

WELL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING
HELD AT WELL INSTITUTE ON MONDAY 13th MAY 2019

Present: Sarah Sharp (Chair), Avril Lane, Sydd Perry, Chris Wade, Julia Hamby (Parish Clerk), Cllr John Weighell and 2 parishioners.

1. **Apologies:** David Webster

2. **Minutes of the Last AVM.** These had been circulated to all Councillors, published on the village website, and were available to anyone who wanted to see them via the Parish Clerk. Agreed that the minutes were acceptable; this was carried unanimously, and they were signed accordingly.

3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes.** No matters arising

4. **Reports.** The following reports were presented to the meeting:

a) **Well Institute Trustees.** Well Institute Trustees – Mark Sampson reported that the trustees hadn't met since last year, looking at improvements to the Institute for the future. No funds at the present time. Two elections had been held which bring in a small amount. AL asked about the future of the Institute, this depends on obtaining funding, suggestions made as follows: Localities budget – 100%, Yorventure, Lottery funding, People's Postcode Lottery, Tarmac

b) **Well Quoits Club.** Dave Hobson had submitted a report to the PC which was read out by JH confirming that the club continues to be a strong competitor in the Zetland Quoit league and detailed the matches that had taken place. They continue to be supported by Lol Daniels one of the founder members of the club in 1978. The club tidied up the rear of the Institute as they do every year and put down some rat poison

c) **Well Oiled Club.** No report, however the club is now managed by Roger Hamby since Geoff Ross left the village – tele 470426, welloiledclub@gmail.com. Suggested that a letter be sent from the PC thanking Geoff for his work with the oil club, JH to organise **Action: JH**

d) **Community Police.** No report received this year

e) **Well United Charities.** No report

f) **Nevill's Trust.** Mark Sampson reported that the Trust met in September last year and continue to fund via applications, best applications are those from young people.

g) **St Michael's Parish Church.** No report

h) **Hambleton District Council.** A report was read out by JH from District Councillor David Webster as follows:

This Council commenced on 2nd. May when elections took place.

Over the past year HDC has developed its commercial policy by creating new uses for the old Prison site in Northallerton, called Treadmills, to include retail operations, car parking, cinemas and restaurants.

In the Planning Department a new Local Development Framework is being progressed which will hopefully be adopted some time in 2020. This new set of policies will align with the National Policy Framework.

Once again Hambleton has a Council Tax which is the lowest in North Yorkshire, and the third lowest compared with similar Councils, in the country. This achievement has been secured by very careful monitoring of all financial activities of the Council.

The leisure department continues to offer high quality services with Northallerton Leisure Centre providing twenty-four hours a day access to members.

Other activities of the council include refuse collection, now achieving, thanks to you the residents of Hambleton, ever increasing levels of recyclables.

My apologies for not being with today, I am away in Sussex but will be home this week.

David Webster.

I) North Yorks County Council.

Cllr Weighell gave a report to the meeting as follows:

This year there has been a rise in Council Tax of almost 5%. The Council tax for NYCC is now £1311.16 for a D band Property. 2% of this rise is a special precept for Adult Social care, this is the 3rd year for this special addition, at this time it appears unlikely that it will continue into the next financial year.

Over the past 9 years the Council has made savings of almost 40%. The council has made some difficult decisions in meeting this target and is still looking at making the whole council operation more efficient while still investing in services.

You may have heard me say on other occasions that I believe the condition of the A & B roads of this County is very good, but the condition of the C and unclassified roads is not. The council is spending more than ever maintaining and repairing these roads, but the backlog will take decades to cover such a large area. These roads were not constructed to carry either the volume, size or weight of traffic that uses them today.

We are investing in streetlights by replaced the old lights with modern LED lights with a large saving on energy costs and are investing in Extra Care Facilities. There are now 22 schemes in the County with the latest proposal being in Bedale for 62 units. We are still investing in Broadband and more the county is now covered with suitable speeds but we recognise that farms and small villages still need a very substantial investment and may need a different solution to the fibre to box one that works well in towns and villages.

The Examination in public for the Minerals and Waste Plan took place in March 2018 and has been reconvened recently for the inspector to further clarify some points especially to potash extraction and regarding fracking. At this time we still await the Inspector's final judgement.

j) Nosterfield Quarry Liaison Committee David Webster reported as follows:

The transfer of the Henges to Historic England was to be concluded at a meeting with North Yorkshire County Council.

Amy Taylor from NYCC reported that the Minerals and Waste Plan had been found to be legal and sound, with minor modifications, by the Government Inspector.

Andy Coe, Quarry Manager, reported monthly production at about 20,000 tonnes, with an increase hoped for in the summer months, aiming for an annual output of 210,000 tonnes. Phases 6 and 7 at Ladybridge now restored including 30,000 reeds planted, trees planted, and grassland margins sown. Area 9 now being quarried, the dredger is fully operational, final bit of stripping to take place this month (April).

Sydd Perry asked about the damage to the local roads from Quarry Traffic, were there any proposals to address the amount of traffic or enforce road restrictions as at present. No plans that could legally be done to restrict the amount of traffic. In terms of enforcement this area is covered by a 7.5-ton limit, but this doesn't apply to agricultural vehicles and it doesn't stop access. The A1 takes most of the traffic along with the A19 and A168, very few exit roads put in to restrict local traffic.

DW then asked why there a service road from Barton to Wetherby with one section missing. NYCC would like to put in the link but no plans at the moment, it could go from A66 on either side, DOT should have done it, similar situation from J52 to Gatherley roundabout (north Catterick Junction)

o) Craft Group Annual Report. JH read out a report received from Kath Greaves - The group continues to meet at 7pm on the first Tuesday of each month. The meetings take place in the homes of the members on a rotational basis. The host for the evening will often demonstrate a new project and provide the materials but members are also free to bring their own current project. This gives everyone an opportunity to share ideas and expertise. This year we have continued to produce seasonal crafts. We have also made jewellery, coasters, embroidered cards and insects out of wire. Wine and coffee are essential to the success of the evening.

p) Walking Group. No report, however, JH confirmed that the Walking Group continue to meet twice a month for the longer walks, shorter walks have been suspended for the time being. Dates of the walks are always in the Parish Magazine and circulated to those on the email list for the group.

q) Well Inflated Cycling Group. Due to dwindling numbers the group is no longer meeting.

r) Playing Field Association. Everything is fine for the Playing Field, Joe Kitching continues to cut the grass, the group is looking at a possible piece of equipment. Stressed again that the PC would like them to use the remainder of the money left in the PC account.

s) St Nicholas C of E School, West Tanfield. Andrea Peacock, the Head for the School had sent a detailed report, see Appendix to these Minutes for the full report.

5. Any Other Business.

Mark Sampson raised the question of the number of cats in the village without collars and the damage to wildlife. Suggested that they should all wear a collar with a bell to help prevent birds being killed.

Question of dog mess around the village discussed again

6. Date of Next Meeting. The dates of all meetings for the coming year would be agreed at the next Parish Council Meeting; however, the next meeting is already scheduled to be held on Monday 11th June, at 7.00 pm.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending, and the meeting closed at 8.04 pm.

Signed:

Position:

Date:

Report to Well Parish Council 2019

It has been another busy year at St Nicholas CE Primary School and there are lots of changes ahead!

We currently have 36 pupils on roll in two classes. At the end of this school year our six Y6 children will be moving on to secondary schools: Bedale High School and Outwood Academy. In September we will be welcoming three children into our Reception class. As well as children from our catchment area, which includes the villages and hamlets of West Tanfield, Binsoe, Nosterfield, Thornborough and Well, we have children from towns and villages further afield. These include Bedale, Ripon, Snape, Thirn, North Stainley, Wath, Melmerby and Pickhill.

The current academic year has been busy and as ever full of challenges and changes (as for all for schools). Schools nationally continue to be faced with falling budgets and rising costs and we are no exception. Every penny counts. We are very grateful to the church for their continued support and fund raising activities to enable us to provide the best for the children in school. This year staff have undertaken further training in mental health issues in schools – this is a headline nationally and we are prepared to deal with any issues that may arise. We had a visit from OFSTED in March 2019 and we were thrilled with our very positive report which graded us GOOD in all areas stating ‘St Nicholas Church of England Primary School is an inclusive and happy school. It continues to provide its pupils with a good education.’

We continue to provide our children with a rounded, broad and balanced curriculum that meets the needs of all children – not just focussing on tests. OFSTED acknowledged this and reported that we ‘plan interesting topics which capture pupils’ enthusiasm for learning’. Our curriculum is fun and engaging and includes an abundance of physical and first-hand experiences which are well-planned and resourced, inclusive, use up to date technologies, use the outdoor environment with opportunities for pupils to lead their own learning. All children participate in high quality Forest School sessions led by a qualified instructor. We also employ specialist instructors to lead PE, music and dance. Our Y6 children have worked with NYCC road safety officers to complete Bike ability training our extra-curricular provision includes Code Club (computer-programming), Multi-skills and Cricket/Football Club. We also have a Junior Amnesty Action group. We are very grateful to parents and members of the wider community who give up their time free of charge to run some of these clubs for our children. We have made some changes to our ‘wrap-around care’; we continue to provide a breakfast club from 7.45am each day – Smart Start. After-School childcare is now provided by Seedlings Montessori until 6 pm and is available each day.

The children continue to benefit from visits in the local area and wider afield which give them hands on learning opportunities. We value all subjects within the curriculum and strive to enhance the curriculum with visits and workshops. This year the children have taken part in lots of visits including Harlow Carr & The World of James Herriot.

Children continue to take part in numerous cluster sporting events organised by the School Sports Partnership including football tournaments, the Key Steps Gymnastics Competition, orienteering, tri-golf, infant agility, cross country at Newby Hall and tennis. Our Y5 children have the opportunity to participate in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) days and some children participated in a Science workshop for gifted and talented children at Bedale High School. Once again in December, our Y3 and 4 children joined children from other schools for the Rural Schools Carol Concert at Holy Trinity Church in Ripon. Once again a group of our children also took part in the Harrogate and Rural Schools Charity Concert, where they had the opportunity to perform at Harrogate’s Royal Hall.

We have welcomed support from organisations including North Yorkshire Fire Brigade, NY Road Safety Team and Crucial Crew who have worked with the children around keeping safe.

Links with our partner school, Kirkby Malzeard, continue to blossom and once again the children have enjoyed opportunities to work together to benefit the children. Children from Years 5 and 6 from both schools took part in a residential visit to Ingleborough Hall in January & this was followed up with a visit to Upper Wharfedale Fell Rescue Centre in April. To end this academic year our older children will again join together to see Twelfth Night at the 'pop-up' Rose Theatre in York.

Our school continues to enjoy close links with both the Methodist Church and St Nicholas Church, with clergy from both churches taking Collective Worship on Mondays. Each month, a group of children, supported by Miss Mandelson, continue to represent the school at Family Worship at St Nicholas Church by reading or assisting with the address. We are very grateful to the Methodist Church for the use their premises to perform our Christmas nativity service for the community each year and to ministers from both churches for leading the address. Other joint projects with the churches have included Messy Church.

We really appreciate the support we receive from the local community and community links remain strong, with local residents coming into school to support our children in a variety of ways. Our supportive families and governors have also helped in many ways this year, including assisting with school trips, hearing children read. We are also grateful to the Bourne-Arton family for their generous donation of a Christmas tree each year. In turn, our children, staff and families have supported local events such as the West Tanfield Show and the village sports day. We are very grateful to West Tanfield Memorial Hall for the use of their facilities for our summer production each year

We have an active school council with representatives from across the school elected annually by their peers. They meet with Mrs Hatch weekly to plan fundraising events, school projects and a termly Collective Worship. Three pupils represent our school as 'Ripon Ambassadors'. These pupils meet with representatives from other local schools. This year they have been working on a collaborative project aimed at raising the profile of recycling & reducing the use of plastics which will be showcased at Fountains Abbey in June.

Our Friends of St Nicholas PTA group, supported by Miss Asker, organise many events to support the school by fundraising and providing social events for the school and local community, including regular discos and film clubs. The school community has supported a number of charities, including Children in Need.

There are further changes ahead for school as I will be retiring from headship at the end of this academic year. Currently the school (along with Kirkby Malzeard) are in the process of appointing a new executive head teacher for September 2019 and are also in the process of moving into a formal federation together. In addition to this 'Seedlings Montessori' will be opening in September 2019 providing full child care provision –51 weeks of the year. This will be a real asset for the school and local community. There are exciting times ahead and I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as head teacher at St. Nicholas School. I wish the school continued success as they move forward in the future and I am sure they will continue to rise challenges and seize every opportunity.

Andrea Peacock (Headteacher)

May 2019

April 2018 - March 2019

INCOME

EXPENDITURE

Date	Details	Amount	Date	Details	Total	Net of VAT	VAT	Balance
01/04/2018	Balance b/f							£2,440.00
10/04/2018	Precept	£900.00						£3,340.00
			01/06/2018	Clerk wages	£180.00			£3,160.00
			01/06/2018	PAYE	£45.00			£3,115.00
			11/06/2018	Insitute fees 2017-18	£50.00			£3,065.00
			16/06/2018	Zurich PL Insurance	£324.15			£2,740.85
10/09/2018	Precept	£900.00						£3,640.85
			17/12/2018	Clerk wages	£180.00			£3,460.85
			17/12/2018	PAYE	£45.00			£3,415.85
			17/12/2018	PKF Littlejohn Late fees	£48.00			£3,367.85
			17/12/2018	Poopit Flags	£12.15			£3,355.70
			10/01/2019	Cpad purchase	£228.00			£3,127.70
			10/03/2019	Website hosting/Domain rnl	£65.00			£3,062.70

This includes
£1244.28 of
 grant money
 specific for
 the Well
 Playing Field

Balance available to the PC for PC use:

£1,818.42