

**Minutes of the Melbecks Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 21st March 2024 at
Low Row Institute**

The Melbecks Parish Council meeting was held on Thursday 21st March 2024 at Gunnerside Village Hall. Present were Councillors Silver, Bowe and Calvert, with Cllr R. Alderson chairing. The Clerk was Miss N. Adams. All were welcomed to the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from NYC Cllr Yvonne Peacock. Cllr Strafford was not present, however apologies were received after the meeting.

2. Declaration of Interests

Cllr Bowe declared an interest in item 7 (b) Home school travel policy consultation.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The following was noted:

- 8 (a). The date of the meeting with Highways was changed due to bad weather conditions to Thursday 15th February 2024, and:
- 11 (g): 'This part of the meeting was chaired by the vice-chair, Andrew Silver' to be added to the minutes.

Subject to the above amendments, the minutes of the Melbecks Parish Council meeting, held on 1st February 2024 were agreed to be a correct record, and these were signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising

a) Dog waste bin Low row – NYC have suggested a possible location by the Institute.

Councillors agreed that a better site would be outside the green garages at the west end of the village. The clerk will ask if this is possible.

b) Cllr Bowe has received a request from Muker Community Benefit Society for Melbecks Parish Council to write a letter of support for the Farmers Arms, Muker to become a community owned pub. This was unanimously agreed. The clerk will send a letter of support.

5. Finance

a) Clerk's salary and expenses (& Order to Pay). An order to pay and a cheque for the clerk's salary and expenses of £1196.50 was signed. Councillors unanimously agreed for the salary to remain the same for the coming year.

b) Insurance renewal (& Order to Pay). An order to pay and a cheque for the insurance renewal of £167.44 was signed.

c) Reeth and District Gazette (& Order to Pay). An order to pay and a cheque for the donation of £100.00 to the Reeth and District Gazette was signed.

d) Melbecks Emergency Group (& Order to Pay). An order to pay and a cheque for the Melbecks Emergency Group for £600.00 was signed. (This was to Tim Cain Leadership, for which £600.00 has been received from North Yorkshire Council).

e) Pension re-declaration. The council were informed that the Pension Re-declaration has been made.

6. Highways

a) A meeting took place on Thursday 15th February 2024 with Ian Burgess, Highways Officer, NYC Cllr Yvonne Peacock, Cllr Alderson, Cllr Silver, the Clerk, Nikki Adams, and two members of the public to look at highway issues in Low Row. Some work has taken place on the gutter at the bottom of Peat Gate.

7. North Yorkshire Council

a) NYC subsidised local bus services. The council noted that there are no proposed changes to the Bus route 30.

b) NYC Home to School Travel Policy Consultation. The council noted that North Yorkshire Council is consulting on possible changes to home to school transport. The existing policy is for all children from the age of four upwards to qualify for free home to school transport, to their nearest or catchment school. The proposed policy is for this to be to the nearest school as the crow flies. Councillors agreed that it was not in favour of the proposed change to the

policy and for the clerk to send a letter to NYC and complete the online consultation form.
c) The York and North Yorkshire Mayoral election on Thursday 2 May 2024. The council noted this.

8. Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

a) YDNPA Spring Parish Forums 2024. The council noted the invitation to the Spring Parish Forum April/May 2024, date to be confirmed, with agenda items to be sent by 26th March if required.

b) Withdrawal of Planning Application: Householder planning permission for erection of single storey extensions to form entrance hall and link, conversion of garage to form additional ancillary accommodation at The Long House, Low Row, Richmond, DL11 6NE - R/05/36. The Long House, Low Row, Richmond, DL11 6NE - R/05/36A. It was noted that this planning application has withdrawn.

c) Planning Appeal: Hazel Brow Farm Visitor Centre, Low Row, Richmond, DL11 6NE - 12 March 2024. The council noted that there has been a Planning Appeal regarding this application.

d) Trees in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale Barns and Walls Conservation Area: Strands Holme, Gunnerside- notification to fell one eucalyptus. The council noted receipt of this. There were no comments or objections.

e) Trees in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale Conservation Area: notification of works to fell one ash tree at Bushes House, Low Row. This site is in Grinton Parish Council, the clerk to inform YDNPA.

9. Any other business

a) Best Kept Richmondshire Village: The council noted receipt of the invitation to take part in this competition, however an entry would not be made this year.

b) Dales Monthly Police Report: The council noted receipt of the monthly report from 8th February to 13th March 2024.

c) The council noted that an anonymous complaint has been received regarding the land by the beck side in Gunnerside and an enquiry regarding the land ownership. The clerk was asked to reply that various enquiries have been made, however as far as the council is aware there is no owner of the land.

10. Dates of next meetings:

- Thursday 16th May 2024 at Gunnerside Village Hall
- Thursday 18th July 2024 at Low Row Institute

As there was no other business, the meeting closed at 8.55pm.