

Minutes to be ratified at next Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting of Rokeby, Brignall and Egglestone Abbey Parish Council held at 19.00 on 4th December, 2023 in the Blue room of the Morrith Hotel, Greta Bridge.

Present: Cllrs. S. Harrison (Chair), R. Errington A. Watson., N. Hashagen, C. Thornton, M. Alderson, G. Sanderson, P. Moss.

In attendance: D. Peat (Clerk), County Cllr. G. Richardson, Mr. S. Hare.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllrs P. Gilbertson and F. Errington
2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 10th October 2023 were signed as correct by the Chairman after proposing by Cllr. Thornton and seconding by Cllr. R. Errington, the Clerk agreeing to insert the word 'October' into the third line of the minutes in the signed copy and that loaded to the website.

3. Matters arising.

- As agreed the Clerk invited County Councillors George Richardson and James Rowlandson to the PC meeting. Cllr. Richardson kindly attended the meeting and Cllr. Rowlandson sent his apologies. Cllr. Thornton shared a summary of the parish's issues with the bus stop in Greta Bridge and Cllr. Richardson agreed to take the matter forward if the Clerk emailed him the full details.
- The Clerk reported the unsatisfactory state of the resurfacing repairs to the Brignall Road to DCC. No response at time of meeting.
- The Clerk reported the overhanging trees at the top of Norbeck Bank. DCC responded to say they were looking in to who was responsible for cutting the trees back and would pursue appropriately having double checked the trees were below the acceptable clearance required for high sided vehicles.

4. Election of New Councillors

As no parishioners had come forward in the allotted time frame and Mr Simon Hare in attendance at the meeting put himself forward as willing to act as Parish Councillor for Brigall, Cllr. Thornton duly proposed his election, seconded by Cllr. R. Errington and agreed unanimously. Mr Hare was thus duly elected.

A second parishioner was believed to be interested in filling the further vacancy on the Parish Council but in their absence, it was not possible to elect them. Cllr. Sanderson agreed to speak to them and encourage them to attend the next PC meeting.

a. Account Update

Community Account	£1451.39
Business Premium Account	£2308.49

The interest rate on the business premium account is 1.5% but the Clerk was unable to find a suitable better rated account despite extensive research earlier in the year.

b. Precept

After some discussion it was agreed to keep the precept the same as for the previous year. Proposed by Cllr. Harrison, seconded by Cllr. Thornton. There is sufficient funds in the account to cover all anticipated expenses. In response to Cllr. Richardson's questions the Clerk explained that the PC had funded food and other expenses for a community event for the King's Coronation last year.

5. Any Other Business

- Concern was expressed that the speed limit in Barnard Castle outside Barnard Castle School is 40mph rather than 30mph and that parents dropping off / picking up their children are adding to the danger that this is causing. Cllr. Richardson explained that the current speed limit was the 'best solution' that could be found at the time but as a school Governor agreed to raise the issue of parents dropping off / picking up their children with the school.
- Mention was made of the missing dead end sign preventing traffic attempting to drive up the bridleway under the A66 from Greta Bridge to Thorpe Farm. Cllr. Richardson agreed to follow this up on behalf of the PC and asked the Clerk to add this to her email to him.
- Concern was raised about speeding traffic on the A66 particularly given a further accident earlier in the day between the Rokeby and Cross Lanes junctions but it was agreed that there was little that could be done given previous responses from Highways.
- It was noted that the A66 Project has been deferred by a further 6 months and was under new direction.
- The Chair agreed to forward an email regarding changes in boundaries of Council Wards which might potentially impact on Parish Councils from 2025.

The meeting closed at 19.45

6. Date of the next meeting

Monday 4th March at 19.00 in the Garden Room of the Morritt Arms, Greta Bridge