

GRANTLEY, SAWLEY, SKELDING & EAVESTONE
PARISH COUNCIL
INCLUDING THE VILLAGE OF RISPLITH

Correspondence Address:

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Minutes of the Annual Meeting and the Ordinary of the Grantley & Sawley
Parish Council held on
25th May 2023 at 7.30pm at Sawley Village Hall, Sawley.

Annual Meeting

(2023-24 – 001) Present were Cllr Martin Kirbitson, Cllr Mark Smeeden, Cllr Jim Wigginton, Cllr John Lennon and Cllr Simon Learoyd.

(2023-24 – 002) Also present were David Taylor, Clerk. There were no members of the public

(2023-24 – 003) Cllr Martin Kirbitson was **elected** as Chairman of the Parish Council. He was **nominated** by Cllr Jim Wigginton and seconded by Cllr Mark Smeeden the vote was **unanimous**.

(2023-24 – 004) Cllr John Lennon was **elected** as Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council. He was **nominated** by Cllr Mark Smeeden and seconded by Cllr Jim Wigginton, the vote was **unanimous**.

(2023-24 – 005) The Chairman, Cllr Kirbitson **welcomed** those present to the Annual Meeting of the Grantley and Sawley Parish Council.

(2023-24 – 006) A **Declaration of Interest** was received from Cllr Wigginton in respect of Item 17 - a grant application to the Parish Room Funds. Cllr Wigginton is a member of the Sawley Village Hall management committee and therefore connected with the application. It was decided that Cllr Wigginton should remain in the room when this matter is debated as he can positively add to discussions but should not vote on the matter.

(2023-24 – 007) Apologies were received from Cllr Parry.

(2023-24 – 008) It was **resolved to approve** and adopt, without amendment the following governance documents. These documents were circulated prior to the meeting and taken as read:

- a. Code of Conduct
- b. Code of Conduct (Social Media)
- c. Financial Regulations
- d. Standing Orders
- e. Publication Scheme
- f. Records Management
- g. Financial Risk Management
- h. Risk Assessment
- i. GDPR Statement

(2023-24 – 009) It was **resolved to approve and sign** the Certificate of Exemption of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2022-23

(2023-24 – 010) At **7:45pm** the **Chairman closed** the Annual Meeting of the Grantley & Sawley Parish Council and thanked those present at attending.

Ordinary meeting

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(2023-24 – 011) It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 16th March 2023, having been circulated for consideration beforehand, were true and correct records. The Chairman signed them accordingly.

Reports:

(2023-24 – 012) Cllr Felicity Cunliffe-Lister was unable to attend the meeting but had forwarded a written report to the via the Clerk. This report appears below as an appendix to these minutes. The Clerk shall also set up a section on the website where this and future reports can be posted.

(2023-24 – 013) The Clerk **reported** that

1. The fly tipping incident at Picking Gill had been reported and the rubbish had now been cleared away.
2. There had been email traffic with Area 6 Hyways concerning both the road signs in Grantley and unsuitable HGV usage on Sawley Moor Lane
3. He had attended a Highways Seminar at Stump Cross. He passed details out to members.
4. He distributed details on "Infrastructure Levy" advice note and said there was further information to follow.
5. He confirmed that he had asked DTMS for a quote for the maintenance plan and cost for Picking Gill.
6. He raised the increased cost of membership of YLCA. The cost had increased from £214.00 for the year 2022-23 to £308.00. Members felt this was excessive for the benefit the Parish Council received.

(2023-24 – 014) Members expressed serious concern at the condition of the grass in Sawley and Grantley. It is clear that the grass has not been cut this season so far. It was **resolved** that the clerk is to get to the bottom of why the state of affairs exists and further to draft a tender for the contract to other suppliers.

(2023-24 – 015) Members **received** and **considered** a quote for felling and clearing of the Wellingtonia tree at Sawley play area. Whilst the quotation was felt to be in order, there was some doubt about the need to fell this mature tree. It was agreed to look at the tree after the meeting. Having looked at the tree it was felt that it did represent a danger to users of the play area and there fore should not be felled.

(2023-24 – 016) Members **received** and **considered** a grant application to the Sawley Parish Room Funds in respect of improvement works to the kitchen and back areas of Sawley Village Hall. It was resolved by unanimous vote to grant the application.

(2023-24 – 017) Members **received** and **considered** an email from "Commissioner Zoë – the Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner to host online road safety meeting driven by interest from the public". Its contents were noted.

(2023-24 – 018) Members asked the Clerk to organise a meeting with the person concerned with siting the litter bins in both Grantley and Sawley noting that some locations do not work well and that the is still an old-style bin the playing field in Grantley.

(2023-24 – 019) The Clerk is to prepare a paper for consideration regarding the Parish Room Fund. He should address how the funds came about, how they can be spent and how

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the money can be invested. Members were concerned that there was difficulty in making suitable awards.

(2023-24 – 020) Members **instructed** the Clerk to seek a quote from DTMS to carry out repairs to the Village Green in the vicinity of the notice board.

(2023-24 – 021) It was **noted** that **Yorkshire Ambulance Service** is looking for a person to act as a guardian to the defibrillator units at both Grantley and Sawley. The Clerk **shall** post a notice on village notice boards advertising the fact.

(2023-24 – 022) It was **noted** that the picnic table on Grantley Playing field requires attention – Clerk to action.

(2023-24 – 023) It was **resolved** that the Clerk shall seek information regarding responsibility for stiles on public footpaths.

(2023-24 – 024) It was **resolved** that the Clerk shall make contact with North Yorkshire Council regarding speeding through both Grantley & Sawley. What measures can North Yorkshire Highways provide, can a speed limit be extended through the villages and what help is available. This could be co-ordinated with Cllr Cunliffe-Lister.

(2023-24 – 025) Members expressed concern that that Appeal by GHH against the Enforcement Order was not showing any documents having been submitted.

Financial Matters:

(2023-24 – 026) It was **resolved** to approve the Insurance renewal quotation as put to the members prior to the meeting.

(2023-24 – 027) It was **resolved** to approve for payment the accounts listed on "**Appendix A**", below.

(2023-24 – 028) A bank reconciliation (including all payments up to and over £100.00) to the period 25th May 2023 was received and **unanimously approved** for the Chairman to sign accordingly. This appears at "**Appendix B**", below.

(2023-24 – 029) A Spending v Budget report for the current year to 25th May 2023 was received and **unanimously approved** for the Chairman to sign Accordingly. It was requested that in the future this report should include income for the period. This appears at "**Appendix C**", below.

(2023-24 – 030) A bank reconciliation for Sawley Parish Room current account funds to the period to May 2023 could not be presented as the required information was not forthcoming.

Planning:

The following Planning Notices were received

(2023-24 – 031) Planning Enforcement Letter - 23-00136-PR15. Oakfield House Sawley HG4 3EG. Retention of storage containers following completion of development. (21/00569/FUL) - **Noted**

(2023-24 – 032) Planning Decision Notice - 23/00492/FUL Alterations to roof, including replacement of concrete tiles etc. West Lodge Grantley Hall Grantley. **Granted Subject to conditions.**

(2023-24 – 033) Planning Decision Notice - 23-00493-LB. Listed Building consent as above. **Granted Subject to conditions.**

(2023-24 – 034) Planning Decision Notice - 23-00553-DISCON. Discharge of Condition 9 (method statement for the reinstatement of the timber staircase) of 21-05155-/LB etc. Gowbusk Farm Risplith. Jim Wild. **Discharge Confirmed.**

To consider the following Planning applications:

(2023-24 – 035) Planning Application ZC23-01582-FUL. Change of use of land from Agricultural to Domestic. Oakfield House Sawley. Mr and Mrs T Green. It was **resolved** to return **Option C** with attached comment to be drafted by Cllr. Wigginton.

(2023-24 – 036) Planning Application 23-01171-FUL. Erection of agricultural storage building. Sunny Bank House Grantley. Mr D Webster. It was **resolved** to return **Option B** with attached comment to be drafted by Cllr. Wigginton.

(2023-24 – 037) To **receive** agenda items from Councillors to be considered at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

(2023-24 – 038) To **confirm** the date and time of the next meeting which will be Part 2 of the Annual Meeting as 22 June 2023.

(2023-24 – 039) The meeting **closed** at 9:20pm

These minutes were recorded and prepared by the Clerk to the Parish Council, David Taylor.

Signed as a true record by Cllr Martin Kirbitson, Chairman

Date:

At the Regular Meeting of the Grantley and Sawley Parish Council held on 20th July 2023 it was resolved by unanimous vote to approve these Minutes, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, as a true and correct record. These Minutes were then signed by the Chairman accordingly.

The signed Minutes are held in the Parish Council minute book at the Clerk's address, below, and can be viewed by prior appointment.

Clerk : David Taylor. 57 Whitcliffe Lane, Ripon, HG4 2LB. 01765 601693

When returning a standard form Parish Council Notification consultation decision there are four options that the Council can return. These are:-

Option A – The Parish Council has no objections.

Option B – The Parish Council objects on the planning grounds set out overleaf.

Option C – The Parish Council does not object to or support the application but wishes to make comments or seek safeguards set out overleaf.

Option D - The Parish Council supports the application.

**Appendix "A" Cllr Felicity Cunliffe-Lister Parish Report
May/June 2023**

Transport

As previously reported, some of the bus routes in the Masham & Fountains division are currently at risk. If we are to return to the pre-pandemic levels of use there would need to be an extra 40 passengers per week on the routes 136 (Ripon/Melmerby), 138 (Ripon/Masham), 139 (Ripon/Sawley/Markington) & 144 (Bedale/Masham) and an extra 150 per week for the 159 service (Richmond/Leyburn/Masham/Ripon). It has also been announced that the Eastern Dales bus 825 (Harrogate /Brimham Rocks/Fountains Abbey/Masham/Leyburn/Richmond) will now only run on the first Sunday of each month.

A survey has just been launched by the North Yorkshire Council, and the feedback will be used to inform the first draft of the Local Transport Plan which will review all aspects of the region's transport – from cycling to rail, bus and car. This is a very important opportunity for residents to have their say, to ensure that investment and services are improved where they are most needed. This can be completed online at www.northyorks.gov.uk/LetsTalkNY - please encourage all the residents in your parish to complete this.

Rural Broadband

I now have the list of all those properties that fall within NYNet's Phase 4 roll out, leaving over half without broadband. I have had meeting at County Hall in early May with Robert Ling, the Director of Transformation – he advises that for those who are not going to benefit from a Phase 4 connection, the outlook is uncertain for the time being. There is no further phase on the horizon, but at the same time the central government's Gigabit scheme – when it is announced – should be delivering connectivity to all those without. This announcement should be made by the end of the year, and in the case of community led projects there may also be some council support. He advises caution in the sense that communities and individuals should not invest too heavily in broadband schemes if the payback is over a long period of time – if the likelihood is that Gigabit will deliver a connection within (say) three years. Having been the first Councillor to meet him to address this issue, we are in a position where – if a community wanted to make a group application for a connection, either through cable or wireless signal – Robert is a good point of contact to take this forward.

Regarding the lack of mobile reception in some areas (Shaw Mills, Mickley and Markington to name a few), and have been given further details of voucher schemes that would support and part subsidise the installation of a mast. This is might still involve investment on the part of residents to meet any shortfall. If any community groups would like to review this further I am more than happy to support, and to help establish what the costs might amount to.

Volunteers

It is National Volunteers Week on 1st June, and the Council have launched a campaign to recognise all the volunteers in our community who contribute so much. Residents can also nominate their local heroes for awards to honour volunteers who make a difference in their community.

The council has opened nominations for the annual Community Awards, which recognise organisations and individual volunteers who selflessly dedicate their time to improving lives. This year sees the introduction of a new category aimed at recognising those who have launched initiatives to tackle climate change and support the natural environment.

The closing date for nominations is June 4. Nomination forms can be completed online at www.northyorks.gov.uk/communityawards

More information about volunteering in North Yorkshire is available at www.northyorks.gov.uk/TeamNorthYorkshire online.

Community Bus

Having established what support there might be at Council level for the purchase of a Community Bus, I am now establishing what the demand might be for one (or more), if there would be enough volunteers, and how we might be able to purchase one or share the resources of other community bus networks in the area. I am aware that there are many sixth form/college students in the area who are struggling without public transport, and the Community Bus may be able to provide a regular service to help them connect to the bus routes at Ripon and Bedale. It would also be available to schools and community groups for excursions. If you are aware of a particular need for community transport please do not hesitate to contact me.

Bilsdale Mast

Arqiva have announced that the Bilsdale transmitter has been repaired, following a fire in August 2021, and is now back in action. Please note, that 99% of households will need to take no action, beyond a possible retune of their televisions. Anybody who needs to do anything additional, should have been contacted directly by Arqiva. Please contact them on their Helpline if there are any issues.

Council Meeting

At the Council Meeting last week, other than the usual reports, a motion was passed to ask for a Public Enquiry to address concerns about the reduction in catches of crabs and sightings of dead crustaceans on the beaches on the North Yorkshire and Cleveland coast. A motion calling for a change in electoral law to enable proportional representation to be used for local, mayoral and national elections was not passed.

Destination Development Plan

I have attended a workshop and been in contact with local attractions and destinations within the area to establish what their views are on the current and potential destination status of the area. Many feel that the Harrogate brand is not appropriate, and that now that the borough boundary has fallen away, a Ripon hub with nearby attractions such as Fountains Abbey, Brimham Rocks and Newby Hall might work better. I am feeding back views on this – please get in touch if you have any thoughts on this.

I raised a question about the application for a North Yorkshire LVEP (as a tourism destination) at the Council Meeting on 17th May, and what steps were being taken to maintain the Yorkshire brand and enable co-operation between the regions to avoid them working in competition with each other. This was not fully addressed and I will continue to push for this.

FCL

Appendix "B" – Schedule of accounts approved for payment.

Bank Charges	Mar-23
DN Taylor	Salary 310323
DTMS	Inv 121642
Signworks of Ripon	Sawley PA sign
Bank Charges	Apr-23
StOfEx - Apr 2023	Apr-23
DN Taylor	Salary Apr23
DN Taylor	Admin Stationary
Yorks Acc Ripon	Payrol management
Bank Charges	May-23

GRANTLEY, SAWLEY, SKELDING & EAVESTONE

PARISH COUNCIL

INCLUDING THE VILLAGE OF RISPLITH

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Bank Reconciliation as at 25th May 2023 Including all payments (up to and over £100.00)

NB: Not including Parish Room Funds

HSBC a/c *****16		£	5,758.78	
HSBC a/c *****08		£	7,912.02	
		£	13,670.80	£ 13,670.80
Less Unpresented Cheques	SCD "1"	£	308.00	
Sub Total				£ 13,362.80

Cash Book at 16th March 2023

HSBC a/c *****16		£	804.80	
HSBC a/c *****08		£	7,912.02	
Sub Total		£	8,716.82	
Add receipts	SCD "2"	£	6,300.00	
		£	15,016.82	
Subtract payments	SCD "3"	£	1,346.02	
Current State		£	13,670.80	£ 13,670.80
Less Unpresented Cheques	SCD "1"	£	308.00	£ 13,362.80
	SCD "1"			
1	YLCA	£	308.00	
	Total Shed 1	£	-	

SCD "2"

28.04.2023	North Yorkshire Council	1st Precept	£	5,750.00
20.04.2023	North Yorkshire Council	Picking Gill	£	550.00
22.03.2023	Bank Charges	Mar-23	£	5.00
31.03.2023	DN Taylor	Salary 310323	£	476.93
31.03.2023	DTMS	Inv 121642	£	244.80
14.04.2023	Signworks of Ripon	Sawley PA sign	£	36.00
22.04.2023	Bank Charges	Apr-23	£	5.00
01.05.2023	StOfEx - Apr 2023	Apr-23	£	34.92
01.05.2023	DN Taylor	Salary Apr23	£	478.53
15.05.2023	DN Taylor	Admin Stationary	£	23.84
15.05.2023	Yorks Acc Ripon	Payrol Management	£	36.00
22.05.2023	Bank Charges	May-23	£	5.00
	Total Shed 3		£	1,346.02