

BOLTON PERCY, COLTON & STEETON PARISH COUNCIL

www.boltonpercy-colton-steeton-pc.org.uk

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Alison Dawson, Bolton Percy

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MINUTES FOR PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON

Thursday 11th January at 8:00pm

Old School Room, Bolton Percy

1. **Present:** Cllrs Steele (chair), Robinson (Vice Chair), Tucker, Nicholls, Roberston; Alison Dawson, clerk
2. **To receive and consider for approval, apologies for absence and reasons given:** None
3. **To receive declarations of interest:** None
4. **To confirm the minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting 6/12/23 as a true and accurate record**
The Minutes were confirmed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr. Robinson; seconded by Cllr. Tucker.
5. **Members of the Public:** 9
6. **CLERK'S REPORT – Outlining actions/outcomes following the meeting held on 6/12/23.**
 - a) Clerk e-mailed Northern Powergrid to confirm that the Parish Council wish to keep the Meter Point Admin Numbers (MPAN'S) – acknowledged Northern Powergrid.
 - b) The Parish Precept request was submitted and acknowledged by North Yorkshire Council.
 - c) Clerk's Vacancy – following research, clerk had previously presented the Council with A5 and A4 adverts suitable for the website and Facebook sites, and a Job Description. These have been approved. Salary discussed and agreed for the 2024 post (SCP15). Clerk will place the adverts locally in the first instance
 - d) Siting of benches – Cllr Robinson advised that he's approached Rev. Mumford to request siting in the churchyard, either side of the path leading to the church. Approved in principle but an appropriate application is to be made by Rev Mumford. **Action:** Cllrs. to make the bench photos available electronically to Rev Mumford.
7. **NYC/ENVIRONMENT AGENCY UPDATE:** no specific update but part of further discussion at Item 9.
8. **FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT**
 - a) Cllr Nicholls advised that the role of the Environment Agency is Flood Management & risk to property only. As such the EA have provided the village with extra pump capacity over the last few weeks to ensure that flood water at Pump Alley beck didn't enter properties. The flood defence flap valve at The Rampart, and the flood gate further towards The Wharfe, are their responsibility and they are aware of resident's queries about correct working of these defences. Both the EA & North Yorkshire Council have regular meetings to discuss situations in Bolton Percy.
 - b) **Community Emergency Plan** – Clerk (also a Station Road resident) in collaboration with Cllr. Nicholls and Station Road residents' group, reported that they have started working towards an Action Plan to feed into the Community Emergency Plan. See discussion generated in **Agenda Item 9**.
9. **CORRESPONDENCE: to consider correspondence received 30/12/23 from Station Road residents.**
The meeting was attended by 9 members of the public who wished to discuss the issues experienced at both Station Road and The Rampart. The following reports comments from representatives from each part of the village where problems are very similar and challenging.
 - a) **Continuing isolation/Improving Flood Defences:** the recent flooding had cut off the residents for 10 days (29/12/23 – 7/1/24); A Flood Report was submitted to NYC on 30/12/23. Prior to this Oxton Lane was cut off on 3 further occasions, in both directions both into and away from Bolton Percy. The last flood water levels towards Hornington Bridge were over 1.2m in depth and higher at the Cricket Club corner. There have been 4 flood events in the last 12 months – an increase from 1 event in 2022; 1 in 2021 and 2 in 2020. The situation for residents beyond The Ramparts is as critical as The Ramparts Road area flooding almost exactly mirror the Oxton Lane flooding. Residents are concerned that the frequency and duration of flooding is increasing and query the efficacy of the flap valve and the flood gate.

Action: Cllr Nicholls to contact the EA with regards the Maintenance Schedule and servicing of the flood defences. Residents feel that a Schedule should be available and published for the Council and public to view.

b) Medical/Other Emergency Access

A flood water depth of 1m or more makes the road impassable. Residents of these village areas in particular need to have an Emergency Plan in place so that residents know who to contact and the emergency pathway when the road is closed. A Risk Assessment by the Fire and Rescue Services would be invaluable. Depth Markers on Oxtan Lane and The Ramparts were proposed to monitor depth and be part of Risk Management measures.

Action: The Station Road Resident's Group have been proactive during the last period of flooding and arranged a Multidisciplinary Meeting with local agencies. The meeting date is to be confirmed but is likely to be 2/2/24 at The Old School, Bolton Percy. It will feed into the Community Emergency Plan for the village.

c) Pedestrian Access is the only way out for work, school, collecting prescriptions etc.

Access over the field is difficult, especially when carrying food shopping or in the dark. The route can be partially flooded, is muddy and involved climbing over a barbed wire fence via a step ladder. The walk is challenging and currently depends on the goodwill of the local farmer.

Action: Station Road Residents Group will approach the local farmer to Investigate alternative ideas for pedestrian access.

d) Future Strategy for Improvement

Station Road Residents Group proposed that Oxtan Lane should be raised on Tadcaster side to allow access.

Action: a proposal will be drafted by the residents and sent to local NYC Councillor Andrew Lee; the local MP Keir Mather and Highways Agency.

e) Lead Representative of resident's groups

The Ramparts residents nominated Stewart Rogerson as their lead representative and Station road residents nominated Alison Dawson. Nominations accepted.

10. PLANNING: to consider planning decision notification(s). NONE

11. FINANCE –

(a) to review and approve items of expenditure

Oil for Pump 11/12/23	£1014.60
Oil for Pump 15/12/23	£537.81
Autela Payroll Services Q3	£64.81
Oil for Pump 2/01/24	£802.20
Web Hosting	£29.81

The above payments were approved

b) The cost of oil for the pumps was discussed, as the previous council (SDC) had agreed to re-imburse the village for this cost until 31/3/2023 when there was the change to the unitary council of North Yorkshire. It was agreed that this could still be investigated as the cost is considerable.

Action: Cllr. Nicholls to investigate this and feedback.

12. LEEDS EAST AIRPORT

a) Community Issues Church Fenton, Ulleskelf and Bolton Percy – attributable to development at the airport

An invitation for 2 Councillors to attend a meeting at The Civic Centre, Selby 15/1/24 14.00 14.45 or via Teams has been received by NYC. Following discussion Stewart Rogerson stated that he may attend via Teams if he could be advised of the agenda topics.

Action: clerk to send the agenda and invitation to Stewart Rogerson.

b) Airport flying activity: Stewart Rogerson fed back that he'd had no response to his letter of October 2023. He advised that there appears to be a re-vamped circuit route to avoid Bolton Percy but some pilots continue to use the old circuit.

Action: Stewart is aiming to get a list of operators ignoring the routes to submit.

13. MATTERS ARISING

a) Portable Speaker system

All Saint's Bolton Percy church sound system is currently not working. Therefore the village system is currently being used by the church for their services. It is kept safely in the locked vestry.

b) Sewage spill Bolton Percy

This recent overflow behind pump alley has now been cleared by Yorkshire Water who acted swiftly to manage the situation.

c) Parish Council Meeting Day

Due to continuing conflicting business commitments at the beginning of the week Cllr. Roberston requested changing the monthly meeting day to the first Thursday of the month. Discussed and resolved to change to this day from February.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

1st February 2024

Meeting closed at 22.10