



PATELEY BRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

The Council Chamber, King Street

Pateley Bridge, HG3 5LE

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5TH MARCH 2024 AT 7.15PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER.

Present:

Cllr. C. Thompson (Chair) Cllr. M. Holt (Vice Chair) Cllr. D. Brackley Cllr. C. Critchley Cllr. J. Leggett Cllr. S. Lumley	Cllr. C. Skaife Cllr. N. Thompson Cllr. J. Ward Cllr. J. Wardman Cllr. J. Wright	<u>In Attendance:</u> Clerk: Miss Suzanne Smith Mr Chris Hawkesworth 5 members of the public (MOPs) NYC Cllr. A. Murday 1 member of the press
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2324/234 Presentation by representatives of Pateley Bridge Youth Council describing their work and objectives.

Two members of the Youth Council did a presentation about a project they are working on looking at accessibility. They had conducted a survey with businesses in Pateley Bridge. The results highlighted some issues with accessibility for people with disabilities. The second part of their project would include a follow-up survey and suggestions on how accessibility could be improved.

All Members were very impressed at the quality of the research, some acknowledging that they themselves were not aware of some of the awareness aids that people with disabilities use, such as the sunflower lanyard. It was agreed that the Clerk could include some details in the next PBTC newsletter.

PBTC members said a big thank you to the youth council members and asked that future results be shared with the council, so that it can help to effect some changes in the community.

The 2 members of the youth council left the meeting at 8.28pm.

2324/235 Apologies for absence - none

2324/236 To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interest and consider any requests for dispensations.

The Chair Cllr. C. Thompson – item 2324/253.b - pecuniary

2324/237 Parishioners' Representations

a) Representations from any parishioners present.

MOP1 raised item 2324/241.1 – ZC23/03583/FUL – planning application at 1 Harwell View, Glasshouses

An NYC Area 6 engineer MOP1 had informed MOP1 that he would come and do a site visit to assess the potential impact of the proposed development on traffic and parking.

It was agreed that MOP1 would liaise with the Clerk and Cllr. Andrew Murday to firm up a date for this, which would need to take place at the end of the Glasshouses school day so the engineer could appreciate the full impact.

Cllr. Murday confirmed that as there was still no date set for the Planning Committee meeting.

MOP1 left the meeting at 7.35pm.

b) Written representations from parishioners

i. Email from parishioner regarding the lack of a no smoking sign in the bus shelter.

Resolved: that the caretaker is asked to paint a 'no smoking' sign on to the wall of the bus shelter using a stencil. Such a sign could not be removed by vandals.

ii. Email from visitor to Pateley Bridge regarding the poor state of the path leading to the public toilets on Southlands car park.

The Clerk confirmed that this had already been reported to NYC.

The Chair commented that this was testament to a much wider general neglect of the roads and footpaths in Pateley. Cllr. N. Thompson said he had been approached by a parishioner on this matter.

Cllr. Murday admitted that he feels shame at the level of services provided by NYC nowadays. He always makes sure that he reports everything, and he has spoken at a full NYC meeting about this. There have been severe cuts to NYC funding and, although the officers are willing, their hands are tied. Some councils can't even afford do statutory duties; NYC is not there yet. However, things will continue to be difficult until funding from central government increases.

A discussion about devolution ensued, with concern that many duties would ultimately fall to parish and town councils by default as the county council would no longer carry them out. Cllr. Murday confirmed that NYC would not pay for any services town and parish councils officially take over; they would have to fund them themselves. NYC's policy is to keep hold of any services which do make money, so it is only the loss-making ones or ones that break even that are available for devolution.

iii. Emails received from parishioner relating to Harewell View development ZC23/03583/FUL

This had been covered above.

iv. Emails from Mr Chris Hawkesworth about various matters including streetlights, poorly maintained gullies and inadequate gritting

It was agreed this would be covered under 2324/240 County Council and Highway Matters.

v. Email from parishioner regarding the condition of the riverside footpath between Glasshouses and Pateley Bridge.

Members agreed that the state of the path was very poor and that had been exacerbated by the recent very wet weather.

Cllr. Ward speculated that the walled section near the Pateley Bridge end was probably particularly bad because the Victorian weep holes in the hole are blocked. Similarly, the weep holes in the wall near the Pillars Pass Sculpture have likely been buried by rising surface levels over the years.

It was agreed that drainage issues are making the path not fit for purpose, with some parts, such as just below Pillars Past, remaining boggy even in the Summer.

Resolved: that PBTC asks NYC to investigate the drainage on the path, paying particular attention to the most problematic areas, which the Clerk will highlight.

2324/238 Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 6th February 2024 are approved and signed as a correct record. (Cllrs. Holt and Lumley abstained as they had not been at the meeting.)

2324/239 Matters Arising

Resolved: that the Clerk's report is received and noted.

The Chair noted that he is still documenting all the potholes, which was a big task. He would appreciate any help offered.

The Clerk said NYC street cleaning team would like to arrange a meeting with Members. The Chair, Cllr. Holt and Cllr. Lumley agreed to attend.

2324/240 County Council and Highway Matters

a) Report from the County Councillor.

Cllr. Murday's report was received and noted.

Long Course Weekend 2024

He noted that the Long Course Weekend would now be centred on Masham, though the running and cycle courses would follow the same routes. The Agricultural Society had changed its mind about hosting the event at the showground over fears that it would leave the ground in too poor a condition for the Pateley Show in September.

Nidderdale Greenway

Although some landowners were still resistant, there is much public demand for the extension of the Nidderdale Greenway. More Government funding and professional negotiators are now needed to move the project forward.

The section between Clint and Birstwith is particularly important for people living in and around Hampsthwaite. The existing section between Harrogate and Clint had proved very beneficial to residents and businesses.

b) Update on the Glasshouses Mill S106 situation.

The Chair, Cllr. Holt, Cllr. Lumley and NYC Cllr. Murday had recently been invited to and attended a meeting with representatives of the developer. They had been informed that the revised planning application had not yet been submitted.

Cllr. Lumley explained that the application would put right some changes to phase 1, which had been necessary due to conservation matters. Changes to phase 2 would include a different orientation of the new build and put that building stage ahead of the historic buildings that are left to be developed. The PBTC councillors had expressed concern to the developer about a suggested 18 month further wait for the S106 money. The developers would prefer this so that they could profit from the development before they have to pay it.

PBTC councillors were adamant: the project, while welcome, now needs to be finished and compensation for the disruption provided to the village. The school remains the key beneficiary and it needs that money now.

Concern was raised at the meeting with the developer when the latter suggested that the S106 money may go into a big central pot at NYC, rather than to the previously determined beneficiaries.

NYC Cllr. Murday felt this was a misunderstanding and agreed to seek assurance from NYC that the S106 money continues to be and will remain specifically allocated as before. Cllr. Holt also suggested that an initial instalment (of say £50-60,000) paid immediately to the school may be a positive gesture that would be appreciated by the community.

At the invitation of the Chair, Chris Hawkesworth, a Director of Glasshouses123 Limited, spoke to the meeting.

He said that the developers always knew that phase 1 would not make a profit, but that phase 2 would. He confirmed that nothing would make him happier to see an instalment of the S106 money go to the school.

Members asked Mr Hawkesworth about the proposed shop at the site. The community had been very disappointed that the prospective tenants had recently dropped out. Mr Hawkesworth confirmed that the plan was still to have a shop at the Mill, with the developer continuing to offer free rent for 2 years and £60,000 funding towards it. He said he could say no more as it was all tied up with the phase 2 planning application.

c) Update on the Long Course Weekend – September 2024.

This had been covered above.

d) Update on NYC finances following the budget meeting on 21st February.

This had been covered previously.

e) Matters relating to previous and new Highway issues:

i. Update on the trees alongside the riverside footpath between Pateley Bridge and Glasshouses.

At the invite of the chair, Mr Hawkesworth spoke to this as the landowner. He said that there were plans to remove 2 trees and to trim back 2 more. This operation would be difficult as the roots of the trees run next to and around various utilities' infrastructure.

He expressed his frustration that PBTC had informed him of the fallen tree the first time, when his company had been very quick to remove them on both occasions. It was agreed that the matter would now be put to bed.

The Chair had agreed at this point to consider the other matters raised by Mr Hawkesworth in his written communication with PBTC.

As Mr Hawkesworth had raised concerns about gullies, the Chair confirmed to him that PBTC was doing its best to report any blocked gullies to NYC. Mr Hawkesworth believes that blocked gullies on higher ground lead to water cascading down the hills putting low lying properties in both Pateley and Glasshouses at risk of flooding.

Despite PBTC reporting streetlights that are out, Mr Hawkesworth said that he had seen someone fall over on the High Street because the streetlight that lights the steps to the car park was not working. NYC Cllr. Murday suggested that he let him know of any particularly bad gullies and streetlights that continue not to be repaired, He will see if can get NYC to take some action.

Mr Hawkesworth feels that the gritting and ploughing of roads in severe weather is not as regular or as effective as it used to be.

ii. Areas needing maintenance including the narrow footpath on the main stone bridge over the Nidd, the Ripon Road and the footpath behind the Wildings Café.

The general condition of footpaths was awaiting a response from NYC.

iii. Saplings/trees and ivy growing in the masonry and walls on either side of the Nidd bridge.

NYC is aware of this but has not responded yet.

iv. Part of the footpath in front of Glasshouses Mill has been damaged by the problems with the culvert.

Both the footpath and the culvert still need repairing and the developer is actively working on this. Speaking at the invite of the Chair, Mr Hawkesworth claimed that is an 'insurance wrangle'. He believes that the initial problem was caused by leylandii clippings and children's clothes travelling downstream from the playground. He asked if PBTC would consider installing a grill across the stream. The Chair said he thought that there is one already but confirmed that this will go on a future agenda for consideration.

v. Unusable accessible footpath behind Glasshouses Mill.

This has been reported to NYC, but no response has been received yet. Cllr. Holt thinks that the developer asked for the path to be moved so that it goes through the centre of the mill yard, with the option to turn left to Harewell Close or right to the river.

vi. Grit bins are no longer being replenished or supplied by NYC in adequate numbers to meet demand.

Some locations no longer meet NYC's criteria for grit bins e.g. Springfield Way. Cllr. Murday said that he had referred a request for one at the top of Panorama Way.

Members did not feel that it was within PBTC's remit to supply grit bins or to fill existing ones. If it did it for one road, it would be obliged to do so for all areas and the cost to taxpayers would be prohibitive.

vii. 'The Flaggings' footpath in Glasshouses - request for handrail.

Members agreed that the response from NYC had not addressed the original request. They noted that regular cleaning, like the caretaker had just done, should keep the footpath useable. The site is listed and there was a question mark as to whether the angle of the wall on the field side would in any case make it very difficult to install an accessible handrail. It was agreed to clean the path twice a year, or as required.

viii. A deer carcass needs removing from Ripon Road.

This had been removed, though an unpleasant residue had been left.

ix. Dangerous and costly drain covers on Ripon Road.

The Chair said he would include these in the report he is preparing for NYC.

x. Sunken gullies made of steel and wood near Panorama Walk.

The Chair said he would include these in the report he is preparing for NYC.

f) Pateley Bridge Parking Permit Scheme 2024-2025

i. To agree dates and volunteers for sales.

Members agreed the dates (23/24th March) and shared their availability with the Clerk.

ii. To consider contributing to Nidd Plus to help with the considerable staff time that the scheme takes up.

As PBTC does not receive anything for running the scheme, it was not felt appropriate to contribute to Nidd Plus. Nidd Plus exists to serve the community and will receive the room hire fee.

2324/241 Planning Matters

a) Applications to North Yorkshire Council

The following planning matters had been considered earlier in the meeting. **NOTE PBTC had not been consulted on these at this point in time and so did not determine any comments.**

	Reference No.	Address	Description
1	ZC23/03583/FUL	1 Harewell View Harewell Close Glasshouses HG3 5QJ	Sub-division of existing cottage into 2 dwellings and erection of single storey extensions to rear. Erection of 2 no dwellings with outbuildings to rear (revised scheme with alterations to parking and position on dwellings). Cllr. Murday has referred this to the Planning Committee.
2	Not yet formally submitted. PBTC had had sight of the pre-planning consultation documents.	Glasshouses Mill Harrogate HG3 5AG	Proposal is to change the approved plans list (condition 2) in order to regularise the 'as built' development for Phase 1 containing the mill, the pugmill and the mechanics' shop. A series of changes are also proposed to the second phase of the development whereby the warehouse will be converted for 6 flats, the stables will be converted for 2 cottages, the barn will be converted for 4 office units (as per the approved drawings) and the proposed new build element has been re-designed to provide 4 townhouses and 6 flats in a 2.5 storey terrace opposite the pugmill / mechanics store.

b) Decisions by North Yorkshire Council

The following planning decisions were noted:

Planning Ref	Proposal	Address	NYC Decision
ZC23/04398/FUL	Erection of a steel portal frame building to roof over a cattle yard	Cliff Grange Farm Fellbeck HG3 5EW	GRANT PLANNING PERMISSION SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS.
ZC23/04532/PNA	Agricultural storage/Lambing shed	Kiln House Wilsill HG3 5EE	GRANT APPROVAL
ZC23/04529/TPO	Felling of 1no. Ash Tree within Tree Preservation Order 01/2006	High Green Farm Wath Road Pateley Bridge HG3 5PJ	GRANT CONSENT SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS
ZC24/00019/TPO	Lateral reduction of eastern canopy (by 3m, retaining 11m final radial canopy spread) and Lateral reduction of northern canopy (by 3m retaining 10m of final radial canopy spread) of 1no. Sycamore Tree (T1) within A42 of Tree Preservation Order 01/1970	8 Panorama Close Pateley Bridge HG3 5NY	GRANT CONSENT SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS
ZC24/00124/FUL	Demolition of existing conservatory; Erection of garden room with balcony to first floor	Ashville 22 Panorama Close Pateley Bridge HG3 5NY	GRANT CONSENT SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS

a) Enforcement matters: none

b) Appeals: The following appeals were noted:

- i. **24/00007/HOUSER ZC23/03799/FUL** - The Reddings, Lupton Close, Glasshouses HG3 5QX - Proposed rear dormer - An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against the Council's refusal of planning permission for householder development.
- ii. **24/00014/HOUSER ZC23/03889/FUL** - Upper Dale View, Pateley Bridge - First floor extension and alterations - An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against the Council's refusal of planning permission for householder development.

The member of the press left at 21:18.

c) Glasshouses Mill S106 – See under County & Highway Matters.

2324/242 Glasshouses Play Area

a) To receive a verbal report on the playground

Cllr. Critchley said there were no new matters to report and no action points at this time. Cllr. Holt volunteered to inspect the playground in March.

b) Blocked drain near the play area

The documentation definitively showed that the boundary of the land owned by PBTC is the fence and not the river. Therefore, the blocked drain is not PBTC's responsibility.

Two members of the public left at 9.20pm.

2324/243 Millennium Green

a) Update about the potential siting of a memorial bench.

The clerk reported that the family that had been interested no longer was. They may still be interested in the Nidd Walk site, but that was still being held free for another member of the public, in case her first choice of a place on the riverside path proved not to be feasible.

It was agreed that a deadline of the May meeting be given to the lady with first refusal for a decision. Cllr. Leggett expressed his opinion that the council should not be taking on more benches in the town centre. Members noted that this particular bench on Nidd Walk had already been committed to (and would replace a dilapidated bench removed by NYC). However, it was agreed that the general principle of how many benches PBTC should add to its inventory in the future would be considered as part of the bench policy review.

b) Further information about a potential Pump Track.

The Clerk informed members that the working group had been approaching pump track suppliers and two potential funders to move this project forward.

c) Brambles on the access path from Mill Lane to the Millennium Green.

Cllr. C. Skaife said that the owner of the land from where the brambles were originating had removed the brambles in the past and should be asked to do so again.

Resolved: that the clerk writes to the landowner and asks for his help with this matter.

d) Other matters relating to the Millennium Green – none.

2324/244 Minutes/ Reports from Committees

None

2324/245 Council Business

a) Caretaker Tasks for March.

Cllr. Critchley proposed that the council should consider expanding the role of the caretaker as general maintenance of footpaths is just not getting done. While some councillors disagreed with him, it was confirmed that this would be considered as an agenda item at the next meeting.

It was resolved that, in addition to the standard duties, the caretaker would be asked to stencil a no smoking sign on the bus shelter and to remove the bench at the bottom of Panorama Walk in its entirety as the wood was rotten.

b) Update about the possible siting of a new defibrillator in Wilsill – none.

- c) **Update about the bus service requests** – not received.
- d) **Feedback about the missing eyebolt, used to suspend the Christmas lighting banner across the High Street** – not received.
- e) **Fox's Head Well Easter display**
The Chair said that the Methodist Church had agreed to store the display in a different place after Easter.
Cllr. N Thompson volunteered to check the electricity supply was working and remove the flowers currently in the well.
Resolved: that if the power supply is off, PBTC will pay the re-connection fee of approximately £60.
- f) **Review of the Town Council Seat Inventory and Public Seat policy.**
Time being short, this item was deferred.
- g) **Inspection of the council's benches**
Time being short, this item was deferred.
- h) **Consultation plans for extension to the cemetery**
Having attended the public meeting about this, Cllrs. Brackley and Skaife outlined the plans. It was agreed that members would respond to the consultation as individuals and details of the consultation would be shared more widely on the website and social media.
- i) **Update from the Commuted Sums working group** – none.
- j) **Update about the possible siting of a memorial bench on Nidd Walk.**
This had already been covered.

2324/246 Correspondence

Members considered the following:

- a) **Consultation on proposed changes to the Council's Home to School Travel Policy** – noted.
- b) **The Birch Tree, Lupton Bank**
Members noted an email from representatives of the owners who wish to ascertain whether there are any local community groups who may be interested in taking on the building.
The Chair observed that the building had been stripped of all its public house fittings.
It was agreed that the Chair would approach the person who was previously interested in taking on the pub. If that person still was, then PBTC would approach the owner to ask for the reinstatement of the fittings as a condition of a potential purchase.
Cllr. Ward expressed doubt about the viability of a pub in that location, whilst appreciating its importance to the community.
- c) **Martyn's Law Standard Tier Consultation –standard tier premises requirements proposed in Home Office consultation** – noted.
- d) **NALC Briefing on Council email addresses** – noted.
- e) **Thank you from the allotment society**
Members noted an email received expressing appreciation to PBTC for keeping the rent the same this year.
- f) **Yorkshire In Bloom 2024**
In honour of 60-year anniversary of National Britain in Bloom campaign, there was a new simple accreditation scheme for local communities. It was agreed that the information should be forwarded to the school and shared on social media, in case there are any interested parties.
- g) **Nest Fencing for Curlew Conservation** – AONB- Free practical on-farm training – noted.

2324/247 Finance

- a) **Accounts for Payment**

Resolved: that the following payments are approved:

	Payee	Description	Net Amount (ex. VAT)	Actual Payment (inc. VAT)
1	Clerk	March 2024 Salary	£1, 241.45	N/A
2	HM Revenue & Customs	March 2024 Employer and employee tax and NI Contributions.	£175.97	N/A
3	NEST	March 2024 employer and employee pension contributions	£95.12	N/A
4	Clerk Expenses	Various phone, mileage, stationery etc	£12.87	£15.44
5	NYC	Trade waste	£37.50	£37.50
6	Caretaker	Work completed February 2024	£120.00	£144.00
7	Vision ICT	SSL Certificate Renewal -website	£50.00	£60.00
8	J. Todd & Son	Brick and patio cleaner	£6.16	£7.39

b) **Receipts**

The following receipts were noted:

16 February 2024 – allotment rental - £323.20

29 February 2024 – garage rental - £35

c) **Direct Debit payments**

The following direct debits were noted:

13 March 2024 – Vodafone - £8

2324/248 Mayor's Report

The Chair informed Members that he had attended the Candlemas Civic Service at Ripon Cathedral. He and the Mayoress had also been to the Yorkshire Awards Ceremony hosted by The Yorkshire Society (at his own expense), where they had met Timothy West, winner of the Lifetime Achievement award. They were delighted that so many people they spoke to had such a high regard for Pateley Bridge and the surrounding area.

2324/249 Exchange of Information/Items for Future Meetings

Cllr. Ward asked how he could formally go about seeking permission for a fence around the bowling green in the Recreation Ground. He was advised that this would be referred to the JLC Committee.

2324/250 Parishioners' Representations – none.

2324/251 To resolve that members of the press and public be excluded from items 2324/252 and 2324/253 under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960 s1(2)) during consideration of items of a confidential nature (commercially sensitive, personal details).

This was not considered necessary.

2324/252 Sale of Cemetery Field

Time being short, this item was deferred.

2324/253 Review of Mayoral Finances

Time being short, the following items were deferred:

- To determine which mayoral expenses should be paid by the Mayor and which by the Council.
- To consider whether the annual mayoral stipend is sufficient.

2324/254 Dates of Next Meetings

To confirm the following meeting dates:

- PBTC Full Council meeting** – Tue 2nd April 2024 at 7.15pm
- Mayor's Fund Committee Meeting** – this will be agreed by email.

The meeting ended at 10:12pm