

## **Draft Minutes (350) of Kirkby Malhamdale Parish Council Meeting – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

**Attending:** C. Wildman, A. Bradley, S. Inman, M. Harrop, N. Hesletine, M. Throup

**Apologies:** P. Dewhurst, D. Howlett, Cllr S. Myers, P. Wherity,

**Observing:** L. Ashton, M. Ashton, M. Davies, A. Graham, C. Lugton, S. Lugton, I. Morris, Josh Morris, Joshua Morris, C. Rossier, M. Southworth, S. Stevenson, J. Thacker, P. Walker (All item 1 only)

F. Carr Jr, E. Cummings, P. Cummings, R. Caton, J. Holliday, K. Holmes, A. Jackson, Z. Jackson, S. McWhinney, L. Parker, M. Parker, S. Peel, D. Petrucci, J. Petrucci, J. Smart, M. Wilson, L. Wood (All for all items)

### **The Future of Malham Tarn Centre**

M. Davies of the NT provided an update on Malham Tarn Centre. Although the FSC gave notice to quit last year it was only on 1 Sep 23 that the NT took back responsibility for Malham Tarn Centre and have carried out work to allow staff to move into the North Wing (circa 16 Nov 23). As yet there are no definitive plans for the Centre, but the NT are planning a high-level internal meeting in Nov 23 with a view to conducting much broader stakeholder engagement soon after. For those who wish to engage with the NT are encouraged to use the email address: [yorkshiredales@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:yorkshiredales@nationaltrust.org.uk) to give their views. Some surprise was shown that M. Davies made it apparent that both the NT couldn't afford to staff and run the centre nor, due to HMRC legislation, provide wardens to oversee the security of the site until its future use is decided. It was noted that locally there is a high degree of concern that this lack of provision is having a significantly negative impact; it was felt that the Tarn Centre has languished over the last 12 months with fire alarms going off unattended for long periods and an increase in trespass and anti-social behaviour in the vicinity of the Tarn Centre.

The Chairman reminded the meeting of the obligations of the NT, under relevant Acts of Parliament. Furthermore, although M. Davies thought there were no covenants on the future use of Malham Tarn Centre, it is believed that any future use must be compatible with the local environment and safeguard the tarn. The NT were asked if they had been proactive in engaging with universities and other educational establishments and M. Davies confirmed that they hadn't but did allude to informal ties with Leeds University.

There was a lot of local concern about the number of empty properties and M. Davies did explain that there are now 4 holiday cottages and 10 residential lets on their local portfolio but not all of these are in the vicinity of the Tarn Centre. He did go on to explain that there is a winter maintenance programme for the Tarn Centre.

It was observed that there is an opportunity for the NT, given its size and financial standing, to be visionary with Malham Tarn Centre but the question was posed – are the NT up for it? Again it was intimated that they would but not as a sole venture only in collaboration.

### **Public Questions**

There were no public questions.

### **Apologies**

Apologies were received from P. Dewhurst, D. Howlett and P. Wherity.

### **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Minutes of the last meeting were proposed by S. Inman and seconded by M. Throup.

### **Matters Arising**

No matters arising that would not be covered by agenda items.

### **Changes in Councillors' Circumstances**

Nothing changes.

### **Update from County Councillor**

Apologies received from Cllr S. Myers.

### **Traffic Management**

There had been a meeting between P. Dewhurst and D. Cairns (Highways Area 5) with S. Stevenson in attendance to discuss parking issues at Gordale. D. Cairns agreed to look into having more double yellow lines but advised that the budget for new yellow lines is extremely tight. It was also suggested that the feasibility of a sign near Cawden Barn advising of no parking available at Gordale would be investigated. D. Cairns was asked to hasten the work to create a traffic-calming 'gateway' to Malham which he agreed to look into. The hazard of the narrow highway near Scosthrop

was brought to the attention of the Parish Council and, although this is outside of the Parish Area, it was agreed that this would be brought to Highways Are 5's attention.

### **Update from the YDNP**

A written update was received from the Area Ranger R. Ashton. Nearly 80 metres of flagging has been laid on the path to Malham Cove and areas of revetments repaired. The YDNP Visitor Centre in Malham has now moved onto its winter opening schedule. A rockfall had been reported in Janet's Foss woods and work had been carried out to consulate the rockface.

N. Hesletine provided an update on wider YDNPA matters. There had been an initiative between the YDNP and the Jo Cox Foundation to bring communities across Yorkshire together to appreciate what the National Park has to offer. There is an ongoing exhibition by local artists in Hawes. A 'green route' scheme is being developed to engage with 16-17 year olds and this has been facilitated by the YDNPA Millennium Trust and Citizen Service. Local cheese makers, Andrew and Sally Hatton, are having a cheese open day in Nidderdale. An app has been developed so that people can share sightings of wax cap fungi. The Nature Recovery Plan has now been approved. A collaboration between YDNPA and Skipton Medical Centre has been established to encourage people to encourage more people to access the green spaces. Finally, another app has been developed (Great Aire Outfall Safari) to enable people to monitor and report pollution on the Aire.

### **Update from the National Trust**

Covered under Item 1.

### **Police and Parking Enforcement Update**

Nothing to report.

### **Finance**

P. Wherity, Treasurer provided updated cash account information to report to KMPC November '23 meeting as follows:

#### **Financial summary reported to Nov 2023 PC meeting**

Balance on 18/09/23	<b>£46,178.39</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Tomatopay	£14.50
<b>Total income</b>	<b>£14.50</b>
<b>Payments</b>	
Bank charge	£7.40
Scottish Water	£604.59
M Parker petrol	£9.28
M Parker lengthsman Aug	£278.88
M Parker lengthsman Sept	£228.75
EDF energy	£25.00
P Wherity Hand dryer for ladies toilet	£190.84
Town End Farm Shop toilet rolls and soap	£46.74
Town End Farm Shop toilet rolls	£19.48
Town End Farm Shop toilet rolls	£23.88
Merritt and Fryers cleaning materials	£59.45
Nigel Spencer Plumbing	£131.96
Nigel Spencer Plumbing	£201.28
Timberworks doorframe deposit	£840.00
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>£2667.53</b>
<b>Total from acct</b>	<b>£2653.03</b>
<b>Net Available in bank</b>	<b>£43525.36</b>
<b>The Malham Initiative acct now has</b>	<b>£2662.95</b>
<b>The Brochure has</b>	<b>£1314.67</b>
<b>Tree fund has</b>	<b>£40.00</b>
<b>Total available to KMPC</b>	<b><u>£40862.41</u></b>

The Parish Precept for FY24/25 was discussed and it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Precept would remain at £0. The treasurer is requested to inform the County Council of our decision.

### **Planning**

The Holme Farm retrospective Planning Application (C/54/79E) would be discussed at full Planning Committee on 14 Nov 23. A Planning Application, and Listed Building Consent, at Town Head Malham (C/54/61K) has been received.

This is to convert a double garage into a home office, kitchenette and WC. To be consistent with previous discussions about converting garages an observation was made about what would be the provision to replace the parking spaces lost by this conversion. The Parish Clerk was asked to note this when consolidating councillors' comments in his response to the Planning Authority.

### **Lengthsman Update**

The proposed tree work in the Plantation and near Mick Briggs' property has not yet been carried out and concern was expressed about the delay to this work especially as we move into the winter months; it was agreed that this work would be hastened. Similarly there has been no update on work needed to cut back overhanging branches on Finkle Street and Cove Road. Although many of these are KMPC's responsibility a significant number are on private land and require the landowner to get the work carried out.

The deep clean in the toilets was successful and identified some areas where epoxy grouting and resin was necessary to complete the repairs; a quote for this work has been requested. We are waiting for a quote for roof insulation and it was suggested that MEG could be approached to see if grants could be obtained from the Shared Prosperity Fund.

A request for the lengthsman to take on the responsibility for mowing the grass outside the Parish hall in Kirkby Malham had been received. This is not possible as it the mover cannot be easily transported to Kirkby Malham but it would be possible to trim the area. It was agreed that the Parish Hall Committee would address this issue and gain a consensus on both land ownership and the need to the lengthsman to keep the grass trimmed. It was also noted that there are a number of sycamore saplings taking hold on Green gate in Kirkby Malham and it was agreed that Highways Area 5 would be approached to remove these.

A request had been received from Kirkby Malham Parish Hall for KMPC to replace the Christmas lights for the tree that the PC kindly provide annually. It was unanimously agreed that KMPC would fund new lights.

### **MEG Update**

Nothing significant to report.

### **Litter & Dog Poo**

Nothing significant to report.

### **Local Housing Needs - Update**

It was noted that there has been an increase in people moving into local homes. School House in Kirkby Malham has been advertised as a long term let and it is understood tenants will be moving in imminently. Significant work and repairs have been, and continue to be, carried out in the Vicarage East Wing property. It is hoped this will be available for letting before the turn of the year.

### **Correspondence**

Covered under other items.

### **AOB**

It was noted that Hanlith Hall is now being advertised on the internet as a wedding venue with a very broad portfolio. No Planning Applications have been seen either for work being carried out or for change of use. It was agreed that KMPC would contact the Planning Authority and query what is happening with the change of use of Hanlith Hall.

It was brought to the attention that there had been vandalism at Gordale resulting in wooden seating being set alight.

The issue of land boundaries and ownership at Gordale continues with KMPC and M Wilson being broadly in agreement as to where the boundaries lie. Without definitive evidence to resolve minor discrepancies it was agreed to close this matter.

As reported last month with the NT ceasing to support the 'Carols at the Cove' this would now become a local initiative. The event would be on 2 Dec 23 between 1400-1530 with Skipton Brass band performing, refreshments being provided by Gordale Refreshments and The Lister Arms. All necessary permissions and insurance are now in place but there is still a need for some further publicity and people to volunteer to help out on the day.

### **Next Meeting**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 @ 7.30pm in Malham Village Hall.