

Minutes of the meeting of Snaith and Cowick Town Council held on Monday 16 March 2020  
in the meeting room of the Brewers Arms, Snaith at 7pm

Present

Cllr. S. Jones (in the chair), Cllr. L. Thomson, Cllr. J. Staveley – Churton, Cllr. J. Whiteley, Cllr. H. Miley, Cllr. R. Spencer, Cllr. J. Hollas, Cllr. R. Lyons, Cllr. C. Fox, Cllr. L. Sargentson, and 6 Members of the public.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting on Monday 17 February 2020 having been circulated were taken as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Town Mayor. Proposed Cllr. R. Lyons seconded Cllr. J. Hollas and agreed by all.

Apologies for absence

Cllr. D. Bromley

To record declarations of interest by any member of the council in respect of the agenda items listed below

All Councillors – Future Meeting Dates

All Councillors – Recent Environmental Issues

To note dispensation given to any member of the council in respect of the agenda items listed below

All councillors were given dispensation on Agenda Item 10 – Recent Environmental Issues.

Public Participation

Meeting closed. Proposed Cllr. R. Lyons seconded Cllr. J. Staveley – Churton

Stuart Smith – Rotarian, introduced himself to the Town Council and advised he would be happy to support the council with flooding issues as well as the possible COVID 19 issues moving forward.

Meeting reopened. Proposed Cllr. R. Lyons seconded Cllr. J. Staveley – Churton

East Riding Councillors Report

Cllr. C. Fox wished to thank the Town Council for stepping up to support the community when flooding hit to parish in February 2020. Cllr. C. Fox expressed sadness and described the flooding as total devastation. Cllr. C. Fox. advised she would be working for the community and speaking to the Leader of the ERYC as she believes the community and Town Council did not receive enough information prior to the flooding.

Cllr. L. Sargentson totally agreed with Cllr. C. Fox and wished to thank the Town Council for all their help and support. Cllr. L. Sargentson explained she was working with Andrew Percy MP together with the Environment Agency and they had set up a system where residents can forward images and information regarding the flood to them for investigation. Cllr. L. Sargentson also noted grants were available for residents and businesses who had been flooded.

#### Action Log Update

The Town Clerk advised no updates on the Action Log however the Risk Assessment for the Town Council had been completed. Noted and agreed by all council members.

#### Future Meeting Dates

Cllr. J. Staveley – Churton proposed allowing the Town Mayor with the Town Clerk to make decisions on behalf of the council if the council could not meet due to Covid19 seconded Cllr. H. Miley and agreed. Cllr. J. Hollas proposed to review meeting schedules after any formal announcement had been made by the government seconded Cllr. R. Spencer and agreed.

#### Recent Environmental Issues – Flooding

##### Town Council – Emergency Plan

The Town Clerk advised the Town Council's Emergency Plan was used to support ERYC and Emergency Services and was used for the first 3 days throughout the emergency situation. The Town Clerk stated a few things had been highlighted which could be included in the plan such as Animal Welfare. Noted by council members.

#### Update on events – Information

The Town Mayor Cllr. S. Jones gave a list of times and dates starting from the breach of Pickhill Bank on Tuesday 25 February, through to the flooding of George Street, Snaith, flooding of Turnbridge, East Cowick and finally flooding of Back Lane and Lidgate East Cowick. Cllr. S. Jones thanked the Emergency Services, ERYC, Independent Drainage Board with special thanks to Mr Paul Cooper, Local Schools, Local Councillors, Council Staff, Residents and Volunteers for supporting the parishioners of Snaith, East and West Cowick though the horrible situation they found themselves in due to server flooding. Cllr. J.

Staveley – Churton requested clarification from Cllr. L. Sargentson regarding gathering of flood evidence and why it was been forwarded to the Environment Agency. Councillors agreed to send all evidence and information direct to ERYC for the formal independent investigation.

Decisions made by the Town Council since 25 February 2020

Staff Costs – to be discussed after exclusion of press and public

Use of Office by ERYC – Cllr. S. Jones advised the decision was made to allow ERYC to use the office 24/7 as an incident room following the flooding.

A letter was sent to the Environment Agency requesting information on the flooding within the Parish and asking why and how the flooding took place.

All the above decisions made by council members after receiving majority votes. Noted

Moving Forward

It was agreed for the Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk to work with Cllr. D. Bromley to collate all information and imaged relating to the flood to be presents to the ERYC. Noted by council members.

Residents Support

The Town Mayor Cllr. S. Jones advised of the support available to local residents effected by the flooding. Cllr. S. Jones noted a community Facebook page and Just Giving Account had had been set up however there were concerns by some local residents as to where funds were going within the community. Cllr. J. Hollas stated it was difficult to stop anyone setting up Facebook accounts or Just Giving Accounts but as a Town Council we should release 'Official News Releases' so residents know what information is coming from the Town Council seconded Cllr. J. Staveley -Churton and agreed. Cllr. J. Whiteley stated any issues relating to the community Facebook page or Just Giving page should be dealt with by the individual who set the account up. Noted by council members.

Business Support

Cllr. S. Jones advised grants were available from several different groups for businesses flooded or affected by the flooding including ERYC and the Two Ridings. The Town Clerk advised application forms were available in the Town Council Office. Noted by Council Members.

Community Support

Information regarding a Community Meeting with Snaith Sports Hall, Snaith Priory, Snaith Methodist Church, East Cowick Village Hall and West Cowick Institute was read to council

members by Cllr. S. Jones. All councillors present supported the community organisations within the community and committed to helping in the future with trying to reclaim expenses incurred by the recent flooding. Noted by all councillors.

#### Public Health Update

Information relating to Covid19 (Coronavirus) an infection currently affecting the country was circulated to council members prior to the meeting.

Information from Matthew Buckley (ERYC Legal) was circulated to council members prior to the meeting. Cllr. J. Hollas proposed changing future meeting dates if the government set out new rules relating to Covid19 seconded Cllr. R. Lyons and agreed.

#### Events

##### Classic Bike Event

Cllr. J. Hollas proposed to postpone the Classic Bike Event until further notice due to health and safety issues relating to Covid19 seconded Cllr. R. Spencer. It was agreed to place notification of the cancellation on the Town Council social media sites.

##### Evening of Song

Cllr. R. Lyons proposed cancelling the event due to the current health and safety issues relating to Covid19 seconded Cllr. H. Miley and agreed. It was agreed to place notification of the cancellation on the Town Council social media sites.

##### Summer Market

It was agreed to defer to a future meeting or when the government have made a formal announcement regarding public gatherings. Proposed Cllr. J. Hollas seconded Cllr. J. Staveley – Churton and agreed.

#### Accounts

##### Payments

A full list of payments were read to council members, Proposed Cllr. R. Lyons seconded Cllr. H. Miley and agreed.

##### Recovery of Costs

Cllr. L. Thompson proposed seeking financial support from ERYC for the work carried out by Town Council staff and for office usage when the flooding took place and the following weeks when supporting the ERYC.

#### Exclusion of Press and Public

## Staffing Issues

Additional Hours worked by council staff was read out to council members by Cllr. R. Lyons. It was agreed to pay the Clerk and Assistant Clerk for the additional hours worked and time and a half for unsociable hours. Proposed Cllr. R. Spencer seconded Cllr. L. Thompson and agreed.

Information regarding additional hours of work moving forward for the Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk were discussed by council members. It was agreed to increase the Town Clerk to 32 Hours per week and the Assistant Clerk to 26 Hours per week. Proposed Cllr. R. Lyons seconded Cllr. R. Spencer and agreed.

SFJ

18/05/20

