

# **HAXBY TOWN COUNCIL**

**The Memorial Hall, The Village, Haxby YO32 3HT**

**Minutes of a Meeting of Haxby Town Council held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7.45 p.m. in the Oaken Grove Youth and Community Centre, Haxby.**

**Present:** Cllr. R. Pearson – Chairman  
Cllr. G. Cockburn  
Cllr. I. Cuthbertson  
Cllr. T. Fisher  
Cllr. T. Richardson  
Cllr. J. Secker  
Cllr. G. Stowe  
Cllr. I. Thompson

**Also present:** Anne Wilson Locum Town Clerk  
11 residents  
New Town Clerk – Alan Draper

## **66/2023 Apologies for absence**

**RESOLVED** that Members received apologies of absence for this meeting from:

- Cllr. E. Pearson – unwell
- Cllr. A. Hollyer – previous commitment
- Cllr. C. Hogg – personal commitment

## **67/2023 Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed Councillors and residents to the meeting.

## **68/2023 Declarations of Interest.**

**RESOLVED** to note that there were no declarations of interest under consideration on this agenda in accordance with The Local Government Act 2000 Part III and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

## **69/2023 Public Question Time and Participation**

Many members of the public attended to talk about their concerns about the actions taken by the Haxby and Wiggington Cemetery Committee:

- Notices were put up advising those in the cemetery that Topple Testing was put up after it had taken places – why weren't any notices put on the parishes noticeboards
- None of the owners were contacted before their headstone was laid down

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- Haxby Town Council should rectify the problem – it was pointed out that the responsibility for the maintenance of the headstones was the responsibility of the owner – the owners felt that the condition of the headstone was compromised as

they had been laid down and they had not been given any opportunity to repair their stones first

- The headstones were laid down 2-3 weeks after the testing took place
- They had read that at least six weeks notice should be given to the owner or the next of kin of the headstone - It appears that none statutory guidance was followed
- They felt that an insincere apology was being given
- They didn't want to visit the cemetery or their headstones now
- Anyone who did not know of the action taken would have a shock when they saw their headstone, like some of those present had when visiting the cemetery
- How was the topple testing carried out when they testing used just to be done by hand by trained members of the previous committee? Cllr. Craven questioned why a company was bought in?
- That there was a considerable increase in numbers that needed repairing in the cemetery this time – it was pointed out that this was the case due to the increase in age of some of the headstones

The questions and concerns were noted and the Haxby and Wiggington Cemetery Committee would be meeting to discuss the matters raised and consider the way forward very soon. Notices were being put on each headstone laid down and letters would be sent out to owners although it was noted that not all owners contact details may be up to date.

## **70/2023 Minutes**

**RESOLVED** to accept the minutes and confirm the recommendations within:

- Planning Committee – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023
- Full Council - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023
- Events Committee – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – deferred until the next meeting
- Amenities Committee – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – deferred until the next meeting
- Staffing Committee – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023
  
- Haxby and Wiggington Cemetery Committee – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023
- Planning Committee – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023 – inquorate
- Finance Committee – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023 – inquorate
- Staffing Committee – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023 – inquorate

## **71/2023 Calendar of Meetings**

A schedule of meetings for the remainder of the municipal year will be put together by the new Town Clerk.

### **72/2023 Defibrillator News**

The Chairman asked for this matter to be deferred, however several locations including the Parvin Indian Restaurant was mentioned.

### **73/2023 Finances**

Members are asked to note that the finance reports for Haxby Town Council were not available for the meeting but would be taken to the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

### **74/2023 Town Council Staff Vacancies**

Members are asked to note that a new Town Clerk has been appointed to Haxby Town Council subject to references.

**RESOLVED** that the appointment of the Town Clerk be delegated to the Staffing Committee.

### **75/2023 Citizen Advice York**

Wigginton Parish Council has requested that Haxby Town Council the contract with Citizen Advice York and Wigginton Parish Council.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact Citizen Advice York be contacted and asked how many residents benefit from the service.

### **76/2023 Grant Request**

Members received and considered a request from the Events Committee for a grant or some funding to assist with the Christmas lighting up evening.

They would like a big tree on the green with LED lights and £800 for new lights, noting that the electric box needs to be overhauled. They would like to put fencing around the tree too. They hope to have a tree outside the Memorial Hall too. They are hoping that the lights are put on the lamp posts and under the shops arcade.

**RESOLVED** that following discussion that in principle £3500 be offered towards event subject to the request coming to the Clerk in writing.

### **77/2023 Bus Stops in Oak Tree Lane**

Members were asked to consider a verbal report from Cllr. A. Hollyer in relation to replacing a broken bus stop in Oak Tree Lane and other areas in Haxby.

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact the City of York Council to find out which bus stops are ours and ask if there is any funding available to assist with repairs or purchasing of new ones.

It was thought a new 3 bay costs £5k plus installation and a premium installation costs about £7 ½ k and with a green roof +£500. A question was asked about the cost of anti-vandal proof glass.

**RESOLVED** to delegate this matter to the Amenities Committee to make a decision subject to the cost of purchasing a bus shelter being under £3k.

**78/2023 Date of Next Meeting**

**RESOLVED** to note that the next meeting of Full Council will be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7.30 p.m.

**Signed** ..... **Date** .....

**Chairman**