

*Present:* Cllrs Blackburn (Chairman), Asher and Mills. Also, the Clerk.

**1 Apologies** – Cllrs Sharp & Warren

**2 Code of Conduct - Localism Act 2011**

- a) To record any Councillor's Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) and Other Interests in relation to items on this agenda - *none*
- b) To consider any changes in members' register of interests - *none*
- c) To consider any dispensations - *none*

**3 To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday, 7 February 2017**

**Resolved: That the Minutes be approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

**4 Matters Arising**

- i) Packhorse bridge, Stainforth – to receive any update. As owner, The National Trust is responsible for maintenance and Highways contacted them whereupon they conceded that some of the mortar needed attention. Clerk undertook to contact the National Trust on behalf of the Council.
- ii) Stainforth village web hosting – renewal completed.
- iii) Craven DC – Parishes Liaison Meeting - 22 Mar 2017 – Chairman said he intended to attend.

**5 Policing**

- i) To receive the monthly report and clarification of previous month's report to the effect that the items mentioned did in fact refer to Stainforth. For the current month, the only crime had been the theft of a Land Rover vehicle from The Green, on 18 February 2017. Active enquiries are continuing and it is hoped for a positive result which could also lead to the solving of other connected thefts. There have been three complaints of the way in which vehicles have been driven on Sherwood Brow, ranging from quarry wagons to a group in fast cars – police to monitor. Two speed cameras are now permanently based at Skipton Police Station. These are to cover Craven all the time and hence there will be increased activity in this regard.

**6 Finance**

- i) To authorise payment of accounts as per schedule, including the Clerk's remuneration for March, 2017 and his expenses for the quarter ending 31 March 2017. Other than these, and the annual charge of £60 for hire of the Village Hall for meetings, there were no other bills due for payment.

**Resolved: That payment of the Clerk's remuneration for March be authorised, as well as his quarterly expenses in the sum of £153.90 and room hire of £60.**

- ii) Payment for registration under Data Protection Act – to complete direct debit. Current annual cost: £35.00

**Resolved: That the relevant direct debit be completed.**

- iii) National Salary Award – 2016 - 2018 - to implement increase of 1% due 1 April 2017.

**Resolved: That this be implemented with effect from 1 April 2017**

- iv) Internal Audit – change of arrangements. Internal auditor unable to visit this year owing to disability. The Clerk has arranged to provide the necessary information by remote control at a reduced internal audit fee of £80.

**Resolved: That this be approved.**

- v) Parish Precepts – advice received from YLCA to the effect that parish councils should demonstrate restraint when setting budgets/precepts. It was only as a result of intense lobbying by NALC that the government decided not to extend council tax referendum principles to any size of parish during the 2017/18 financial year so that parishes could have flexibility to set budgets according to local needs and priorities. However, this was very much a deferral by government which could be overturned if the sector does not demonstrate restraint.
- vi) The Pensions Regulator – the council's Staging Date has been brought forward to 9 March 2017 and the necessary Declaration of Compliance has been lodged on behalf of the Council.
- vii) LGA 1972 Section 137(4)(a) Expenditure limit for 2017/18 increased to £7.57
- viii) Street lights – electricity – advice received from e.on that with effect from 1 April, 2017 the price per kWh is increased by 1.35p to 15.75p.
- ix) Local Audit & Accountability Act 2014 -Transparency Code for smaller authorities. The Chairman and the Clerk recently attended a seminar on fully discharging the Council's responsibilities under the law in this regard. The Clerk described how he had been fully discharging the council's responsibilities to date. However, with the demise of routine external audit from April 2017, greater importance is being put on transparency in financial matters and funds are available towards preparing for the new regime, eg the purchase of equipment, web site provision and training etc. Those present felt that the council should take advantage of what was on offer and this item would thus be included on the next agenda.

**7 Land on Goat Scar Lane (Gooseker)** – to receive information.  
YDNPA advise that the land to the front of Scarr Foot is important Open Space as designated in the Yorkshire Dales Local Plan 2015. The land is not classed as village green or common land. NYCC advise that the area at the top end of the lane is public maintainable highway from boundary wall to boundary wall at either side of the lane. This includes a wide area of verge before the lane width reduces, and continues uphill.

**8 Planning**

**a) To consider applications received**

**C/64//35H** Conversion of garage to form holiday accommodation (retrospective). Holly House, Holly Lane, Stainforth

**Resolved: 'No comment'.**

**C 64/114A** Use of existing integral garage as additional living accommodation and erection of detached garage and car port, Nook House Farm, Stainforth

**Resolved: That this application should be approved.**

**b) To note any decisions received - none**

**c) To receive any planning correspondence and to consider response - none**

**9 Street Lights**

i) To receive any reports for action - *none*

**10 Highways**

i) To receive any reports for action – *none*

**11 Repairs and Maintenance**

i) To receive any reports for action - *none*

**12 To respond to correspondence received**

i) Yorkshire Dales Society – information and advice – circulated. Those present felt that membership could be of benefit to the Council and application would be included on the next agenda.

ii) YLCA – Craven Branch - advice of an Extraordinary Meeting to be held on Monday 13 March (7pm) at the Town Hall, Grassington to consider further proposals for amendments to the governance arrangements of YLCA as recommended by the Joint Executive Board (JEB) – circulated.

iii) Julian Smith MP – invite to attend meeting with the Farming Minister - Skipton Auction Mart, 16 March 2017 – 11.30am to 12.30pm - circulated

**13 To receive any items of information**

i) NYCC – Craven Area Committee – agenda for meeting of 8 March 2017 – notice displayed and circulated.

**14 To arrange the Annual Parish Meeting**

**Resolved: That this be held in Stainforth Village Hall on Tuesday, 11 April 2017, at 7.00pm.**

**15 To arrange the date of the next meeting of the parish council**

**Resolved: That the next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council would be held in Stainforth Village Hall on Tuesday, 11 April 2017, immediately after the Annual Parish Meeting but not before 7.15pm.**

**Cllr Vivienne Mills**

Cllr Mills announced that she had decided to resign from the parish council and handed her letter of resignation to Cllr Blackburn, Chairman. This was accepted with regret and Cllr Blackburn thanked Cllr Mills for her work on the council during the last three years and wished her well for the future.

The vacancy would be advertised in the usual manner.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.15pm.

**PFL**

**14.3.17**

