

Hawes and High Abbotside Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of 7th March 2016 held at Gayle Institute at 7.15pm

Present: Cllrs A Fawcett (Chairman), Mrs S Alderson, Ms D Allen, G DiDuca, S Hunter, A Sunter, I Woolley.

In Attendance: Mr I King (Clerk), Mr D Hartley (Managing Director of the Wensleydale Creamery) and 15 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs J Blackie, Ms A Caygill, Mrs A Rhodes

1. **The Minutes of the Meeting of 4th January 2016 were accepted as a true record, and signed by the Chairman. There were no Matters Arising.**

2. Chairman's Items

- a. **Meeting at The Wensleydale Creamery between Yorkshire Water (YW), The Wensleydale Creamery (WCy), Richmondshire District Council (RDC) Environmental Health Director, and the Chairman of Hawes & High Abbotside Parish Council.** In the absence of Cllr Blackie, the Chairman asked Mr David Hartley, Managing Director of WCy, to outline the discussions of the above meeting. He described the infrastructure of the Hawes sewerage system – suggesting that the treatment centre at Brunt Acres can cope with the existing capacity and load but cannot carry a heavier load in the future. It could, however, handle increased capacity. (*Capacity* is the amount of liquid flowing through, while *Load* is the amount of effluent carried by that liquid.) He added that the pipes network to the treatment centre is inadequate. He explained that the Creamery is seeking to develop and needs to discharge an increased volume of effluent. An earlier meeting, in January, had reached agreement that the Creamery would invest some £250,000 in cleaning equipment which would produce a fresher and cleaner effluent for disposal through the sewerage infrastructure. The discharge would remain at 2 litres per second but would eventually take place over 24 hours rather than 12 as at present. YW has since blocked this development because of public reaction to the doubling of the effluent load. By the end of March YW will have completed a full review of the sewage infrastructure from Gayle to the treatment works. This will include measures to clean the pipes and sending cameras through them. It will also be looking at Gayle as a whole, to try to ensure that surface water is not getting into the drains.

(Cllr Mrs Allen left the meeting at 7.26pm as she was “on call”, and returned later.)

Mr R Ward stated that the system cannot physically take any more. Mr Hartley added that he did not believe that WCy was the source of the bad smells but that, if some were produced there the new treatment system would improve the situation. A member of the

public suggested that the people of Hawes have no problems with Wcy, but feel that the issue is with YW. There will be another meeting on 31st March when YW will report on its findings.

- b. Highways Flooding.** The problem at Hayland's Bridge is being resolved thanks to funding from the Parish Council authorised by its Chairman. The problems at Cams Lane are also being dealt with by the Highways Department and are due for completion.
- c. War Memorial.** After some discussion led by Cllr Woolley the Council resolved:
 - i. To approve the revised location nearer the back of the green, as recently agreed at a site meeting**
 - ii. That 2 plaques should be commissioned from Calvert's – of black slate with gold engraved lettering. One would list the names of the fallen, separated into the two World Wars, and the second would include the memorial plaque from the organ of the now closed Methodist Church. Calvert's would also supply the memorial's cap stone. Total cost would be in the region of £1400 + VAT.**
 - iii. £400 of funding is available from the Methodist Church and the Chairman has obtained a further grant of £1500.**
 - iv. Building is anticipated to commence soon after Easter.**
 - v. The Memorial will incorporate the four additional names that have not previously appeared on local memorials.**
- d. Rishi Sunak MP.** Three Councillors had attended Mr Sunak's Surgery at Hawes, and had been given a tightly-controlled 20 minutes' slot. They had discussed the possible redrawing of constituency boundaries, 6th form and post 16 education at the Wensleydale School and the selling-off of council and housing association housing in rural areas.
- e. Little White Bus Service.** Mr W Head, service Manager, outlined some of the new services and timetables. Mrs B Peacock, a member of the public, expressed concern that the new service to Catterick would take business away from local shops. Mr Head responded that he had asked the drivers to question passengers about this, and that there is no evidence that this is a problem.
- f. New Cemetery.** The Clerk reported that he had had positive commitments from Methodist minister the Rev. Janet Park and from the Society of Friends (the Quakers) that they would attend the consecration ceremony. The Council was informed that the Rev. Ann Chapman (Vicar) is due to leave at Easter so it is unclear about Church of England attendance. The Clerk added that the Roman Catholic priest in Leyburn has failed to respond to two letters.
- g. Highways.** Mr Head had sent a detailed report, with photographs, to the Highways Department about the state of roads around Hawes which are causing damage to local buses. **Council asked the Clerk to send a strongly-worded letter to the Highways Department, and to invite Mr David Bowe to attend the next meeting.**

3. Garsdale Station

Mrs Ruth Annison asked for time to discuss two significant anniversaries for Garsdale Station which occur this year - 140 years since the station was first opened to passengers by the Midland Railway Company and 30 years since it was re-opened when the Settle-Carlisle line was saved by public campaign. It is planned to hold a series of low-key celebration activities on the weekend of 6-7 August and Mrs Annison asked the Council for ideas and possible financial support. **Council resolved unanimously in principle to support these celebrations financially, without specifying an amount.**

4. YDNPA Planning Applications

- a. **R/48/16Q The Green Dragon, Hardraw.** Full planning permission for construction of a small range of outbuildings to house a cycle hire, micro brewery and a garden store building

Council was concerned that this new development was situated adjacent to the Parish Church's boundary, and felt that the micro-brewery in particular would be too close to respect the nature of that building and grounds. It was also suggested that this site is tending towards "ribbon development", and generally over-developed. This is a threat that encroaches on the natural and picturesque beauty of the Hardraw Scar grounds themselves. **Council resolved unanimously to oppose this application.**

- b. **R/56/275U Dairy Farm Widdale.** Full planning permission for erection of extensions to the existing agricultural buildings for additional cattle housing, manure storage facility and farm dog kennels. **Supported.**

5. Correspondence

- a. **Richard Noble – Hawes in Bloom 2016.** Council agreed unanimously to make a grant to Hawes in Bloom at the same rate as last year (£1000).
- b. **NHS / NYCC Social Services - The Wensleydale Project.** Noted
- c. **North Yorkshire Flood Appeal.** Noted
- d. **Elizabeth Coquelin** – Request to erect a memorial bench in memory of her mother – a keen Dales rambler from the Liverpool St Helens area. Council was sympathetic to this request, and it was suggested that the bench could be part of the replacements planned on the Market Place between the Chippy and Penny Garth Car Park.
- e. **Myles Metcalfe.** Letter requesting Council support for developments at Burterset which would require digging up the village green and restoring it again, and to plant some trees at The Ashes. **Agreed.**

- 6. **Financial Matters – Audit Process.** The Clerk tabled some correspondence on the audit process from 2017 which requires a Council decision by 31st March 2016. **Agreed to set up a small Working Party, delegated to make this decision. Said Working Party to consist of the Chairman, Cllr Di Duca and the Clerk.**

7. Any Other Business

- a.** Cllr Woolley reported complaints about the amount of scrap and waste around the site of the annual Bonfire.
- b.** Mrs M Dinsdale asked the Council to contact the National Park's Footpath Officers about the state of the paved Pennine Way path that goes from Gayle West End to Little Ings. Cllr Mrs Allen agreed to contact the Pennine Way Officer.

Meeting closed at 9.12pm.

Date of next meeting – Monday 25th April 2016 at 7.15pm at Gayle Institute.