

Thornton le Dale Parish Council

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held At 7.00 pm, on Friday 13 September 2024

at TLD Hill Institute, Thornton le Dale YO18 7RR.

Present: Cllr Barrett (Chair); Cllr Garbutt; Cllr Hetherton; Cllr Markham; Cllr Goodson-Moore;

J Collins (Clerk).

In Attendance :

Minute Taker: Jenny Collins (Clerk).

The Chair, Cllr Barrett, opened the Extraordinary Meeting, convened (S.O 6(a)) for the purpose of transacting specific business in compliance with Standing Order 6 (a).

The Chair summarised the rules of the meeting, stating there would be no public session and announced video recording of the meeting should not be taking place. There was a need to silence mobile phones. Cllr Barrett declared the meeting open.

Formal council meeting commencement at 19:00hrs.

2425/157 To **Resolve** to exclude members of the press and public due to the nature of the business to be transacted at agenda below, being prejudicial to the public interest. (Public Bodies Admissions to Meetings Act 1960) & Standing Orders 3 (d)

Resolved: Proposed and accepted.

2425/158 To **Receive** apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting, & to **Consider** the approval of reasons given for absence.

Resolved: Proposed and accepted. Cllr Green and Cllr Balderson sent their apologies. Cllr Garbutt was running late and may enter during the meeting, otherwise apologies accepted. Cllr Hetherton confirmed that she was recording an audio of the meeting as the Clerk had dialed in remotely to the meeting, and a full recording would be available if the audio line failed during the meeting. **Noted.**

2425/159 To **Receive** declarations of interest in any items on the agenda.

Cllr Markham declared an interest in agenda item 2425/160. At this point of the meeting, and due to Cllr Markham confirming that she had previously declared in a Parish Council meeting that she had provided a witness statement to the Claimant/previous Locum Clerk, the Chair Cllr Barrett requested that she removed herself from the meeting for this agenda item.

Resolved: Cllr Markham initially refused, therefore the Chair Cllr Barrett confirmed that she would be in breach of Code 22 of the Council's Code of Conduct if she stayed and would be subject to disciplinary action. At this point, Cllr Markham left the room (and did not return for the remaining agenda items).

2425/160 To **Receive** Employment Tribunal update from Ward Haddaway Solicitors and **Consider** an appropriate course of action.

The Parish Council recognised its responsibility toward confidentiality (Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings Act 1960) & Standing Orders 3 (d) together with additional responsibilities toward due legal process when discussing information provided with legal privilege. The Employment Tribunal commenced on 06 September 2024 and is therefore now an ongoing case under judicial review. These minutes are produced having regard to rules of sub judice. Consideration given to Solicitor email dated 6 September 2024 which sets out key information, legal process next steps and requests further formal instruction on the following points.

Resolved:

Point 1: Cost Warning. Relevant legal advice considered. Parish council resolved to instruct Ward Haddaway Solicitors to apply for a cost warning /order. Cllr Goodson-Moore proposed. Cllr Barrett seconded. All in favour.

Point 2: Amendment to the claim. Relevant detail and legal advice considered. Parish Council resolved to instruct Ward Haddaway Solicitors to object to this amendment. Cllr Hetherton proposed. Cllr Barrett seconded. All in favour.

Point 3: Additional Legal Costs. Due to an extension of the legal process beyond the 6 September 2024, implications of further legal costs considered. Parish Council resolved to make provision in accounts for a maximum of £2000 additional costs. Cllr Hetherton proposed. Cllr Barrett seconded. All in favour.

19:36hours Cllr Garbutt entered the meeting.

2425/161 To **Receive** bad debtor information for Fin Year 2023-24 and **Consider** an appropriate course of action.

Following the conclusion of audit and AGAR submission, there appears to be a bad debtor account outstanding from the 23.24 Financial Year. This consists of 7 invoices to the value of £690.00. The Clerk brought the issue to the EOM for a decision on how to progress this.

Resolved: It was agreed and received unanimously that the next course of action was for Cllr Hetherton and Cllr Goodson-Moore who kindly offered to visit the contractor in Malton, to attempt to resolve the matter, which will include the option of a small claim court action if necessary. To be added to the next PCM agenda.

2425/162 To **Receive** the Clerk's information re the YLCA Ryedale meeting and **Consider** items for inclusion on this and agree attendees from TLeD Parish Council.

It was agreed that representation will be made by the Council at the next YLCA Ryedale meeting, and proposed agenda items to be passed by the Clerk to YLCA for consideration.

Resolved: It was agreed and received unanimously that Cllr Hetherton and Cllr Goodson-Moore will attend. Clerk to forward the following items for consideration: Governance and Behaviour and request a time for the meeting.

2425/163 To **Confirm** the dates of the future meeting (s) for 2024.

Resolved: Already **Agreed** and **Noted** as the 1 October 5 November 3 December

Formal meeting closed at **19:46hrs.**