

WELL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING
HELD AT WELL INSTITUTE ON MONDAY 14th MAY 2018

Present: David Webster (Chairman), Sarah Sharp (Vice-Chairman), Avril Lane, Sydd Perry, Julia Hamby (Parish Clerk), Cllr John Weighell and 6 parishioners.

1. **Apologies** Chris Wade
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 have met informally once or twice this last year, building still standing, have plans for Institute which were sponsored by Mr Glatman, and at the moment the Institute is technically financially embarrassed. The trustees have ideas but just need to realise them, exploring other money sources. Suggested that they match fund, SIL money – 50% of a charge of £55 psm floor area upstairs and downstairs – apply to PC who are guardian of funds, comes out in April and October. Nicky Smith can advise on grants – Awards for All, Yorventure, Tarmac all gave grants for the playing field
 - b) **Well Quoits Club.** No report
 - c) **Well Oiled Club.** (read out by JH) The club continues as usual and at present has 22 members and has had 5 deliveries in the past 12 months, achieving modest savings of about 4p per litre over individual orders. Anyone reading this for the first time and would like to join or would like further information, contact Geoff Ross on 470388.
 - d) **Community Police.** A report had been received via email that was circulated at the meeting and was available via email from the Clerk for anyone who required it. PCSO Heather Lees gave a brief resume of the published report. It gave crime figures for Well, West Tanfield, Snape, there was nothing significant to report. See Appendix 1
 - e) **Well United Charities.** No report
 - f) **Nevill's Trust.** No official report although Mark Sampson, one of the trustees reported that the Trust continues to meet at least once a year and had considered applications for funds from primary school through to Uni students. The Trust is intended to fund 16+ from the Parish of Well and Snape but open to all and will welcome all applications. This was discussed and suggested that applications are best coming from the person requiring the money. Also pointed out that life-long learning is available to all ages and that not all courses start in September, eg Apprenticeships that are roll on, roll off and start at any point of the year. Sarah Sharp asked if something could go in the Parish Magazine more often than once a year

g) St Michael's Parish Church. David Webster reported:

The start of the HLF supported work on St Michaels' was delayed but all the construction work was finally completed and signed off by the Architect in October 2017. The outward improvements can only really be seen on the new oak louvres in the belfry, the reduced roof line of the tower roof, the new flag pole and the clock faces! Rest assured the internal improvements are equally well executed. The work on the 'Heritage Experience' material for visitors (booklets, display boards and quizzes for children) is not progressing as smoothly. After several false starts we are being advised/assisted by staff for the North Yorkshire County Records Office. A small team is working on this material which has to be finished by the 31st July 2018, a deadline set by the HLF. Until all the work is complete on the 'Experience' the HLF will not pay the last tranche of grant funds. This has meant a loan was required from the Diocese to pay the contractor which we hope to pay off by Sep 2018 so as not to incur and interest payments.

No sooner had we finished the HLF construction work than a QI was required. Out of this has stemmed considerable remedial work on the church electrics and the need to remove collapsing plaster on the West Wall, adjacent to the font. The former was completed in year and the latter will be undertaken in Spring 2018.

We are most grateful to Cllr John Weighell from Hambleton DC who has arranged funding from HDC Locality Budgets to pay for a set of aluminium collapsible ramps to allow wheelchair access to St Michael's and lighting for the Heritage Experience displays.

The fences in the church yard that divided back from front were taken down to facilitate the tower scaffolding, they have not been replaced. We continue to be thankful to Tarmac for cutting the grass on the main part of the churchyard and hope that volunteer cutting of the grass at the front continues.

Regular services continue on an alternating basis with St. Mary's at Snape, where a faithful group of worshippers keep our Church very much alive. Our numbers are usually in the teens. I would like to especially thank our organist and our coffee ladies who add to the Sunday morning services. Finally, can I say thank you to our Clergy, without whom we could not survive.

h) Hambleton District Council. District Councillor David Webster reported for the past year I have been the Cabinet spokesman for Planning and Housing. This means I am responsible for the Develop Management Department handling planning applications, Enforcements etc. And also, for the Planning Policy department who are producing a new Local Development Framework which is intended to run until 2035.... although there will undoubtedly be constant reviews. Also, I am involved with matters relating to the Housing responsibilities of HDC, for example Building Control and represent HDC on the Housing Forum in North Yorkshire.

Our green bin scheme continues unaltered whereby a £35 charge is levied for the use of green bins. Payment is due by 31st March.

The new Fitness Centre and refreshed Leisure Centre at Northallerton was officially opened on 20th March and allows 24/7 access.

Council Tax for a D band property in Hambleton is now £104.48p, the third lowest Council Tax amount in the country for any similar council. Thus, along with NYCC, Fire and Police precepts the D band brats is £1655.35p, plus your Parish Precept. Elections for HDC will take place, along with Parish Council elections, in May 2019.

I) North Yorks County Council.

Cllr Weighell gave a report to the meeting as follows:

North Yorkshire County Council Report 2017-18

This year there has been a substantial rise in Council Tax of almost 5%. The Council Tax for NYCC is now £1189.50 for a D Band property.

2% of this rise is a special precept for Adult care. This is the 2nd year for this special addition but as you will have all heard in the media the increasing pressures of the cost of elderly care is a major strain on all Social Care Authorities. You may also have heard that Northamptonshire County Council has effectively gone bankrupt. I am pleased to say the finances of NYCC are in a sound although not affluent state.

The other major pressure for the Council is the state of the roads. You may have heard me say on other occasions that I believe that the condition of the A and B roads of this County is very good but the condition of the C and unclassified roads is not. I can offer some small comfort that we are spending more than ever maintaining and repairing these roads but the backlog will take not just years but decades to cover the large mileage. These roads were not constructed to carry either the volume, size or weight of traffic that uses them today.

The Examination in Public for the Minerals and Waste Plan took place in March and at the time of writing we await the Inspectors judgement.

In the years that I was the Leader of the Council probably the most difficult and controversial decision we took was to build an energy from waste plant at Allerton Park to take all the non-recyclable domestic waste and much of the commercial waste of North Yorkshire. I am pleased to say this plant opened fully on March 1st. I looked round this operation in mid-April. It was operating with no obvious emissions from the chimney and was extremely clean all around the plant. This investment from the Council will firstly provide the power for 40,000 houses and secondly reduce the need for landfill to around 10% of what it has been for many years.

John Weighell.

NYCC Bedale Division.

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.** JH read out a report received from Kath Greaves - The group continues to meet each Monday morning at 10am outside Orchard House. Long walks of up to 7 miles take place on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month and shorter walks of between 3 and 5 miles on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. There are presently 22 members in the group from Well and the surrounding towns and villages – Masham, West Tanfield, Thirn, Snape, North Stainley, Bedale and Ripon. Local walks have taken place around Masham, Well, Roomer Common, Hackfall, Fearby Thornton Watlass and Jervaux. Further afield we have walked from Hampsthwaite, Leyburn, Thirsk, Ripley, Fountains Abbey, Morton On Swale, Fearby and High and Low Ellington. The walks have varied in distance from 5 to 7.5 miles. Due to medical problems with several members of the group, numbers on the walks dwindled during the Winter but, thanks to Sally Wilkins, the group kept going and we were back to our usual numbers on May Day Bank Holiday Monday, when a group of 12 enjoyed a walk of 5 miles from Ripon, through the Valley of the seven Bridges and back to Ripon Via Studley village. All the walks end with refreshments at a pub, café or at a member's house. 26 walkers and partners enjoyed a Christmas meal at the Fox and Hounds at Carthorpe in early December.

q) **Well Inflated Cycling Group.** The group continues to cycle around the local area between April and September with about 3-4 people cycling. Others turn up occasionally, but often only go once.

r) **Playing Field Association.** JH read out a report from Helen Kitching as follows: Annual Inspection highlighted a couple of issues, one being a safety barrier which should be in place on the climbing frame and both ends which should have been filed off on a gate. Safety barrier has been put up by Streetscapes, Joe Kitching has yet to file off the bolt ends. The grass continues to be cut by Will Kitching helped by Joe Kitching doing strimming, with only one issue regarding a neighbour

complaining grass was landing on his car. A new committee member is Sue Day, no fundraising ideas in place as yet, but will be discussed at the next meeting, date to be confirmed. Still hoping to purchase bench seat and will discuss ideas for new equipment at the next meeting. The playing field continues to be well used by local children.

s) **St Nicholas C of E School, West Tanfield**. Andrea Peacock, the Head for the School had sent a detailed report, see Appendix 2 to these Minutes for the full report.

5. **Any Other Business.**

Mark Sampson raised the question of the proposed two properties on Bedale Road adjacent to North Field, he said he felt that the PC could have said more when the plans were circulated to them as these will be the most prominent houses built in the village for the last 5 decades. David Webster responded by saying that this was a reserve matters application, so not decided as yet, the detailed plans were circulated to Parish Councillors and no comments made, Councillors can only consider the actual application in front of them. Query re Highways – if they meet visibility requirements, highways will agree, if not then they won't agree.

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:

POLICE UPDATE FOR WELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 14TH MAY 2018

Between 1st April 2018 to 11th May 2018 crime reported within Bedale District increased by 21 from 34 to 55 (61.8%) compared with the same period in 2017. **Figures in brackets are for Tanfield, Well, Pickhill and Kirklington parishes, these have increased by 1 from 4 to 5 reported crimes compared to the same period last year.**

Arson & Damage up from 4 to 12: +200%	(up from 1 to 3:+200 %)
Burglaries up from 1 to 6: +500%	(remains at 0)
Theft up from 9 to 12: +33%	(remains at 0)
Shoplifting down from 3 to 1: -66%	(nil)
Vehicle offences up from 1 to 2: +100%	(remains at 0)
Violence (including harassment) up from 10 to 18: +80%	(up from 1 to 2: +100%)
All other crime down from 6 to 4: -33% 100%)	(down from 2 to 0:-

Man fined and dog re-homed after hare coursing conviction

From NYP website

A man faces a court fine of more than £600 and the loss of his car and his dog after being caught hare coursing in North Yorkshire.

John Latcham, 28, was spotted allowing a lurcher dog to run loose and chase a hare on land at Well, near Bedale, on 28 January 2018.

North Yorkshire Police officers quickly attended and issued him with a Dispersal Notice, requiring him to leave the area immediately. The two-year-old male dog was found nearby with the carcass of a hare, and was taken by police to a secure kennels to be looked after.

Latcham, from Butterknowle, Durham, was charged with hunting a wild mammal with a dog. He was found guilty in his absence at Northallerton Magistrates Court on Tuesday 24 April 2018.

He was fined £660, and ordered to pay £85 costs and a £66 victim surcharge. In addition, forfeiture orders were made for his Ford Mondeo, a slip dog lead, and the dog, which will now be re-homed.

Inspector Jon Grainge, of North Yorkshire Police's Rural Taskforce, said: "Poaching is one of six national wildlife crime priorities, and has a significant impact on the rural communities of North Yorkshire, often leaving local residents in fear of further crimes.

“Latcham travelled a considerable distance to commit this offence. The sentence imposed should send a clear message that North Yorkshire Police will not tolerate this offending in our communities, and deal with all reports robustly.”

If you have any information about suspected poaching or hare coursing, call police on 101, or 999 if a crime is in progress.

Chief Constable Dave Jones OPM has announced his decision to retire from policing after nearly 32 years of distinguished service.

From NYP Website

CC Jones was appointed as Chief Constable of North Yorkshire Police in 2013. Although officers customarily retire at 30 years of service, CC Jones accepted an extension to his tenure in 2016 in order to provide continuity of leadership to North Yorkshire Police at a time of other retirements in the chief officer team.

Before joining North Yorkshire Police, CC Dave Jones had previously served at Greater Manchester Police, where he held a series of senior positions. In 2008 he was promoted to Assistant Chief Constable in the Police Service Northern Ireland, where he was named NI Chartered Manager of the Year – a rare award for a serving police officer.

In 2016 CC Dave Jones took temporary charge of South Yorkshire Police during a turbulent phase for that Force, to provide stable leadership whilst a new Chief was recruited.

On 1 January 2017 he was awarded the Queen’s Police Medal for Distinguished Service in the New Year Honours List.

During his time as Chief Constable, Dave Jones has led North Yorkshire Police through a challenging period for policing, and ambitious change within the Force itself. In announcing his retirement, CC Dave Jones said:

“I have been proud to serve the community for nearly 32 years, but it is now time to step back and be with my family.

“I have always believed that neighbourhood policing is the bedrock of the police service, and that community approach is absolutely embedded at North Yorkshire Police. The Force is also firmly on the road to a modernised service, with developments in mobile technology now rolling-out across the frontline, and more still to come.

“However policing does not stand still, and North Yorkshire Policing is about to start the next phase in its transformation. This seemed like the right time for me to hand over the baton to a new leader, who can take the service on this new stage of the journey.

“I have said before that families play an absolutely crucial role in allowing police officers to do the best job in the world. I’d like to pay tribute to my family for the fantastic support they have given me over the years. I am very much looking forward to spending more time with them in my retirement.

“I’d also like to pay tribute to my colleagues at North Yorkshire Police, and the wider service for their dedication and commitment to keeping people safe, and making North Yorkshire one of the safest counties in England.”

Commenting on CC Jones' decision to retire, Police and Crime Commissioner, Julia Mulligan, said:

“It was with great regret that I have accepted Dave Jones' decision to retire, but I completely understand and respect his wish to spend more time with his family.

“I selected Dave Jones for the role of Chief Constable because of his impressive record of service in some of the most challenging environments in the UK, his clear determination, and his very deep commitment to community policing. He promised to be a formidable leader, and he has absolutely lived up to that promise. His personal leadership and commitment to North Yorkshire Police – and the wider police service – has been exceptional, and he has done a great job in very challenging times.

“He leaves with the respect and best wishes of colleagues in our county and beyond. Policing – and North Yorkshire Police in particular – will miss him greatly.”

CC Sara Thornton CBE QPM, Chair of the National Police Chiefs' Council, said:

“I would like to thank Dave for his tremendous contribution to policing nationally. In particular he has led the National Police Chiefs' Council work on citizens in policing and rural crime. He has been a board member of our staff association for many years, supporting colleagues through tough times, and he has been a committed and active member of Chiefs' Council. The readiness with which he transferred to South Yorkshire Police when they urgently needed help impressed all those involved. He was insightful, energetic and completely selfless.”

In accordance with CC Jones' wishes, he will step down immediately. North Yorkshire Police's current Deputy, Lisa Winward, will assume temporary command until a permanent Chief Constable is recruited.

Said PCC Julia Mulligan:

“DCC Winward is a highly respected and experienced chief officer, and I am confident that the Force is in very safe hands. By the end of the month we will appoint a deputy to backfill DCC Winward's position on an interim basis, and I will carry out an open and transparent recruitment process for a permanent Chief Constable as soon as possible.”



Report to Well Parish Council - 2018

It has been another busy year at St Nicholas CE Primary School! We currently have 45 pupils on roll in three classes. At the end of the school year our thirteen Y6 children will be moving on to secondary schools: Bedale High School, Outwood Academy and Ripon Grammar School. In September we will be welcoming five 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. We currently have seven pupils from Well in school.

The current academic year has been full of challenges and changes for schools. Schools nationally are faced with falling budgets and rising costs and we are no exception. Every penny counts. We are very grateful to the Neville Trust who awarded a grant of £1100 to us which was used to purchase 3 laptops for school. These are proving to be of great benefit to the children supporting and extending their learning. As a nation we are also seeing a rise in mental health issues in schools as the pressures of life increase. In January we took part in some specially designed training, Compass Buzz, for staff to ensure we are all well prepared to deal with any issues that may arise.

At St. Nicholas we believe all children should have a rounded, broad and balanced curriculum that meets the needs of all children – not just focussing on tests. 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 weekly 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 Bikeability training. Last year's addition of a 'trim trail' funded by the National Lottery continues to be very popular with the children, enhancing fitness, agility and team work. Our extra-curricular provision includes Code Club (computer-programming), Art Club, Multi-skills and Cricket/Football Club. We also have a Junior Amnesty Action group who meet termly to support human rights causes. 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 continue to run our 'Allsorts' wrap-around care. This provides a breakfast club from 7.45am each day and after-school childcare until 5.30pm Monday to Thursday.

The children 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 a day of Indian workshops centring around British Values with Yesmien Bagh Ali, a workshop led by a local architect April Marsden to inspire children's entries into a Folly Design competition at Fountains abbey, a music workshop with gospel singer Leroy Johnson, an astrodome workshop with York University, a watercolour masterclass with local artist Stephen Weld and a talk from a local hedgehog rescue centre. Since last year's report, the children have visited Doncaster Wildlife Park and activities planned for this term include visits to Beningborough Hall, High Batts Nature Reserve and Romeo and Juliet in York. Children also 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 at Ripon tennis Centre. 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. In December, our Y3 and 4 children joined children from other schools for the Rural Schools Carol Concert at Holy Trinity Church in Ripon. A highlight for another group of our children was 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 such as the NSPCC, NYCC Road Safety Team and Crucial Crew who have worked with the children about keeping safe.

Links with our partner school, Kirkby Malzeard, continue to blossom. We have had many opportunities to work together to benefit the children. Both schools joined together to take part in the Countryfile Ramble for Children in Need at Marfield Wetlands. Pupils and teachers have worked together on reading projects, Geography fieldwork, maths projects and the younger children attended each other's nativity productions. Children from Years 3 and 4 from both schools took part in a residential visit to Carlton Lodge in March. I had the privilege of accompanying our partnership choir to the Harrogate concert in March and they were magnificent. They worked and performed so well together. To end this academic year our older children will join together to take part in a Shakespeare project in York. As ever the changes in education are coming thick and fast with many schools entering into partnerships, federations and academies. We are very fortunate to have strong links with other schools, Nicky's Pre-school and the strength of our 'Collaborative Partnership' to build on.

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. Groups of pupils also joined with members of the community to participate in a mini opera 'The Winter Star'. Other joint projects with the churches have included Messy Church. Miss Mandelson will represent the church as a parish delegate at the Diocese of Leeds Lay Person's Conference in June.

We are well supported by the local community and community links remain strong.

We are very fortunate to have the support of local residents who come 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, accompanying children to deliver the weekly newsletter to our neighbours in adjacent housing, providing recycling and composting facilities and designing and building a welly storage rack. 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, the village sports day and Becca's Memorial Walk. 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 involving an Art Festival at Fountains Abbey.

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, such as the Spring Fayre, an annual barbecue, Christmas Hamper raffle and regular discos and film clubs. The school community has supported a number of charities, including Children in Need, Jeans for Genes, Save the Children through National Christmas Jumper Day, Operation Christmas Child and Sports Relief. As part of our Harvest service, we raised money for UNICEF UK to provide relief for victims of hurricanes and earthquakes.

As the future of education continues to change we will rise to the challenges and seize every opportunity to continue the successes of our school.

Andrea Peacock (Headteacher)

May 2018