



LEYBURN TOWN COUNCIL

Market and Burial Authority

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Leyburn held virtually on Tuesday 4th May 2021 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Five Town Cllrs District Cllr Sedgewick Clerk: Mrs. C Smith
Deputy Clerk: Ms. R Hurst Mr. David Poole
Ms. Jennifer Scott One Member of the public

- 1. Cllr Sanderson read the notice convening the meeting then introduced and welcomed everyone.**
- 2. Annual Reports**
 - a. The Chairman of the Town Council Cllr Sanderson read a report on the past year's working.**

The last 12 months have been like no other and very trying for everyone. The Covid pandemic has given the Council an opportunity to operate in a different way, which is why we are holding the meeting via zoom this evening. On the whole these remote meetings seem to have worked very well for everyone.

The Council has provided Covid support over the last year to Market Traders, Pubs and cafes with the suspension of rental charges. In addition to that the Council has permitted additional outside seating in the town squares to assist businesses coming out of lockdown. The Clerks have assisted the community support hub at Leyburn Arts Centre through organising the delivery of prescriptions.

In 2020 the Council appointed a new contractor for all the grounds maintenance at Thornborough Hall & the Cemetery, all these areas are now looking very tidy. The Council reviewed the Cemetery management and subscribed to Scribe Cemetery software to ensure we are compliant with all current legislation. Thanks were given to the Deputy Clerk who has worked very hard to get all the Council burial records in digital format.



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The Council has purchased some additional Christmas lights for the streetlight columns in addition to refurbishing some of the original lighting. The Flood group is still ongoing; the Council has received grant money from the Two Ridings Community Foundation to purchase a flood resilience kit, NYCC are carrying out a further report on community resilience measures which should be finalised and published over the next few months.

The Parking group has made some progress with the options for the town; they have had meetings with NYCC highways and are now obtaining information and costings from other councils.

The Leisure & Recreation group has worked very hard on plans for a major refurbishment of the Shawl Playing Field play area. The Chairman thanked the group for all the work and time taken to bring together the plans as well as moving the project forward for the Council. Work to install the new equipment is due to commence before summer.

Clerks and Cllrs have undertaken training over the last year which has been beneficial to do it remotely from a time perspective.

The Council has held a number of Extra Ordinary Meetings to discuss the plans for the formation of a Unitary Authority and a number of major planning applications for housing on Moor Road, Hotel & retail outlet on Harmby Road and builder's merchant.

Cllr Sanderson gave thanks to both Clerks for their hard work and dedication to the Council. The work of the Council over the last year has proceeded regardless of the challenges Covid 19 has posed and this is a testament to the two Clerks who have worked very hard to ensure the continuation of the Council through such a trying time.



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b. Richmondshire District & North Yorkshire County Cllr Sedgwick gave a report.

As district Cllr alongside Cllr Amsden we have been dealing with the issue of fly tipping and litter. This issue had been brought on following a disruption in the usual refuse collections due to snow and ice.

Planning and housing planning issues over the last year have included looking into the houses on Harmby Rd. 5 Harmby Rd have now been given a deadline to smarten up the appearance of the house. Meetings have been held with the owner of the unoccupied houses next to the garage; the District Council will charge an increased tax rate for unoccupied properties, however it is up to the owner what they do with the houses.

Cllr Sedgewick praised the work of David and the volunteers at the Leyburn CSO Hub- NYCC commend the work carried out over the last year and have said that Leyburn is an exemplary hub.

NYCC Locality budget- 2019-20 update- Funding from the budget has been granted to:

- Kirkwood Hall, Leyburn - outdoor seating
- Leyburn United Football Club- To assist with planning application for a possible pitch at the top of Leyburn on land donated by Metcalfe Farm.
- Jennifer Scott- towards the formation of a Leyburn parent & toddler group.
- Middleham- post Covid fun day
- Bellerby Parish- community gardens
- Bellerby Memorial Hall- Roof
- Newton le Willows- road markings
- Sunday bus service 856- to support and keep the service going.
- Patrick Brompton- bus shelter roof repairs.
- Finghall PC- A plaque for the Murder stone at Akebar
- West Witton Village Hall- Floor covering



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- Constable Burton Village Hall- wall cladding

If any local groups would like to apply for funding please contact Cllr Sedgewick directly.

c. Update from MR. David Poole MBE, Finance Director Leyburn Arts & Community Centre & lead of the Leyburn Rural District Community Support Hub (CSO).

2020 has been an extremely challenging year, in January the centre was looking to the future- setting up the youth café, science projects and more lunch clubs etc. Then suddenly in February they were approached by NYCC about setting up Covid hub to support people. The centre was re purposed and the CSO hub was up and running by 1st April. This Leyburn & District CSO worked with all local parish council's to support the large rural area. The main issues were lack of supply of food and medication to the people shielding. The volunteers were excellent and local shops worked together to provide assistance to supply and deliver food. The hub volunteers became skilled to signpost people to the support needed. David gave thanks to Lucy Moss Blundell, volunteers, Town Clerks and Richard & Debbie Sanderson for their hard work delivering prescriptions in Leyburn. To date volunteers signposted and dealt with approaching 1000 requests for help and have delivered over 110 Prescriptions in Leyburn. This support was initially only to last 6 months but has been extended to September.

Leyburn Arts Centre is now opening up again, groups are currently meeting outside, but all groups should resume by July. A community befriending program is being formed to keep people in touch and provide information about what is happening in the community, encouraging people to get out and about again after lockdown.



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3. Update from Jennifer Scott, Co-op Pioneer.

The role of Co-Op pioneer is a new role for the Leyburn store and priority is to support community projects, fair access to food, improving community wellbeing and education to under 25's.

A big part of role is supporting the local community. This can be through advertising and promotion on the weekly slot on Dales Radio in addition to the Co-op platform cooperate to promote community activity and projects in one directory. The Co-Op's monthly budget is available to help with local groups and projects. Applications for next year's funding live until the end of the month.

Projects Jennifer has supported so far:

- The group hug app for support to local people
- Spennithorne & Harmby Cricket Club
- Leyburn Arts & Community Centre
- Local Scouts & guides
- Activities such as the organization of a Christmas nativity trail in Leyburn and a fair trade virtual bake off.
- The setting up of Food bank provisions in Leyburn after locals highlighted the need. The good Neighbours Scheme in Leyburn will take this forward with assistance from Hawes food pantry.

The Chairman thanked Jennifer and the co-op, for supporting the local community and providing a local contact to deal with directly.

4. Cllr Alderson gave an update from the Town Plan Leisure & Recreation

Group- Plans for the new equipment at the Shawl Play Park has been approved by the full Council and work will commence before summer. LTC are in the process of hopefully taking over the possession of the play areas on Wensleydale Avenue and Dale Grove and it is our plan to subsequently refurbish them.



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5. **Question and Answer Session with District and Town Councilors-** None.
6. **Items raised by residents received by the Clerk**
 - a) **Speed of traffic along Harmby Road-** it was resolved to report this to the police and request speed monitoring.
 - b) **Pedestrian safety at the crossing on Harmby Road, near Cliff Drive-**

This was discussed and noted that the installation of a new crossing with better lighting has made this more visible. The planned installation of a mini roundabout at the Brentwood junction in the future will also have a natural traffic calming effect on this stretch, which might alleviate the problem.
7. **Final comments from Chair and Meeting Close-** the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and speaking.