



# SHAROW PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting

**DATE:** Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020  
**TIME:** 7.45pm  
**LOCATION:** Virtually via Zoom  
**PRESENT:** Councillors Robert Forber (Chair), Alison da Costa, Kim Dodd, Chris Gilbert, Ruth Mason, James Thornborough, Jonathan Webb  
**CLERK:** Nick Reed (minutes)  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Harrogate BC Cllr Bernard Bateman, two members of the public (MoP)

20.31	<b>Declarations of interest</b> and requests for dispensation There were none
20.32	<b>Apologies</b> and reasons for absence There were none, all councillors being present
20.33	<b>Minutes</b> of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July The minutes were APPROVED as a true record of the meeting and signed as such by the Chair.
20.34 20.341 20.342	<b>Ongoing issue from minutes</b> not related to other agenda items <b>Tree planting</b> – The Clerk reported that the trees from the Woodland Trust would be arriving in late November, and that the issue of whether and how to publicise the planting, involve the school, etc would therefore be on November’s agenda. <b>Play area</b> – The Council heard that following the removal of the volunteer-managed play area bins, there had, very pleasingly, not been any level of rubbish left behind by users. The Council therefore RESOLVED not yet to commission the purchase and installation of a bin, but rather to wait for further evidence and consider the matter again at November’s meeting. <b><i>ACTION: All to keep a watching brief on the tidiness or otherwise of the play area</i></b>
20.35	<b>Questions or comments from members of the public</b> not related to other agenda items A MoP commended the work of the Village Hall and particularly the Chair of its Committee, and asked if the Parish Council might be prepared to subsidise the hall’s hedge trimming now that it was no longer done pro bono by a kindly neighbouring farmer. The Council then heard that the Village Hall, which is in a solid financial position, had contracted a professional to do this work. The Council AGREED to consider further support to the village hall via the 2020-21 budget, which is to be set at November’s meeting. MoPs also briefly raised the issues of the Dishforth Road chicane and the planning application at “Greenacres”, both of which were to be discussed later in the meeting.
20.36	<b>Reports from district / county councillors</b> District Cllr Bateman reported that there was little fresh news from Harrogate BC. Meetings continued via Zoom, which in his opinion was beginning to create problems with planning hearings, where contentious applications were often best held in person. HBC continue to consider its position on the matter of the creation of unitary council/s for North Yorkshire. [see item 20.42].
20.37	<b>Financial Statement and Approvals for Payment</b> It was RESOLVED to approve the following payments: Parish Clerk (August / September salary); Morgan’s Estate Management (play area / parish maintenance) £80.00; DTMS KLtd (play area inspection) £144.00; and PCC of Sharow, Copt Hewick and Marton-le-Moor £600 (Section 137 grant) The Council’s cash book balance after these activities was noted as being £3,465.94, with the second tranche of the precept due imminently.

	<p>A brief discussion about reserve levels followed, and the Clerk noted that absent any major issues arising between now and then, the Parish Council should have an end-of-year reserve at the low end of the 6-12 months of precept which is recommended as best practice. The six-month financial statement and 2021-22 budget would be discussed at November's meeting.</p>
20.38	<p><b>Planning applications and decisions</b></p> <p>The Council considered applications 20/03223/FUL and 20/03224/LBDEM for the installation of roof lights, a single storey extension and other heritage works at "The Manor House", Sharow Lane, and RESOLVED that it had no objection to the application, noting also that it was good to see this important building within the parish receiving some overdue attention.</p> <p>There were no decisions to record, and the Council noted the comments of a MoP that a revised application for new housing units at "Greenacres", Sharow Lane was expected and that the original application to which the Council had strongly objected at July's meeting may therefore be withdrawn.</p> <p><b><i>ACTION: Clerk to maintain watching brief</i></b></p>
20.39	<p><b>Half Moon pub</b></p> <p>The council noted that planning enforcement notice 20/00098/PR15 was still in process, and that the owner of the Half Moon has been required to advertise the premises more effectively to potential tenants for pub/restaurant or other community use. The Council further noted that this advertisement has not yet happened.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that the application for registration of the Half Moon as an Asset of Community Value had been paused after Harrogate BC feedback that more information was needed about the history of the pub as a worthwhile community building – i.e. whether it was used for social gatherings, clubs and societies, church / cricket socials, etc He asked for all information to be sent to him in order that a re-submission could be made by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October.</p> <p><b><i>ACTION: Clerk to continue co-ordinating application for registration as an Asset of Community Value</i></b></p> <p><b><i>ACTION: All to ask parishioners to submit information about the past value of the Half Moon for the new ACV application</i></b></p>
20.40	<p><b>Highways issues</b></p>
20.401	<p><b>Dishforth Road chicane</b> – The Chair reported that he and three other Councillors had met an NYCC Highways officer on site to talk through chicane issues. The officer conceded that there should have been better consultation before the chicane was installed, but remained of the opinion that the chicane as constituted is effective, with traffic speeds well down as a result of its installation. The Council agreed that the chicane was better than no traffic calming measures, but remains of the opinion that the traffic flow around it is unintuitive, due to its atypical alignment.</p>
20.402	<p><b>One-way system</b> – The Council considered at length a proposal to advocate for a one-way system running anticlockwise from Sharow Cross down Sharow Lane and up New Road. The Council RESOLVED with reluctance not to pursue this idea, on the primary grounds that turning left in Sharow Lane from the east is not straightforward, especially for agricultural vehicles.</p>
20.403	<p><b>Other Highways issues</b> – The Council heard: that the 30mph sign entering Sharow from the east had been moved so it was no longer obscured by foliage; that Back Lane had been flailed and was now passable on foot; that New Road had had some potholes fixed and the NYCC Highways considered it now passable and were not prepared to bring it up their waiting list any further; that the saplings on the verge near Fairlawns had not been removed and that it was unclear whether they would be, the area not being pavement; that NYCC had required the owners of the field to the west of the Village Hall on Dishforth Road to take action to clear the accumulated mud and foliage on the pavement back</p>

	to the hedgeline; and that NYCC had agreed that the former Stoney Lane was their responsibility and were preparing a plan to surface the area still used by vehicles at the south (Sharow Lane) end.
<b>20.41</b>	<p><b>20s Plenty</b></p> <p>The Chair reported that he had received several letters in support of 20s Plenty being implemented in the parish, and the Council noted that further public support-gathering was difficult to achieve due to Covid-19 restrictions. District Cllr Bateman suggested contacting NYCC Cllr Robert Windass to canvass his opinion / support.</p> <p>The Council then went on to briefly discuss the related topic of vehicle activated signage (VAS), and whether the investment in the purchase and maintenance of such equipment might be helpful in traffic calming as well as, or instead of, a 20mph limit.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>ACTION: Clerk to write to Cllr Windass</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ACTION: VAS practicalities and costs to be considered at November's meeting</b></p>
<b>20.42</b>	<p><b>North Yorkshire local government</b></p> <p>The Council considered recent correspondence from Harrogate BC and NYCC concerning the possible creation of one or two unitary authorities to replace NYCC and its districts, and possibly the City of York. The Council RESOLVED that it had no comment to make until or unless a formal proposal for local government reorganisation is tabled.</p>
<b>20.43</b>	<p><b>School Governor</b></p> <p>The Council considered a request from the Sharow and Skelton Newby Hall Federation of Church of England Schools to nominate a governor to serve on its board. However, no Councillor was willing to put themselves or anyone else forward for this position.</p>
<b>20.44</b>	<p><b>Risk assessment</b></p> <p>The Council noted the risk assessment prepared by the Clerk based on the NALC model and Cllr Thornborough's document. The Clerk noted that he would welcome the chance to refine the document a little further, and the Council accordingly RESOLVED to consider an updated document at November's meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>ACTION: Clerk to revise and circulate</b></p>
<b>20.45</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>
20.451	NY Police: noting that only three incidents had been reported in July and August: one fraud (email scam); one text message from an unknown person; and one incident of ducklings on the road.
20.452	PKF Littlejohn: as external auditor, acknowledging receipt of the 2019-20 Annual Governance and Accountability Return.
20.453	NALC: Notification of the 2020 NJC salary award, backdated to April 1 <sup>st</sup> .
20.454	MoP: Notice of the intention to put in a planning application, and invitation to councillors to offer feedback on the proposal ahead of submission

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

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

**DATE:** .....