



# SHAROW PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting

**DATE:** Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023  
**TIME:** 7.00pm  
**LOCATION:** Sharow Village Hall  
**PRESENT:** Councillors Robert Forber (Chair), Alison da Costa, Chris Gilbert, Paul Humberstone, Gary Simpson (after item 22.56)  
**CLERK:** Nick Reed (minutes)  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Eight members of the public (MoP)

22.53	<p><b>Declarations of interest</b> and requests for dispensation There were none</p>
22.54	<p><b>Apologies</b> and reasons for absence Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Chris Thompson.</p>
22.55	<p><b>Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September</b> The minutes were APPROVED as a true record of the meeting and signed as such by the Chair.</p>
22.56	<p><b>Ordinary vacancies</b> The Council RESOLVED to co-opt Gary Simpson to fill one of the casual vacancies. Cllr Simpson signed the acceptance of office and took his place on the Council for the remainder of the meeting. The Council NOTED that one vacancy still remains. <b><i>ACTION: All to consider potential candidates for co-option at the March meeting</i></b></p>
22.57 22.571	<p><b>Ongoing issue from minutes</b> not related to other agenda items <b>Half Moon pub</b> – The Council heard that the planning application for retrospective change of use to residential had been rejected, and another immediately submitted [see item 22.60]. The owner has also appealed the rejection to the Secretary of State, and asked for a review of the Asset of Community Value listing. <i>[Clerk’s note – the review upheld the ACV listing shortly after this meeting.]</i> Harrogate BC has served a planning contravention order on the owner, with a visit due to explore the extent of planning contraventions, although presumably any action would no be deferred until the resolution of the new planning application. The Council THANKED the Half Moon Working Group for its continued work and diligence.</p>
22.58	<p><b>Questions or comments from members of the public</b> not related to other agenda items A MoP reported that a street light was missing from the Berrygate Lane junction by the play area. A MoP reported a significant pothole on Dishforth Road just to the east of Fairlawns, and another reported an accumulation of leaves and mulch by St John’s House. <b><i>ACTION: Clerk to pursue these issues with NYCC Highways</i></b> A representative from V&amp;A Homes delivered an update on the development at New Road / Dishforth Road. The hedge to the south of Dishforth Road / north of the site is now to be removed and replanted to the east of the entrance, to allow space for a bus stop and potentially allow safe pedestrian travel opposite Fairlawns. The housing association which will administer the affordable elements of the project is a co-applicant on the planning applications for variation of conditions, and some site implementation will take place in the next four weeks in order to stay within the timescale laid out in the granting of the 2020 planning application.</p>

<p><b>22.59</b></p>	<p><b>Reports from district / county councillors</b></p> <p>NYCC Cllr Nick Brown reported that with less than three months to go before the institution of the unitary North Yorkshire Council, both the existing county and district councils were working to ensure the structure is legal and safe by then, with ongoing services, payments and planning ready to go on day one. The new authority will face a £30 million per year shortfall, which will have to be covered initially from reserves, with NYCC currently holding £132m in reserve. Savings will come from some staff not being replaced as they leave, and some of the current councils' estates being sold. Harrogate Civic Centre will however be used by the new authority.</p> <p>Cllr Brown added that there would be seven planning committees, six based on parliamentary constituency areas and a county-wide one for major works and minerals and waste planning issues. Finally, the authority's Parish Charter would be out shortly.</p>
<p><b>22.60</b></p>	<p><b>Planning applications and decisions</b></p> <p>The Council considered 22/04634/FUL, the re-submitted application for change of use at the Half Moon pub, and RESOLVED that the Council objects to the application in the strongest possible terms and on the same grounds as before, noting that the application had not changed from that previously rejected other than to include more spurious and/or hearsay material about the pub's supposed profitability, and some unpleasant ad hominem material about a member of the working group.</p> <p>The Council considered 22/04794/TPO for the felling of an elm tree at the Willows, St John's Close, and RESOLVED that it has no objection to this application.</p>
<p><b>22.61</b></p>	<p><b>Financial statement and approvals for payment</b></p> <p>The Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments: Parish Clerk (December/January salary and training/expenses); HMRC (PAYE qtr 3); Autela Payroll Services (payroll qtr 3) £45+VAT; DTMS Ltd (play area inspection and steam clean) £235+VAT; Plunkett Foundation (model rules for community benefit society) £310; WordPress (Half Moon website renewal) £36+VAT; Sharow Village Hall (Section 137 grant) £500; and Sharow Village Hall £30 (hire for this meeting).</p> <p>The Council's cash book balance following these transactions was NOTED as being £3,761.03</p>
<p><b>22.62</b></p>	<p><b>Parish Caretaker</b></p> <p>The Council RESOLVED to appoint an individual or company to act as parish caretaker, maintaining the play area and undertaking extra work around the parish on an ad hoc basis at the Council's request, at a basic cost of £1,200pa for five hours per month. It was agreed to offer first refusal for this work to the current play area maintenance contractor.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b><i>ACTION: Clerk to progress</i></b></p>
<p><b>22.63</b></p>	<p><b>Drainage and sewage</b></p> <p>The Council heard from a parishioner, James Thornborough, who has been monitoring the situations following a sewage line rupture at the Sharow pumping station, and ongoing blocked drains at the first corner after the roundabout at the west end of Sharow Lane. Concerns have been raised including: lack of traffic management in the early days of the line rupture; poor communication from Yorkshire Water; health risks to residents, and visitors using the riverside path or river; HGVs carrying discharge turning inappropriately in the village; the level of the water table below the drains and how this relates to the sewage situation; and the effect on disabled parishioners and care home residents. NYCC Cllr Brown and Mr Thornborough are to meet with Yorkshire Water to discuss all aspects of this situation and the medium-term viability of the pumping station.</p> <p>The Council THANKED Mr Thornborough for his diligence in pursuing these matters.</p>

<p><b>22.64</b></p>	<p><b>Vehicle activated signage</b>  The Council noted the decision necessarily arrived at between meetings to accept a £2,000 NYCC councillor discretionary grant towards the purchase and upkeep of a vehicle activated signage system for Dishforth Road, and RESOLVED to authorise further expenditure of up to £3,000 between now and March 2024 for the balance of purchase, installation, management, and insurance costs.</p>
<p><b>22.65</b></p>	<p><b>Defibrillator</b>  The Council considered assuming ownership and responsibility for maintenance of the defibrillator installed at Sharow CE Primary School, and RESOLVED to take this on.</p>
<p><b>22.66</b>  22.661  22.662</p>	<p><b>Correspondence</b>  22.661 NYCC Highways – reporting that the drainage pipe pouring domestic water onto Back Lane has been removed.  22.662 Harrogate BC – confirmation that the 2023-24 precept requirement has been received in good order.</p>

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

**SIGNED:** ..... (Chair)

**DATE:** .....

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