reply will be made to this effect and that the company will be invited to the next Parish Council meeting in April to discuss the matter further. **Action Clerk.**

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6 Services

6.1 Village Hall Management Committee

6.1.1 *Management Committee Report* – No recent meeting.

6.1.2 *Internal decoration quotes* – Cllr. Jemison reported that three quotes has been received as follows:

Bagnall's
Crosby
Jefferson's

The three quotes were reviewed and discussed within the meeting and all three were considered to be of a similar standard. Cllr. Jemison therefore proposed that the Jefferson's quote of £4,870.00 (the lowest received) should be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Mrs Green and agreed unanimously. Cllr. Jemison to contact Mr Jefferson. **Action Cllr. Jemison**

The job will take approximately two weeks to complete and it was agreed that this would be best undertaken in August and that the hall will be closed during this time.

6.1.3 *Damp Quote – entrance hall – Britannia Preservation* – Cllr. Jemison reported that Britannia Conservation has quoted a sum of £885.00 to undertake the work. This company was approached as they recently did work in the hallway and it was agreed that it would be best to call them back instead of calling out someone new. Cllr. Jemison proposed that this quote should be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Mrs Green and agreed unanimously. **Action Cllr. Jemison**

6.1. *Replacement fridge* – Nothing to report.

6.1.5 *Floor re-polishing* – Nothing to report.

6.2 Sports and Leisure Management Committee

6.2.1 *Management Committee Report* – Cllr. Harrison noted that the Parish Council paid for a new water heater in the Pavilion at a cost of £596.89. It was agreed that, on this occasion, Play Group would not be asked for a contribution.

6.2.2 *Bishopthorpe United development plans* – Cllr. Featherstone reported that the City Council has given backing in principal to the London Bridge football field development. Bishopthorpe United may have to share the proposed facility with teams from Woodthorpe. Cllr. Featherstone confirmed that this will in no way remove reliance on the facilities at Ferry Lane and indeed an upgrade on them will be sought in the deal.

6.3 Finance Committee

6.3.1 *Committee report* – The external audit completion forms have been received and the Clerk reported that the draft audit is well underway. The Internal Auditor, Alan Broadfoot, has confirmed that he is happy to undertake this year's audit.

6.4 Field 84, Riverside and Footpaths Working Party

6.4.1 *Working party report* – Nothing to report.

6.4.2 *Email from Cllr. John Galvin* – Cllr. John Galvin has called for an Enforcement Officer to investigate the state of the moorings to see if any steps can be taken to tidy the area.

6.5 Youth Support and Children’s Recreation

6.5.1 *Monthly park inspection update* – Cllr. Mrs Green reported no issues from the park inspection this month and agreed to keep the bag for the month going forward. Cllr. Mrs Green thanked Cllr. Askew for efficiently raking all the bark in the park last month.

6.5.2 1.1.1 *Inspection report breakdown of quote* – The Clerk was asked to contact Play Dale to request that they replace the aerial runway matting at a cost of £195.00. **Action Clerk.**

6.6 Allotments

6.6.1 *Monthly update* – Lisa Dobson who held Plot 1 has moved to the larger Plot 45. Plot 1 comprised of half-compacted earth and it was decided when re-letting this it will be let as a half plot only.

6.7 Senior Citizens Support and Vernon House

6.7.1 *Monthly Report* – The AGM held on the 21st March was attended by fourteen people together with the Committee members. The Parish Council was thanked by the Committee for their support of Vernon House.

Richard Williams Electrical has investigated the emersion heater problems and made a number of suggestions for improvement. Cllr. Mrs Green proposed that Richard Williams Electrical install a clockwork timer and an insulation jacket for the emersion heater up to the cost of £100. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs Gentry and agreed unanimously.

6.7.2 *Fire Extinguishers / signs, as recommended in inspection – update Cllr. Mrs Green* – Cllr. Mrs Green reported that she recently attended a Health and Safety briefing at Chapel Fields. It was agreed that to ensure Vernon House is H&S compliant, it may be necessary to request a visit from an expert. Cllr. Mrs Green will investigate this.

6.8 Web Page Management

6.8.1 *Monthly update* – Cllr. Mrs Conley confirmed that the web information was up to date.

6.9 Bishopthorpe Library

6.9.1 *Monthly update* – Nothing to report.

6.10 Environmental, Sustainability and Accessibility Issues

6.10.1 *Monthly Report* – Cllr. Mrs Green proposed that the following memberships are renewed in the Parish Council’s name:

{	York Environment Forum £20 p/a
	Bus Forum £10 p/a

This was seconded by Cllr. Harrison and agreed unanimously.

6.11 Community Emergency Planning

6.11.1 *Monthly update* – Nothing to report.

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Financial Transactions

7.1 Payments to approve

7.1.1 **Cheque / Direct Debit payments**

Amounts paid

Monthly direct debit to E-On Sports Pavilion Electricity	63.00
Monthly direct debit to E-on Village Hall Electricity	85.00
Monthly direct debit to E-on Village Hall Gas	68.00
Margaret Christie – Sensory Garden gate September 16 to March 17	543.00

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Campaign to Protect Rural England – Membership Fee 36.00

Payment Total £795.00

7.1.2 On- Line banking payments

Amounts paid

Clerk's Salary	647.00
Clerk's Expenses- (£0.00)	0.00
Village Hall Caretaker / Booking Secretary	465.55
Vernon House Caretaker – Julie Bradley	250.00
Carol Henk – Sports Pavilion cleaning	120.00
Vernon House monthly rates	0.00
Pipe Solutions – supply and fit new water heater	596.89
Ian Jemison Engineering – Repairs to wooden bench Main Street: supply and fitting of new lock to sports field gate and supply of heavy duty rubber grass matt Play Area	457.20
Non Domestic Rate Demand – Vernon House (paid 1/4/17)	1234.90
Non Domestic Rate Demand – Sports Pavilion (paid 1/4/17)	2423.20
Non Domestic Rate Demand – Village Hall (paid 1/4/17)	517.32

Yorkshire Local Councils Association – Annual fee (paid 1/4/17)	716.00
PRS For Music – Village Hall annual fee	162.50

Payment Total £7590.56

Total Payments £8385.56

* *No payments referred to Village Hall Management Committee for authorisation.*

7.2 Income Receipts

Vernon House February Takings	337.00
Village Hall Management Committee February takings	653.00
National Westminster interest	0.41

Income Total £990.41

Approval of financial transactions proposed by Cllr. Mrs Gajewicz and seconded by Cllr. Mrs Green.
Carried Unanimously.

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School Governors

8.1 *Infants School* – Cllr Mrs Gentry reported that the school has been awarded ‘Good’ at the recent Ofsted investigation. The annual summer fare will be held in May as normal.

8.2 *Junior School* – An email from Jonathan Green was read to the meeting which requested a donation towards the purchase of a new banner for ‘No Cars’ day. The original banner was destroyed in bad weather. Cllr. Harrison proposed that the Parish Council should donate a sum of £80 towards the purchase of two banners. This was seconded by Cllr. Mrs Green and agreed unanimously. **Action Clerk.**

Cllr. Mrs Green reported that the School Gardening Club has recommenced with a visit to Brunswick Organic Nursery. The Nursery made the children very welcome.

8.3 *Focus School* – The reply from the School was read to the meeting.

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Parish Council Youth Awards

9.1 *Committee Report* – Nothing to report.

17/46 10

Pinfold

10.1 *Committee Report* – Nothing to report.

- 17/47 11 **Sensory Garden**
11.1 *Committee Report* – Nothing to report.
- 17/48 12 **Police Liaison**
12.1 *North Yorkshire Police Force* – The following report was received from PCSO Angela Hollywood:

14th March- Vernon Close, ASB Personal- Neighbour Dispute

15th March- Vernon Close –As Above

18th March- Keble Park Crescent, Crime Violence-Arguments in the park/ possible assault

24th March- Montague Road – Suspicious- Possible prowler in the early hours trying rear conservatory doors.

Cllr. Mrs Green reported that there are to be changes to the PCSO provision in York and that PCSO Angela Hollywood will be lost to Bishopthorpe.

Cllr. Mellors, Cllr. George and Cllr. Mrs Green indicated that they may be free to attend a meeting of the York North Neighbourhood Policing Team at Athena House on the 24th April at 7pm. Cllr. Mellors to confirm numbers with Melanie Parkin. **Action Cllr. Mellors**
- 17/49 13 **Local Council Association**
13.1 *Yorkshire Local Councils Association* – Cllr. Harrison reported that number of members will be reduced across South, West and North Yorkshire.

13.2 *White Rose Update – emailed to all 14th March* – The Clerk will receive a 1% pay rise (£7 per month) commencing 1st April 2017 as agreed in the June 2016 minutes (16/92 point 6.3.2).

13.3 *Yorkshire Local Councils Association – Parish Precepts, request to demonstrate restraint* – Noted.
- 17/50 14 **Highway Matters**
14.1 *Email from Cllr. John Galvin regarding the burnt out car on Sim Balk Lane* – The email was read to the meeting. The removal is not a simple matter and involves the Police and may end up being the responsibility of the landowner.

14.2 *Email from Cllr. John Galvin regarding the query about un-adopted roads* – Cllr. John Galvin contacted Louise Grey directly, copying in the Parish Council, to explain the technicalities of dealing with un-adopted roads in the village.
- 17/51 15 **Correspondence**
15.1 City of York not covered elsewhere
15.1.1 1.1.1 None

15.2 Others
15.2.1 None
- 17/52 16 **Ward Committee**

It is understood that grants have been made from the Ward Council but the Parish Council is not party to the amounts distributed.
- 17/53 17 **Any other business, which the Chairman considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972**

[Cllr. Mrs Green reported that there will be a meeting at the Merchant Taylors Hall on the 24th April at 5.30pm to dedicate York as a ‘Human Rights City’.
[The Bus Service 500 will recommence on Sundays in the very near future. Cllr. Mrs Conley has put the timetable on the web page.

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- [Cllr. Mrs Green applied for £700 grant for eco-recycling. An award of £220 has been made by the City Council.

17/54 18 **Date and time of next meeting – Tuesday 25th April 2017, 7pm – at the Village Hall**

Meeting closed at 9.05 pm