

HAXBY TOWN COUNCIL

The Memorial Hall, The Village, Haxby YO32 3HT

Minutes of a meeting of Haxby Town Council held on Monday 11 December 2023 at 7.30pm in the Oaken Grove Youth and Community Centre, Haxby.

Present: Cllr. R. Pearson – Chairman
Cllr. G. Cockburn – Vice-chairman
Cllr I. Craven
Cllr. I. Cuthbertson
Cllr. A. Hollyer
Cllr. T. Richardson
Cllr. G. Stow
Cllr. I. Thompson

Also present: Fourteen members of the public
Alan Draper (town clerk)

91/2023 Apologies for absence

RESOLVED that apologies and the reason(s) for absence were received and accepted from:

- Cllr T. Fisher
- Cllr C. Hogg
- Cllr. E. Pearson
- Cllr J. Secker

92/2023 Chairman's welcome

The chairman welcomed councillors and residents to the meeting and asked the councillors to introduce themselves.

93/2023 Declarations of interest

Cllr T. Richardson declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 15 – 'Payments – November and December'.

94/2023 Public question time and participation

Several points were made by residents regarding the topple testing in the cemetery and the reinstatement of headstones.

95/2023 Minutes – full council meeting

RESOLVED to approve and accept the minutes of the previous full council meeting held on 13 November 2023.

96/2023 Minutes – committee meetings

RESOLVED to accept the minutes and confirm the recommendations within of the following:

- Haxby and Wigginton Cemetery Committee meeting – 13 November 2023
- Planning Committee meeting – 4 December 2023
- Amenities Committee meeting – 4 December 2023

97/2023 General power of competence

RESOLVED that having met the statutory eligibility criteria, the council adopts the general power of competence, in accordance with section 1, Localism Act 2011.

98/2023 Haxby and Wigginton Cemetery – topple testing / headstones

RESOLVED to approve the recommendation from Haxby and Wigginton Cemetery Committee for it to pay for the reinstatement of those headstones which were laid down as part of the topple testing in the cemetery.

Cllr T. Richardson abstained.

99/2023 Planning advisor

RESOLVED that the town clerk be authorised to procure the services of a planning advisor for planning matters, including a neighbourhood plan, cemetery extension, transport strategy, town plan and challenging City of York Council in respect of planning applications.

100/2023 Internal auditor

RESOLVED that Rachel Pearson be re-appointed as the council's internal auditor for 2023-24.

Cllr I. Cuthbertson abstained.

101/2023 Rural Market Town Group

RESOLVED to accept the offer of six months' free membership of the Rural Market Town Group.

102/2023 Memorial clock, Memorial Hall - maintenance

RESOLVED that this item be deferred pending receipt of further information.

103/2023 Facebook - administrators

RESOLVED that Cllr J. Secker be the lead administrator for the council's Facebook page with Cllr G. Cockburn and Cllr G. Stow also as administrators.

Cllr I. Craven abstained.

104/2023 Grant applications

RESOLVED that:

- a) The grant application from Haxby and Wigginton Youth and Community Association for £12,256 (in respect of 2024-25) be approved, in accordance with section 1, Localism Act 2011.
- b) The grant application from Haxby Playgroups for £600 be approved, in accordance with section 1, Localism Act 2011.

105/2023 Payments – November and December

RESOLVED that the payments for November and December 2023 be approved.

Cllr T. Richardson took no part in this item due to his pecuniary interest.

106/2023 Request from Amenities Committee – bus shelters

RESOLVED that a budget of £20,000 be approved for the procurement of bus shelters and that Cllr A. Hollyer will report further at the next meeting.

107/2023 Exclusion of public and press

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted it is in the public interest that the press and public be excluded and that they are instructed to withdraw.

COUNCIL IN PRIVATE SESSION

108/2023 Code of conduct complaint

RESOLVED that the recommendation from the City of York Council monitoring officer be accepted and that an apology be issued to the person concerned.

109/2023 Co-option to casual vacancy - review

RESOLVED that:

- a) Standing order 26(a) be invoked to suspend standing order 7.
- b) The council accepts that although taken in good faith and in accordance with the advice received at the time, its decision made on 16 October 2023 regarding the co-option to the casual vacancy was not in accordance with the monitoring officer's advice and as such the position should be amended and rectified.
- c) Diane Geogheghan-Breen be co-opted to Haxby Town Council for the east ward.

Cllr G. Cockburn abstained.

Cllr T. Richardson left the meeting at this juncture.

110/2023 Legal proceedings

RESOLVED to reaffirm the procurement of legal advice from Eversheds LLP and that they be instructed accordingly.

111/2023 Date of next meeting

RESOLVED that the next meeting of Full Council will be held on Monday 15 January 2024 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed **Date**

Chairman