

BIGGIN PARISH COUNCIL  
BIGGIN, SHERBURN IN ELMET, NORTH YORKSHIRE, LS25 6HJ

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting – 26<sup>th</sup> August 2020** held at Oxmoor House, Oxmoor Lane, Biggin.

The meeting opened at 7.08pm

Residents attended: none

Councillors present: Cllr Anderson, Cllr Hartley, Cllr Duncan, Cllr Kaiper-Holmes, Cllr Lamb, District Cllr Musgrave.  
Clerk, Georgina Ashton.

- (1) Apologies for absence  
none
- (2) Open Forum for members of the public (limited to 15 minutes)  
No members of the public in attendance
- (3) Declarations of Interest  
There were no declarations of interest raised.
- (4) Minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
Minutes of the last meeting were proposed by Cllr Lamb and seconded by Cllr Anderson.
- (5) Reports – District Cllr Musgrave (*regarding proposals for Unitary Council in SDC, NYCC areas*)

**For information:**

District Cllr Musgrave was invited to the meeting to discuss and explain the proposals of a unitary council in North Yorkshire. Covid19 has had a big impact on all District Councils with additional costs incurred. However, SDC remains robust in its strategy and future planning; for example in the regeneration of Tadcaster town centre and a £17m “Station Plaza” in the railway station area at Selby. Cllr Musgrave also explained the local planning framework review of the Local Plan, providing an explanation of the call for sites period. However, this may be impacted going forward, from a timescale perspective due to the unitary council proposals. The current timescales is that the new Local Plan will be adopted in the spring of 2023.

In terms of the local govt restructure, leaders of NYCC, York City Council and the 7 District Councils are all working to provide a considered proposal to Ministers. Discussions have progressed rapidly in the last 6-8 weeks and it is likely that a bill will be passed through Parliament in the Autumn/Winter of 2020. However, by adding a tier of bureaucracy, eg a Mayor of North Yorkshire, it is highly likely that a tier of local government will be removed. The advantages of a devolved structure led by a Mayor include specific pots of money will be cascaded to local government to the balance of £25-£30m over 30 years. It is likely that District Councillors will disappear to simplify this new structure but this potentially could provide a more cohesive approach to key responsibilities of local govt eg. All public footpath issues will be directed to one area as oppose to the present system of cleaning of the footpath directed to District Council and fixing the pothole on the footpath to the County Council. Parish Councils will be retained in this new unitary council. Nonetheless, there are potential concerns with devolved powers as to the governance around decision making which needs to be consistent across parish councils to ensure that these run effectively.

All District, City and County Councils involved in this process have emerging views as to how the new Unitary Council may be structured. Ministers at Whitehall have provided suggested criteria as to how the new Council will be structured, ie optimal no of residents. SDC are currently working with the other 6 District Councils with consultancy advice from KPMG. It is likely that this proposal will be presented to Ministers in the next few weeks. Due to time constraints, it is possible that these proposals will not go to public consultation prior to being presented to Whitehall. Finally, discussion took place around the Govt White Paper on Planning Reform (published early August 2020) and the potential change in climate to allow quality housing in small rural areas. This potentially could impact on Biggin, but to what extent is questionable (eg this will potentially not include large housing developments to settlements that cannot provide sustainability in community resources).

(6) Planning

- a. Consideration of spend from Sec 106 Funding (on ROS)
  - i. £5,475 re planning consent - 2015/1004/OUT (2017/0129/REM) available to draw down from SDC until 04 March 2025.

Council discussed suggestions of new bench(s), gateway entrance signage and planters as well as a square seat planter. The restrictions on spend based on the S106 criteria is fairly narrow and even more so as this allocation of funding is specifically for use on recreational open space of which Biggin Parish Council does not own any land.

**Resolution:** Clerk to bring proposal to the next meeting that has been agreed in principal by the S106/CIL Co-ordinator. Councillors to provide any further suggestions to the Clerk before end of September.

- b. LEA developments regarding Events and Local Plan

**For information:** Discussion took place around the LEA Events drive in concerts / film shows etc that were planned for summer of 2020. The Events Mgt Plan prepared by the organisers, Live Nation did not get to the SAG (Safety Advisory Group) as the organisers pulled the events on the day of the SAG. There are no current plans for future events but it has been suggested that something similar may be brought forward again in the future.

In terms of the Local Plan, District Cllr Musgrave discussed this with the Council and explained that the call for sites period ends on 31 August 2020. The next 3 months will allow SDC to look through the sites and present a public consultation in early 2021 of preferred sites. Members of the public can access the interactive map of sites put forward by developers by following the link <https://www.selby.gov.uk/site-submission-form>.

(7) Community Safety – Response from the Highways Dept – Cllr Hartley – deferred to next meeting.

(8) Finance

- a. balance at bank – payments and receipts since last meeting 15.1.2020
  - i. G Ashton (Oct 2019-March 2020) - £162.90
  - ii. YLCA Annual Membership - £56.00
  - iii. Came & Co Insurance - £364.34
  - iv. Mick Potts – Grass Cutting (5x cuts) - £170
  - v. G Ashton – expenses recharge for Internal Auditors fee, Child & Co, £65.
  - vi. Website anomaly payment – 04 June 2020 - £19.51, usually £4.99 – Cllr Anderson to query this with the company.
- b. To approve the Internal Auditor for 2019/2020 Annual Governance and Accountability Return.
- c. Approval of AGAR Return 2019/2020
  - i. to approve Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement for 2019/2020 for Biggin Parish Council on page 4 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2019/2020.
  - ii. To approve Section 2 – Accounting Statements for 2019/2020 for Biggin Parish Council on page 5 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2019/2020.

(9) Community Engagement – no matters raised

(10) Correspondence

- a. YLCA guidance regarding Annual Parish and Annual Council Meeting – Clerk explained that Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Council Meetings can be held remotely until May 2021. **Resolution:** Council agreed to hold the Annual meetings in May 2021.

(11) Cllr Reports - none

(12) Date of next meeting

Council suggested date of next meeting to be Wednesday 11 November 2020, ideally in person or if not remotely.

The meeting closed at 8.23pm.