

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF SNAITH AND COWICK TOWN COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY 23rd MARCH 2015 AT 26 MARKET PLACE SNAITH

PRESENT

Cllr. J. Staveley – Churton, Cllr. S. Jones, Cllr. J. Barrett, Cllr. G. Hulme, Cllr. R. Lyons, Cllr. J. Hollas, Cllr. R. McArthur,

Also present East Riding Councillor C. Fox 2 members of the General Public

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Copies of the minutes of the parish meeting held on Monday 25th March 2013 were handed to the public and circulated to council members prior to the meeting. The Minutes were then confirmed and signed by the Town Mayor. Proposed Cllr. G. Laughton seconded Cllr. G. Hulme and agreed.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. N. Megson, Mr Heery (Chairman of Neighbourhood Watch Team)

TOWN MAYORS REPORT

Town Mayors Annual Report

APRIL

Appointment of New Staff

A much appreciated new member of staff Nicola Russell joined the council team at the beginning of April to support in assisting residents with daily queries and supporting the Town Clerk in administration duties.

Litter Pick Scheme

The Town Council agreed to store all Litter picking equipment at the Town Council Office and advertise a litter pick scheme where residents can borrow equipment to carry out voluntary litter picks.

Snaith Ings Repairs

A meeting was arranged by the Town Council for the Environment Agency to have a drop in session on 29th April for residents to pop in and discussed the proposed future works on Snaith Ings

MAY

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting took place and I was extremely happy to be voted in as Mayor for a second year.

Footpath 8

After receiving a number of concerns from residents regarding the state of Footpath 8, a tender process took place and a local builder was awarded the contract to resurface the footpath. This was done in May and the council are very happy with the finished result.

JUNE

CCTV

After months of consideration and research the Town Council took the decision to terminate its CCTV tender with Goole Town Council and look for more suitable provisions.

Resignation

Unfortunately the Town Council received the resignation of Cllr. M. Nicolls who had served the council for a number of years.

JULY

George Street Association

The Town Council finally agreed an arrangement with the George Street Association with regards to access and by doing so, have secured recycling provisions for the town for the future.

Lifestyle Group

The Council supported two lifestyle groups this year who very kindly cleaned the Court Road Triangle of rubbish and weeded the area.

New Policies

The Council also this month introduced new Health and Safety and Equality Policies.

AUGUST

Defibrillator

Working in conjunction with Yorkshire Ambulance the Town Council managed to secure the first Defibrillator Machine for the Snaith area, which is now located on the Town Council office wall next to the Fire Station.

Yorkshire Wold Magazine

Thanks to the help of Cllr. J. Barrett the Town Council secured a two page advertisement in the Yorkshire Wold Magazine with the town council agreeing to pay half of the cost with local businesses covering the other half.

SEPTEMBER

Youth Club

The Town Council took control of the Snaith Youth Club, after East Riding of Yorkshire Council confirmed its withdrawal of support to the group due to budget cuts. Two new Youth Workers were employed by the Town Council.

New Website and Facebook Page

The New Website was launched in September and the number of people logging on is increasing daily, to-date we have had nearly 5000 hits and on one day alone 202 people visited the site. We also launched a Facebook page hoping to communicate with other people in the community who do not necessarily look at local notice boards, this has also attracted over 200 people.

New Play Equipment

The Princess Diana Playing Field on South Parkway had a much needed refurbishment with over £7000.00 spent on new equipment and some of the old equipment been updated.

ATM Machine

A new contract was negotiated with the ATM Machine Owners which is located in the Council Office, providing a new three year contract. An annual payment been received by the council for leasing of space to house the unit.

New Councillor

The Town Council welcomed new councillor Richard Lyons on board. Cllr. R. Lyons was successful after submitting a letter and CV to the Council.

OCTOBER

Opening of Youth Club

This month saw the opening of the NEW Snaith Youth Club. It has become very successful and continues to meet every Thursday (Term time only) and have on average 30 children per week attending. This is a great success not only for the Council but the children of Snaith and surrounding areas.

NOVEMBER

Remembrance Parade

It was once again an honour to be asked to lay the wreaths on behalf of the Town Council during the Remembrance Parade Service.

DECEMBER

Christmas Market

The Christmas Market again was a great success with the numbers of participants and spectators increasing dramatically from the previous year. There was an increase of 10 stalls as well as the Priory Church opening its doors for stall holders and visitors. Over £1000 has been raised from this event for local charities and community groups. Let's hope next year is as good if not better!!

Grants

The Town Council continue to support local community groups this year offering £6000 in funding. A total of 12 groups came forward for support this year, with all 12 receiving some form of small grant.

JANUARY

Walkers are Welcome

The Town Council signed up for another 12 months membership with Walkers are Welcome.

Precept

The Town Council made the decision to set the precept for 2015 / 2016 at £84,760.

Newland Bridge

The Town Council received news that the Newland Bridge would be closed for a number of months in 2015. The Council requested a consultation take place in the council office so residents could look at plans and proposals. This was well received and took place in mid-January.

Local Development Plan

Documentation sent to the Planning Inspectorate for consultation was received following their recommendation to build 245 new houses in Snaith. The Town Council forwarded their concerns to ERYC.

FEBRUARY

Resignation

Cllr. G. Laughton resigned as councillor after 19 years.

Youth Club

The Town Council in conjunction with the Youth Club received ERVAS Accreditation.

MARCH

Community Litter Pick.

Confirmation of CCTV Tender – saving tens of thousands of pounds over the next 5 years .
Freedom of Snaith.

I would like to thank my wife for her continued support, Town Councillors, Ward Councillors, and the Office staff Vicky and Nicola. And I look forward to supporting the next Town Mayor and council in the coming year.

Kind Regards

Cllr. J. Staveley –Churton

REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONS

EAST RIDING COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr. J. Barrett

Once again on behalf of Cllr. S. Fox and myself, I would like to thank the Town Mayor Cllr. J. Staveley – Churton, the Town Councillors and the Town Clerk for their continued support throughout the year.

I am pleased to report that the work by the Environment Agency, to strengthen the river bank continues on Snaith Riverbanks. This is something that Andrew Percy MP, Caroline Fox, myself and the Town Council have been negotiating for, on behalf of residents, for a number of years.

I have been pleased to play a full part in a number of projects in Snaith, one of which is the Snaith Youth Club which the East Riding Council hold up as a flag ship club and which, in the past, Cllr. Fox has obtained grants for and worked alongside me to keep it open as long as we could by the East Riding Council. I am also pleased to have worked on the CCTV project which I believe will be better for the area, as well as saving money in the long term for our residents.

I consider myself to have been in a very fortunate position, in that I have been both an East Riding Councillor and a Snaith & Cowick Town Councillor.

As a result it has benefited this Town Council and its residents. It has allowed me and, where necessary, to also involve my colleague Cllr. C. Fox to assist with projects the Town Council have worked on by utilising the East Riding Officers as required.

Cllr. C. Fox

I would like to congratulate Snaith & Cowick Town Council, and thank the Town Council for their Hospitality and Support over the last 12 months. I believe by working together as we do, we can achieve so much more for the local community and residents.

I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the 51st Squadron and thank the Town Council for a great event organised in recognition of the squadron.

I would also like to congratulate Mrs R. Ounsley for her nomination for an MBE for all her work at Pollington Airfield.

HUMBERSIDE POLICE

No Report was supplied to the meeting by Humberside Police. Noted.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Apologies given by Mr Heery – A report was read to the Town Council advising meetings were continuing to take place on a regular basis, with regular updates from Humberside Police. Noted.

SNAITH AND COWICK TOGETHER REPORT

Firstly I should like to thank the Mayor and Town Council for giving us this opportunity to share this year's achievements with the council and the community. Our steering group has continued to meet every two months to monitor the work of the working groups and we have also submitted a response to the proposed changes to Humberside Police. The working group have met regularly and worked hard, but we are increasingly concerned about the lack of support. We really need some new members in all our groups if we are to continue our work for the community.

COMMUNITY AND LEISURE GROUP

Picnic and Amenity Area

The project has been completed very successfully. The children from Snaith Primary worked with the artist, Steve Tomlinson and came up with lots of ideas for a sculpture depicting the life cycle of a butterfly. Steve then used these ideas to produce a beautiful metal sculpture which was installed in June, along with an information board, designed by the children, which explains the project and acknowledges our sponsors. We planned a celebration picnic for the children, but unfortunately it had to be cancelled because of the large amount of dog poo in the area. We have struggled to solve this problem because we didn't want negative publicity to spoil the success of the project. However, we have put more dramatic posters down there and we plan to use the small amount of money left over from the grant to install a 'doggie bag' dispenser to provide bags for dog owners who 'forget' to bring one. We are also hoping that the dog warden will patrol the area more often.

Tea Party Project

Unfortunately we have had to give up these plans as we could not find enough volunteers to get involved. We have returned the grant to the council.

Community Directory

We are currently working on the next community directory. In fact we have a meeting next week to do the final proof reading before going to print. We are grateful to the Town Council for their grant for this project.

Transport, Town Centre, Traffic and Parking, Community Safety and Crime Group

You will notice in last year's minutes that both the Town Council and Snaith and Cowick Together put jointly agreed proposals to ERYC to improve parking, reduce speeding and making crossing our roads safer. After an exchange of letters and telephone conversations a date for a meeting in November was agreed. Two days before the meeting, following an email from us to confirm the meeting, we were informed the ERYC officer was off work with back problems and would be in touch on his return. We are still waiting.

We turned our attention to making a submission of items we would like to see in the next Local Transport Plan. The LTP has to adhere to strict government criteria which we followed in our submission. We note that Snaith is due to grow by 20% in the next few years, and included:-

- ❖ Renewing the Cats' eyes on roads entering Snaith and Cowick
- ❖ Improving the rail service
- ❖ Measures to reduce traffic speed
- ❖ A cycle path on Pontefract Road to Link Gowdall and Pollington to Snaith
- ❖ 20mph restricted zones outside all schools

In December we were informed that none of our proposals would be in the draft plan (due next month) but all had been referred to various officers of ERYC who would respond to us in a few weeks. Despite e-mail prompting, we still await their comments.

Heritage Group

This group has continued to function, and we are grateful to the Town Council for their generous grant towards the funding of Heritage Day. We had another successful Heritage Day in September on the theme of Heritage Counts, when the highlights included a treasure hunt around the town, a display of chain saw carving and an exhibition of WW1 memorabilia. We hope this year's Heritage Day will be on the 12th September and our first planned meeting is on 31st March in the Council Office at 7pm. If you have any ideas or suggestions for a theme or activities for Heritage Day, please come along and share them, or, alternatively get in touch with Cath Hird or me before the meeting date.

And finally, I should like to invite you all to the AGM on Wednesday 6th May at the Brewers Arms at 7.30pm. There will be a raffle and a quiz by John Machin, with the AGM in the interval. Please come and bring a team.

Sally Hulme

SNAITH COMMUNITY PLANING FIELDS ASSOCIATION

Mr S McKiernan thanked the Town Council for their continued financial support. Mr McKiernan advised security had been improved due to a number of break-ins at the field. Mr McKiernan advised the Club continued to grow from Year to Year.

SNAITH COMMUNITY SPORTS HALL

A report from Snaith Community Sports Hall was read to the meeting by the Town Clerk. Noted.

BALANCE SHEETS FROM CHARITIES PERATING IN SNAITH AND COWICK

Balance Sheets from Snaith Charity, Snaith and Cowick Pinderfields Charity, and Otley Cottages Home Trust were received.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr D. Hennessy of Court Gardens asked why the Council Tax had increased. The Town Clerk informed Mr Hennessy of the figures and the formulas used by ERYC to calculate Council Tax. Mr Hennessy thanked the Town Clerk for clarification.

.....S.F. Jones..... Signed

.....21/3/16..... Date