

Minutes of the Melbecks Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 18th July 2024 at Low Row Institute

The Melbecks Parish Council meeting was held on Thursday 18th July 2024 at Low Row Institute. Present were Councillors Silver, Calvert, Bowe and Strafford with Cllr R. Alderson chairing. Also present was NYC Councillor Yvonne Peacock. The Clerk was Miss N. Adams. All were welcomed to the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence: All councillors were present.
2. Declaration of Interests: Councillor Strafford declared an interest in item 9(a). This item was deferred to the final item of the meeting.
3. Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the last meeting, held on 9th May 2024 were agreed to be a correct record, and these were signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising.

a) Dog waste bin, Low Row

The clerk advised the council that she had met with the Dog Warden from North Yorkshire Council to look at the proposed location of the lay-by at the west end of the village. This has been confirmed as a suitable site and the dog waste bin will be installed by North Yorkshire Council in the next few weeks.

5. Finance

a) 2023/24 Precept Review and 2025/26 Precept Arrangements

It was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting in October, with this to be confirmed before the end of December 2024.

6. Highways

a) Highways Reply:

No work has yet taken place at Peat Gate to clear the gutter. Councillor Peacock and the clerk to report again. The clerk was also asked to report the pothole above Hill Top Farm, Kearton again. It was noted that work is starting on the bridge in Arkengarthdale, with a temporary road to be installed, however on some days, it may be necessary to close the road and traffic will be diverted via Peat Gate.

The clerk was also asked to report overgrown vegetation on the main road through Low Row, particularly around Robin Gate report which needs cutting back.

Councillor Bowe and NYC Councillor Peacock have met with Ian Beighton from Highways to look at the issue of larger vehicles accessing the school at times. Formal waiting restrictions along the road would be a possibility, however the legal process involved takes a relatively long period of time whereas an alternative option would be the installation of a couple of white 'H' Bar road markings with the accompanying text 'KEEP CLEAR' in 700 mm high letters at the locations where the worst problem is occurring with parking. The councillors were provided with a plan as well as a copy of the letter that had been delivered to a number of properties adjacent to locations where parking is a particular problem.

Councillors agreed that the proposed road markings should be put in place and the clerk will advise Highways of this decision. The plan is then to complete the work during the school summer holiday. During this visit a hole in the road in Gunnerside was found, which Highways will fill in. The clerk was also asked to contact Highways about the pothole at bottom of the church steps in Low Row.

Councillor Peacock informed the council that the Home School consultation had been passed by NYC executive meeting and it will now go to a full council meeting, although a few concessions are possible.

7. North Yorkshire Council

No items.

8. YDNPA

a) Full planning permission for erection of storage building for land management purposes in relation to use of corrugated steel roofing material of dark colour (preferably anthracite) at High Gill House, Low Row, Richmond, DL11 6NE -R/05/51H: The council raised no comments or objections.

b) Householder planning permission for erection of single storey extension to southwest to

be used as a workshop at Low Barn, Low Row, Richmond, DL11 6NE - R/05/11E: The council raised no comments or objections.

c) Trees in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale Barns and Walls conservation area: notification to remove the two lowest branches of one sycamore at Hattersgarth, Low Row. The council raised no comments or objections.

d) Trees in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale Barns and Walls conservation area: notification to crown reduce one sycamore by 20% and remove the lower branches on the southern side of a second sycamore at Sunnyside, Low Row. The council raised no comments or objections.

e) Trees in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale Barns and Walls conservation area: notification to remove one ash at Strands Holme, Gunnerside. The council raised no comments or objections.

9. Any Other Business

a) Party on the Pasture (deferred to final item).

b) Scott Trial 2024: The Council noted that this is taking place on Saturday 12th October 2024. The letter was read out, and the form signed which the clerk will return.

c) Police Report 7th May 2024 to 7th June 2024 and 7th June 2024 to 4th July 2024. Both polices reports were circulated and read.

10. Dates of next meetings: The meeting dates for the year ahead were agreed:

- Thursday 3rd October 2024 at Gunnerside
- Thursday 28th November 2024 at Low Row
- Thursday 30th January 2025 at Gunnerside
- Thursday 20th March 2025 at Low Row
- Thursday 15th May 2025 at Gunnerside
- Thursday 17th July 2025 at Low Row

9 a) Party on the Pasture

Councillor Strafford explained the reasons behind the idea for the Party on the Pasture; to support the hard work of the Institute Committee in raising funds for the continuing renovation of the building, with no personal gain. Licensing and insurance have been put in place, and Low Row Pasture Committee through GCS Grays have given permission for the event. Risk assessments are in place and NYC and the police have been notified. Off-site parking and camping facilities have been arranged. However, two letters have been received about the event, raising some concerns. Both letters had been circulated to all councillors and these were read, and the issues discussed. Councillor Strafford advised that he had also listened to comments already made and had agreed for the event to end at 9pm. The councillors discussed the points raised, however they agreed that every aspect had been covered, and they were happy for the event to go ahead as planned. The Council now believes that it cannot take this matter any further.

11. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday 3rd October 2024 at 7.30pm at Gunnerside Village Hall.

As there was no other business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm.