

# Bilsdale Midcable Parish Council

## Minutes of Meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023

### Chop Gate Village Hall

Present: Cllrs M Bowes (Chairman), B Heley, S Sanderson, K Verity

In attendance: Cllr H Moorhouse, Mrs P Johnson, Mr C Marsh, Mrs C McGee, Mrs S Reynolds, PCSO Mr J Smith, Clerk R Chapman

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr J Smith
2. **Declarations of interest:** Cllr Verity declared membership of 20's Plenty in relation to item 6
3. **Minutes of meeting 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023:** The draft minutes were agreed as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.
4. **Matters arising from Minutes:** No items that are not covered elsewhere in the Agenda
5. **Finance:**
  - a. Cllr Smith had earlier circulated the financial summary, set out in year-end format showing a continuing sound financial situation. The information was noted.
  - b. Cllr Bowes reported the ongoing problems holding up full control of the bank account and transfer to a non fee-paying alternative. **Resolved:** To continue to work towards bank account transfer. **Action** Cllr Bowes, Cllr Smith
  - c. Clerk reported that historic invoices are being searched out to support a claim for VAT refund. **Action:** Clerk
6. **Traffic:**
  - a. Clerk reported that the request to Highways for a 40mph buffer zone south of Chop Gate has been submitted and a response is awaited.
  - b. Only 2 responses had been received from residents regarding the 20mph speed limit in near Chop Gate school. It was agreed that further discussion with the Headteacher and local residents was required.
    - i. **Resolved:** To research installation of vehicle activated speed warning signs in Chop Gate. **Action: Clerk.**
    - ii. **Resolved:** To consult the Headteacher at Chop Gate School for his views the on the issue. **Action: Cllr Bowes.**
    - iii. **Resolved:** To include vehicle speeding on the agenda for the Parish Meeting
    - iv. The continuing problems of cars racing through Bilsdale was discussed again. PCSO Smith explained that the traffic police are based in Northallerton, and prioritise areas where there are high accident rates. There are opportunities for volunteers to work with the police to check vehicle speeds as occurs in Gt Ayton.

He agreed to report back to the senior officers at Stokesley about the information we discussed. **Action PCSO Smith**

7. **Police:** A report of incidents in August had been circulated. PCSO Smith commented that no details are available for the 1 case of antisocial behaviour.
8. **Planning:**
- a. The previous decisions of “no objection” were confirmed for applications NYM/2023/0392, NYM/2023/0413 and NYM/2023/0414
  - b. NYM/2023/0505: Stable adjacent to Thwaites House Raisdale. **Resolved** – no objection. It was noted that discussions with NYMNP about the recently erected stables are continuing.
  - c. NYM/2023/0547: Shepherds Hut, Wainstones Barn, Urra – **Resolved** – no objection though the location is not considered to be suitable for more than 1 shepherds hut
  - d. Proposed woodland creation scheme 202229, Raisdale - **Resolved** – No objection
9. **Fibre Broadband:** Cllr Bowes reported that Quickline had not yet provided the information agreed at the meeting in July. He confirmed that NYMNP was now aware of this project. Meeting also heard reports that various local residents had been in touch with Quickline and had received conflicting information about the progress of the project.
- a. **Resolved:** Cllr Bowes to contact Quickline again for an update
  - b. **Resolved:** To include this issue as an agenda item for the Parish Meeting
10. **Parish Clerk:** Current Clerk will leave the post by the end of 2023. **Resolved:** To publicise the vacancy through the web site, notices and Bilsdale Beacon **Action:** Councillors and Clerk
11. **Remembrance Day:**
- i. Following the decision by North Yorkshire Police to withdraw traffic control support from community Remembrance Day events, efforts have focused on assuring safety for the gathering around the War Memorial. The meeting thanked Cllr Moorhouse for her intervention to try to identify an appropriate solution. Cllr Bowes asked PCSO Smith to refer the Chop Gate event to his senior officers as a special case for support on the grounds that this is a very brief event, takes place on 11<sup>th</sup> November rather than on the nearest Sunday and the proximity of the War Memorial to the road and a blind bend. **Action:** PCSO Smith will relay the request to his senior officers.
  - ii. Community TM Ltd has quoted to assist with traffic management and training if the Police cannot attend. **Resolved** – to accept Community TM quote if the Police are unable to assist.
- b. Clerk reported that Rev. Dr Heading has agreed to lead the prayer at the Remembrance Day ceremony.

12. **Correspondence:**

- a. James Proctor, a website developer is using Chop Gate and real local Planning applications as part of his publicity material and has sought BMPC agreement. Whilst this information is already in the public domain, Members expressed unease about the information being used this way. **Resolved:** Mr Proctor be informed that that the Parish Council does not wish to be mentioned in this publicity material. **Action:** Clerk
- b. Home Group – 7 Stewart Court. A 2 bedroom bungalow has come available for rent in Chop Gate. The Home Group contacted the Parish Council to enquire whether there may be local applicants who are not registered with North Yorkshire council. Applicants must be age 55+ with local connections. **Resolved:** Clerk to liaise with Mrs McGee to publicise this opportunity.
- c. **Bilsdale Mast.** Cllr Bowes reported that Arqiva are continuing to install TV and radio equipment. Cellnex expect to have access to the site in early October to install mobile phone communications equipment with an estimated completion date of end March 2024. The Parish Council expressed serious concern about this further delay.
  - i. **Resolved:** To inform Arqiva and Cellnex of the Parish Council's serious concern about further delay in restoring mobile phone signals **Action:** Cllr Bowes
  - ii. **Resolved:** To include this as a topic for the Parish Meeting and consider inviting press etc to gain wider publicity.
  - iii. **Resolved:** To attend one of Rishi Sunak's surgeries to discuss the Council's concerns. **Action: Cllr Verity**

13. **Communications:** The Parish Council seeks to improve communication with local residents. An option could be periodic 'surgery' meetings. Mrs McGee offered to assist with emailing key issues when requested, using the Beacon mailing list. Facebook is also an option to consider.

- a. **Resolved:** To arrange a Parish Meeting in early October. Topics to include speeding traffic, mobile phone signal, broadband and communications. **Action: Cllrs and Clerk**

14. **Next meeting:** The next BMPC meeting will be on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023, 7:30pm in Chop Gate Village Hall