



Skipton Town Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Skipton Town Council held in the Council Chambers on Thursday 20th July 2023, 7.00pm

Those Present.

Chairman: Councillor S Bentley

Councillor P Madeley (Deputy), Councillor L Morgan, Councillor K McIntyre, Councillor B McDaid, Councillor D Noland, Councillor S Morton, Councillor C Nash & Councillor W Feather

Officers: Mrs L Close (Chief Officer), Mrs J Dean (Deputy Clerk)

Mrs H Marshall (Finance Manager)

1 member of the public

2324/049 ITEM 1 – Mayors Remarks

Councillor S Bentley welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Mayoral attendance to date was received and noted.

2324/050 ITEM 2 - To accept apologies for absence.

Councillor R Heseltine who had health complications

Councillor R Judge, Councillor M Courcier and Councillor A Higgins had prior work commitments. *All Reasons accepted.*

2324/051 ITEM 3 – Disclosures of Interest

None declared.

2324/052 ITEM 4 – Dispensations Requests

None received.

2324/053 ITEM 5 – Representations from the Public

Michele Heyworth from Rotary addressed the meeting regarding the recent visit from children of our twinning town, Erquinghem-Ly's. It was a successful visit, enjoyed by both parties and the Council were asked to build on that visit and special relationship.

Councillor Bentley resolved to move item 8 to this part of the meeting.

2324/054 ITEM 8 – Request to use the football pitch at Raikes Road.

The request from Embsay Football club is as follows. *Our ask is that Embsay Juniors be allowed to, at their cost, 'make right' the football pitch, preparing and presenting a football pitch, befitting of*

a junior football club and great facility for the residents of the local area to enjoy.

Without getting into the specifics at this stage, we would seek permission, again at our cost, to remove the current topsoil, level the playing surface before resurfacing and preparing a football pitch with new goal posts.

We'd also ask for a small storage container / area to be sighted on the area to house equipment for use by the junior section. This facility would clearly then be available to the whole of the town; however we'd ask that two evening a week, and 9am to 1pm on Sunday the pitch would be available for Embsay Juniors Football Club CIO Registered Charity Number: 1195608 football Club to hold their matches.

We'd also ensure those attending parked appropriately and safely on the White Hills Lane. If we could come to an agreement on a 25-year term then we would be eligible to apply for funding for Sport England and this would facilitate us being able to maintain the pitch, at our cost, for this period of time.

Councillor Harbron stated 'if members are inclined to allow this, providing we don't provide exclusivity, I'd be prepared to allow this scheme to take place. I propose to move forward subject to, concerns of Councillor Nash regarding the dog run, I don't think crash barriers are essential for a junior football club. I'd be prepared to move on that Madam Mayor.

This was seconded by Councillor McDaid, and after the Chief Officer asked for clarification regarding the 25-year term it was further confirmed by Councillor Harbron that he was proposing the 25-year lease providing the Football club did not have exclusivity to the area in question and that Skipton youngsters can also play on the same pitch as everybody else can.

The Chief Officer confirmed that this could be taken to the vote but that she would work with the football club to organise the lease agreement, and this would be taken back to the next council meeting for members approval.

Councillor McIntyre then asked the club regarding timelines and Councillor Bentley commented that she presumed it was to be sooner rather than later to which the Club confirmed that it was the growing season and if it was agreed for Raikes pitch to be worked on then excavators would be sent in to level this out and if it was to go to another meeting then the season would be missed, and the kids would miss another season.

There were further calls to take the item to the vote.

Councillor Harbron proposed to support the application made along with a 25-year lease, and this was seconded by Councillor McDaid who advised that pressure should still be maintained to North Yorkshire and Woolers for the provision that had been removed from Embsay.

Resolved unanimously.

2324/055 ITEM 6 – Minutes of the previous meeting

Proposed by Councillor P Madeley

Seconded by Councillor C Harbron

Resolved 11 votes in favour, Councillor Nash abstained from voting.

2324/056 ITEM 7 – Reports and Minutes from Committee and Subcommittee meetings.

Proposed by Councillor K McIntyre

Seconded by Councillor P Madeley

Resolved to accept the minutes of the following committees.

Planning – 12th January

Audit & Scrutiny – 2nd March

Events – 27th April

Market – 10th May

11 votes in favour, 1 abstention.

2324/057 ITEM 8 – See minute number 2324/054

2324/058 ITEM 9 – North Yorkshire Councillors

Councillor D Noland addressed the meeting in his capacity as a North Yorkshire Councillor and gave an update on matters that have arisen.

He confirmed that Councillor R Heseltine has formed an alliance with the 45 remaining tory members on North Yorkshire Council.

Councillor P Madeley asked Councillor Noland to bring the matter of the market and the sett repairs to the attention of North Yorkshire along with a request from Councillor Nash for the repair of the privately owned Jerry Croft.

2324/059 ITEM 10 – Community Safety

Councillor McDaid gave the meeting an update of the Community Safety group work.

2324/060 **ITEM 11 – Finance**

Proposed by Councillor C Harbron

Seconded by Councillor L Morgan

Resolved to receive and note the bank reconciliation, bank statements and the schedule of payments / receipts.

2324/061 **ITEM 12 – BID**

An update of the relationship between BID and the Town Council was circulated and members were made aware of business activities.

Councillor Madeley proposed not to support the BID at the next ballot. This motion was not supported and fell.

Members discussed the benefits of the BID and Councillor Morton advised that it would be very short sighted of the council not to support.

Proposed by Councillor C Nash

Seconded by Councillor S Morton

Resolved unanimously to support the BID at the next ballot and vote yes.

2324/062 **ITEM 13 – Videoing and streaming of Council meetings.**

An update was given to the investigations of streaming the council meetings. Councillor McDaid suggested speaking with the local college or schools to enquire if any students would like to take this on as a test trial. The Chief Officer would make further enquiries and report back at the next meeting.

2324/063 **ITEM 14 – Outside Bodies reports**

No reports were received.

2324/064 **ITEM 15 – Committee membership**

Proposed by Councillor Harbron

Seconded by Councillor Nash

Resolved to appoint Councillor R Heseltine onto the Finance Committee.

Proposed by Councillor Harbron

Seconded by Councillor Madeley

Resolved to appoint Councillor M Courcier onto the Audit, Scrutiny and Planning committee.

2324/065 **ITEM 16 – Local Transport Plan Survey**

Proposed by Councillor Feather

Seconded by Councillor Morgan

Resolved to give delegated authority to the Chief Officer to work with Councillor Morton and respond to the survey on behalf of members.

2324/066 ITEM 17 – Notification of business for a Future Agenda.

No items were given, and members were reminded they had up to 7 days before the next meeting although the absolute statutory minimum notice was 3 days.

With no further business to be transacted the meeting was closed at 20.36pm.

The next ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on 14th September 2023.