



Mrs J Nolan
Clerk to the Council

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Minutes of the meeting of Ackworth Parish Council held on Monday 15th April 2024 at 7:15pm

Attendance

Cllr Suzy Sherratt
Cllr Andy Sherratt
Cllr Carolyn Hall
Cllr John Bell – Chair
Cllr Sarah Balfour
Cllr Stephen Parker
Cllr Sharon Maiden

Clerk J Nolan

7 Members of the Public in attendance.

It was **noted** that the meeting started at 7.30pm due to an extension granted by the Councillors in attendance at the Parish Assembly.

- Resident 1
 - Questions asked regarding the Low Ackworth Community Centre Lease and planned future agenda items regarding this? *Resident was asked to email the Clerk.*
- Resident 2
 - Question asked regarding the validity to an answer provided as part of a 2019 Freedom of Information request? *Resident was asked to email the Clerk.*
 - Question asked regarding the reason for the 24/25 precept increase? *Chair advised it was due to inflation.*
 - Question regarding agenda item 15.1 supporting evidence? *Chair advised to be discussed as part of the agenda item.*
- Resident 3
 - Question asked regarding the combined contracted hours of Ackworth Parish Council administration staff? *Chair advised the information was available on the website.*

<p>1. Reminder by the Chair of the Council's expectations for the audio or visual recording of this meeting. <i>The Parish Council meeting may be recorded under the Openness of Local Government Regulations 2014. Devices are to be placed on the table provided throughout the meeting.</i></p>

<p>2. Apologies</p>

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| <p>2.1 To receive apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting.
2.2 To consider the approval of reasons given for absence.</p> |
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2.1 Resolved that apologies for absence were given in respect of Cllrs Cook and Roberts. The reason for absence were noted by the Clerk.

2.2 Resolved that apologies for absence given were approved, all in favour.

3. Declarations of Interests and Dispensations

3.1 To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's Code of conduct or a member's Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests on items on the agenda.

3.2 To receive, consider and decide upon any written applications for dispensation for disclosable pecuniary interest.

3.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.

3.1 Cllrs Parker, S Sherratt and A Sherratt declared an interest in agenda item 10.4. **Resolved: Received.**

3.2 / 3.3 None to receive.

4. To receive available reports from the following:

4.1 West Yorkshire Police

4.2 WMDC District Councillors

4.3 APC Council Representatives on outside bodies

4.1 Resolved: Received

4.2 None to receive.

4.3 Resolved: Verbal report **Received.**

PACT Meeting – Cllr A Sherratt

- Project to tackle offroad and quad bikers, can report to police under “operationmillersea”
- The NPT now have possession of a Pro Laser Gun
- Other updates provided did not relate to Ackworth

Heritage Group - Cllr A Sherratt

- Unveiling of the plaque for Harry Miles
- Project with Wakefield Council to digitalise Harry Miles photobooks
- Life & Music of Sammy Khan Event
- Preparing for the 1st June Event held at the Parish Rooms, Bell Lane.
- Information shared on historic Mill diversions

Low Ackworth Community Association – Cllr Maiden

- Usual business discussed including general finances and the building
- Noted the event on 12th May
- Next meeting 17th April

Town & Parish Liaison Group – Clerk. Minutes provided in the pack.

5. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 11 March 2024, as a true and correct record.

5.1 An **amend** to item 4.3: Change word ‘Dam’ to ‘Damp’ in this section and to note this update was specific to Ackworth.

An **amend** to item 16: Change ‘Pontefract & District Almshouses’ to ‘Ackworth United Charities’ under the declared interests.

Proposer Cllr Balfour, Seconded Cllr A Sherratt. All in Favour.

Resolved: The meeting minutes were **approved.**

6. Committee and Subcommittee Meetings

6.1 To receive the minutes of the Communications & Media Committee meeting held on 21st March and approve the recommendations with them.

6.1 Proposer Cllr Balfour, Seconded Cllr Hall. Voting completed, 4 in Favour, 0 Against.

Resolved: The meeting minutes were **approved.**

<p>7. To receive Burial Rights.</p> <p>7.1 Resolved: Received V29 Helen Guy</p>
<p>8. Financial Matters</p> <p>8.1 To receive and approve the accounts including bank statements to the end of March 2024. 8.2 To receive and approve payments to be made and Petty Cash account to 15 April 2024.</p>
<p>8.1 Proposer Cllr A Sherratt, Seconded Cllr S Sherratt. All in Favour. Resolved: Approved. 8.2 Proposer Cllr Balfour, Seconded Cllr Hall. All in Favour. Resolved: Approved.</p>
<p>9. To consider and decide upon the following planning applications.</p> <p>9.1 24/00475/FUL - 9 Madison Walk, Ackworth, Pontefract, WF7 7ER - New detached single storey dwelling within the boundary of 9 Madison Walk – Expiry 11/04/2024 (Extension request 16/04/24) 9.2 24/00522/FUL - 12 Charlestown, Ackworth, Pontefract, WF7 7DU - Detached Garage to Rear – Expiry 16/04/2024</p>
<p>9.1 / 9.2 Resolved: Noted.</p>
<p>10. Council Administration</p> <p>10.1 To receive and approve Ackworth Cemetery Fees from the 1st April 2024 in line with WMDC. 10.2 To receive for approval the 2024/2025 schedule of meetings of Ackworth Parish Council. 10.3 To agree the date of Monday 14th April 2025 for the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting. 10.4 To review and approve annually organisations hiring the Parish Council facilities free of charge. 10.5 To receive an update on Council casual vacancies.</p>
<p>10.1 It was proposed that the Ackworth Cemetery Fees are approved along with an agreed rate of £90 for a non-resident memorial wall plaque. Proposer Cllr Hall, Seconded Cllr Balfour. All in Favour Resolved: Approved with additional agreed rate.</p> <p>10.2 Proposer Cllr Maiden, Seconded Cllr A Sherratt. All in Favour. Resolved: Approved 10.3 Proposer Cllr Balfour, Seconded Cllr Hall. All in Favour. Resolved: Approved 10.4 All agreed to grant voting rights to Cllrs who declared an interest under agenda item 3.1 Proposer Cllr Hall, Seconded Cllr Maiden. All in Favour. Resolved: Approved 10.5 Resolved: Received.</p>
<p>11. To receive a request from the Clerk and to decide a course of action on deferring any new non-urgent requests from Council for 3 months to allow for all current outstanding Council actions to be progressed.</p>
<p>11.1 It was noted that items would be added to agendas, and the Chairs would manage the deferral on any new non-urgent requests as part of the agenda item.</p> <p>Proposer Cllr Bell, Seconded Cllr A Sherratt. All in Favour. Resolved: Request Approved.</p>
<p>12. To receive correspondence from Strata regarding the requested drainage survey prior to handover and decide a course of action.</p>
<p>12.1 Correspondence confirmed that Strata would not support the cost of a drainage survey. It was agreed in principle that if Strata would add a warranty clause to the contract covering drainage, then handover could go ahead. Proposer Cllr A Sherratt, Seconded Cllr Hall. Voting completed, 6 in Favour, 0 Against. Resolved: Agreed in Principle</p>
<p>13. To request a minimum of two Councillors to attend a meeting with West Yorkshire Crime Prevention Officer regarding Low Ackworth Play Area.</p>
<p>13.1 Cllrs Maiden, A Sherratt & Parker volunteered. Resolved: Cllrs approved to attend the meeting and to bring feedback to a future Council meeting.</p>

<p>14. To receive a request to accept two donations to be used for a village memorial bench and the supply and installation of a defibrillator unit for the Ackworth Quarries Community Centre and decide a course of action.</p>
<p>14.1 Proposed to accept by Cllr Balfour, Seconded by Cllr Maiden. Voting completed, 6 in Favour, 0 Against. Resolved: Approved acceptance.</p>
<p>15. Motions requested by Councillor(s)</p> <p>15.1 To receive a proposal from Cllr Roberts, that Ackworth Parish Council write in support to WMDC for an assisted pedestrian crossing, on Doncaster Road joining the ginnel from Orchard Drive to the other side of Doncaster Road shortly after an entrance to the Ego Restaurant (Beverley Arms) and for an additional assisted pedestrian crossing to be considered on Barnsley Road on the route through to Hemsworth allowing for safer crossing options for residents to local shops and amenities. This request is to be included within the Road Safety Plan currently being devised by the Parish Council and that action is delegated to the Clerk of Ackworth Parish Council for completion.</p>
<p>15.1 Item deferred to the Environment, Road Safety and Planning committee next agenda. All in Favour. Resolved: Deferred.</p>
<p>16. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETING ACT 1960) THAT THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING ON THE GROUNDS THAT PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED</p>
<p>16.1 All agreed to move to the private section.</p>
<p>17. To receive an update from the Clerk regarding an ongoing communication with an allotment plot holder and decide a course of action.</p>
<p>17.1 Verbal update provided regarding the burial of a contaminated item which the National Allotment Association have recommended removal of. It was therefore proposed that the plot holder is contacted, and removal requested. Proposer Cllr Bell, Seconded Cllr Maiden. All in Favour. Resolved: Contaminated item to be removed.</p>
<p>18. To receive the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Finance and General Purposes meeting held on 2nd April 2024 and approve the recommendations with them.</p>
<p>18.1 Proposer Cllr Balfour, Seconded Cllr Maiden. Voting completed, 5 in Favour, 0 Against. Resolved: The meeting minutes were approved.</p>

Time Closed: 21:53