

Monthly Update – April 2023

1. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

No apologies for absence have been received to date.

Councillor Langthorne + Councillor Briggshaw to declare an interest in Accounts regarding cheque payments

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21st MARCH 2023.

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on the 21st March 2023.

3. LOCAL CRIME REPORT.

The Police report for March 2023 is set out below.

Statistics taken from	01/03/2023 to 31/03/2023
Crime Type	
Anti-Social Behaviour	0 Reports
Anti-Social Personal	0 Reports
Total	0 Reports
Arson	0 Reports
Burglary Dwelling	0 Reports
Burglary Commercial/Other	0 Reports
Criminal Damage	1 Reports
Theft (inc. Theft from Shop)	1 Reports
Violence against the person	3 Report
Other crimes inc. Drugs	1 Reports
Hate Crime	0 Reports
Robbery	0 Reports
Fraud	0 Reports
Auto Crime / SMV	0 Reports
Total	6 Reports

Police are warning members of the public about fraudulent devices attached to cash machines.

On the night of Thursday 23 February 2023, three cash machines in Northallerton were found to have had devices placed on them.

The devices collected withdrawn money, making it look like the machine was not working. They had been painted, and were designed to look like cash dispenser slots, making them hard to identify as fraudulent.

As part of ongoing enquiries, North Yorkshire Police are appealing for anyone who noticed suspicious activity around cash machines in Northallerton to get in touch. Please call 101, quoting reference 12230034273.

Beware of telephone calls being made by fraudsters pretending to be from Amazon 📞

We've had reports of calls being made from individuals claiming your Amazon Prime subscription is due to expire, and will be automatically taken from your account. The recorded message asks you to press 1 to cancel or to speak to customer services. The call then goes through to a fraudster posing as an Amazon customer service representative.

The fraudster advises the victim that remote access to their computer is required, and instructs them to download an app which grants the fraudster access to their computer.

The software is then mis-used by the criminal to monitor the victim logging onto their online bank account, which allows the fraudster to see the victim's personal and financial details.

If you receive a call, claiming to be from Amazon, HANG UP!

Do not provide any personal information, your Amazon log in details, banking details or credit/debit card information.

Never install any software or visit a website as a result of a cold call. Unsolicited requests for remote access to your computer should always raise a red flag.

If you think you may have been a victim of this scam, please contact your bank immediately and report this to us on 101 or via our website.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – FOR INFORMATION ONLY.

- (i) Highway Gullies – South end of The Green at Water End.

NY Highways has advised that the gullies in question were inspected on the 12th April and no defects were recorded with any of them.

- (ii) Damaged Lamp Standard on Corner of North Moor Road/ Cotswold Street.

The damaged lamp standard is currently being replaced.

- (iii) Footpath from Strikes to the New Estate.

County Councillor Watson is to meet with the NY Footpaths Officer regarding the path along Darlington Road from Strikes to the new estate.

- (iv) New Bus Services.

County Councillor Watson has stated that he expects some movement shortly with regard to the Section 106 monies provided for new bus services.

- (v) Grant Applications to NYC.

NYC has acknowledged the two applications for CIL monies grants for the Flood Allievation Scheme and the Refurbishment of the Recreation Ground however to date the new Council

has not set in motion new rules for dealing with such applications of which there are expected to be many across most of North Yorkshire.

(vi) Water End Drainage Channel and Leaky Dams.

James Coxon of Coxon Bros, Exelby has confirmed that he will be digging out the drainage channel to the south of the Green at Water End as planned either this month or early next month.

With regard to the repairs to the leaky dams he is going to put in the application for consent to the Internal Drainage Board and says there is no problem in him getting the leaky dams repaired this Summer.

The additional holding pond will be a different matter as 1. There isn't currently a farmer willing to have one on their land and 2. The major expense would be on getting rid of the spoil if no landowner is willing to take it.

(vii) Church Wall.

Weeds growing in the Church wall cause considerable and extremely expensive damage. Sympathetic hand weeding of the wall itself so that no part of the structure is dislodged needs to be carried out periodically during the weed growing season. It has been noticed however that considerable damage is being caused to the outer base of the wall due to weeds growing into the wall from the bottom of the wall where it joins the pavement. The Chairman has therefore agreed that CE+ CM Walkers be engaged to spray around the base of the wall periodically in the same way as they spray the weeds on the path alongside the Recreation Ground.

(viii) Bridge near The Ford.

NYC bridges has advised that the bridge is not due a survey and is in reasonable condition.

(ix) Brompton Warm Space Group.

The last planned Warm Space meal took place on Thursday 23 March and it was decided not to continue as attendance had not been as expected.

The Group was successful in its bid for to Hambleton DC for a grant for meals provided in January to March 2023 resulting in the monies put aside for these and BTCs grant of £150, not having been used. All the support which was received was very much appreciated and although the attendance was low the meals were enjoyed by those who attended.

Any donations that had not been used were to be send to the Hambleton Foodshare and Councillors agrees that also include Brompton Town Council's grant of £150.

(x) Recreation Ground.

An obscene drawing has appeared on the roundabout at the Recreation Ground which is to be removed.

(xi) Sign Post at Rail Crossing on Station Road.

The corroded sign post at the level crossing that was reported to the meeting of the Annual Parish Assembly has been reported to NY Highways as it is very nearly completely corroded through.

- (xii) Damaged Footpath Adjacent to Stokesley Road.

Damage made to the footpath adjacent to Stokesley Road near the new houses has been reported to NY Highways.

- (xiii) Local Crime Event.

The Clerk attended the local Crime Event on the 29th March.

5. CHAIRMAN'S/VICE-CHAIRMAN'S ACTIONS.

To be reported to the meeting.

6. REPORTS – INCLUDING REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS –

- (i) Finance Group.

The Finance Group met on the 24th April.

RECOMMENDED - that another Councillor be added to the Bank Mandate.

The Working Group has reviewed the Receipts and Payments for the financial year ended 31st March 2023 and **RECOMMENDS that this be approved by the Council.**

It has also been agreed that the Internal Audit commence this week and that the Annual Financial Return for the financial year 2022/23 be submitted for approval to the May meeting of the Council for submission to the External Auditors.

Future meetings of the Finance Group are to be held on the day prior to Council meetings as if held earlier it is unlikely that the monthly Bank Statements will have been received.

- (ii) Middle Bridge.

- (a) Response to the questions raised by Mr K Pollitt on the 20th March –

1. A cost breakdown of the money spent to date

Costing breakdown for work to date		
Contractor	Description of works	Cost
Structural & Civil Engineers	Structural surveys	£540
Walter Thompsons	Security fence	£355
Geo F White	Part	£2,860
D Langthorne	Labour	£380
YDS Ltd	Trailer hire	£150
Colin Wilson	Removal of Sandstone	£300
Vintage Autos	Lead Paint Survey	£100
Wallaces Engineering	Barriers	£3,900
Geo F White	Feasibility drawings	£1,820
Shire Surveys	Topographical survey	£2,220
	Total	£12,625

2. Visibility of the three quotes to replace the bridge as generally required by a tendering process.

In the case of the removal of the bridge as this would not exceed £20,000 only one price was received - being the £3.250 (+VAT) from Wallaces Engineering no tender were requested.

The Councils Financial Regulations state –

"3.5. Where the Council intends to enter into a contract exceeding £20,000 it shall invite tenders from at least three firms from the appropriate approved list".

As regards a new bridge the Councils Agents George F Whites were asked to obtain quotations for a like for like middle bridge with options for soft wood and hard wood but this was not proceeded with as Geo F Whites did not have a bridge design.

Councillors are unaware of the content and amounts of any prices that Geo F Whites may have endeavoured to obtain.

The Council does however possess 3 quotes. These are not official tenders but they are quotes from -

- YDS Ltd – Steel
- CTS Bridges – Hardwood
- CTS Bridges – Softwood

These are enclosed for your information.

3. Why was the village constituent not consulted in a similar manner by the town council regarding removal / replacement of Middle Bridge?

Updates on progress with regard to the bridge were consistently included in the Minutes and Monthly Updates sent to those residents who have requested to receive them and have been referred to at the monthly Town Council meetings.

In addition the updates were also periodically included on the Councils web site and placed on the notice boards around the village and at the site of the bridge itself.

The legal position as regards any dangerous structure is that it must be reported by any person who is aware of it to the local authority who will then endeavour to contact the owner for them to remove the danger or fence it off to prevent public access.

If the owner is not contactable then it is for the local authority using its emergency powers to make the structure safe and in due course recover the costs from the owner also doing.

This includes any structure suffering from the effects of fire, explosion, storms or high winds, or impact by a vehicle.

As the County Council, being the bridges authority denied ownership of the bridge Brompton Council itself cordoned off the danger and arranged the necessary structural survey.

As revealed in the Minutes Brompton Council has never admitted any ownership of the bridge, and there is no indication that it has ever done so.

With regard to the question as to why the Council did not consult with the village constituents concerning the closure of the bridge it would be inappropriate for any Local Authority to consult with residents as regards any dangerous structure before taking action and the

actions taken by Brompton Council were carried out so that the public were not put in any danger.

Brompton Council met its obligations as regards the closure of a dangerous structure.

- (b) A copy of a letter sent to Rishi Sunak MP by a local resident has been forwarded to all Councillors.

(iii) Highways/ Road Safety Working Group.

No meeting held this month – all matters are on-going.

(iv) Play Equipment/Adult Outdoor Gym Equipment Working Group.

No meeting held this month –

Everything is progressing at varying speeds -

Springers - Order placed and deposit paid

Outdoor Gym Equipment - items agreed and confirmed at last Council meeting – Councillor Hazelwood is looking into the groundworks/safety surfacing calculations + options + who is to be the installer

Options for improving access next to the double gate to be looked into.

Climbing frame - relocation site agreed

Safety Inspection – Councillor Hazelwood is chasing up quotes for the matters that need rectification from Tyne and Wear Play annual inspection.

Pump Track – Councillor Hazelwood has in hand but is likely to be a more long term project.

The Clerk has undertaken the YLCA Play Equipment Safety Inspection course at Northallerton from which a number of issues need to be looked at. Councillor Hazelwood was to undertake the same course at Bedale but unfortunately the course was cancelled due to a lack of participants.

6. PLANNING MATTERS.

(i) Applications.

ZB23/00772/FUL - Alterations and extension to existing Dwelling – 39 Cockpit Hill.

Councillors views are requested.

(ii) Decisions.

23/00446/FUL - Change of use of land and remove existing building and replace with proposed building to be used in connection with holiday accommodation business - Standard Hill Farm Darlington Road – Granted

23/00624/CAT - Works to a Beech tree in a conservation area - Rivendell Water End - Granted

Tree Works.

The Councils planning application for works to trees around the village has been registered with NY Planning Authority however the Planning Officer wants all the information in the Tree Survey Report to be transferred onto plans. Large scale C1 size plans have been printed by the County Print Unit but there is a considerable amount of work involved in writing the required information for each of the 178 trees onto the plans.

Recent adverse comment has appeared on social media about the Council management of the trees in the Parish.

7. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

Receipts –

Wilson and Willoughby (Burial fee)	165.00
------------------------------------	--------

Payments –

YLCA (Annual Subscription)	790.00
Mrs S Brigginsshaw (Reimbursement for seeds)	43.99
SAM Turner & Sons (Sand, cement, stakes, bolts etc)	109.76
Mrs C Huang (Sweeping)	45.00
Hillside Tree Surgeons (Tree works)	1,770.00
P Atkin (Expenses)	36.03
YDS Ltd (Trailer hire)	60.00
P Atkin (Salary)	384.24
HMRC (PAYE)	96.00
*NYCC Yorwaste (Advance Charges)	41.11 *
*Paid by Direct Debit	
** Paid out of meeting –	
MacVenture (Deposit to two Toddler Springers)	2,520.00

Bank Balances

Current Ac't - £200.00

Business Premium Ac't (i) - £60,024.82

Business Premium Ac't (ii) - £141,024.82

AGREED - That the accounts listed above be approved for payment.

The final accounts for 2022-23 financial year appear on the last page.

9. HIGHWAY MATTERS - Including Notification of Road Closures and 20's Plenty.

PLANNED ROAD CLOSURE NOTIFICATION - SW-39245- Water End, Brompton

The Closure will be in place for a period of 5 days between 15th May 2023 and 19th May 2023 to allow for a Yorkshire Water road closure to assist with sewer works in private land. The Road Closure and any associated Diversion Routes can be viewed using this URL link <https://one.network/?tm=133727450>

20's Plenty.

The next meeting of the local Branch of 20's Plenty is to be held on Thursday 27th April.

Highway Visibility Mirrors.

With regard to Highway Visibility mirrors the following information has been received from NY Highways –

Applications for traffic mirrors at junctions in rural areas will only be considered when specific criteria can be met. This will only include sites where –

There is a proven record of accidents related to poor visibility and high speed crossing traffic.

Physical improvements to improve lines of sight are not possible.

The drawbacks of installing traffic mirrors will not outweigh the benefits to road users.

North Yorkshire Police are fully supportive.

Mirrors must be convex and the frame must be a singlet colour and they are not permitted in urban areas.

10. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Including Remote Access to Meetings.

This matter was raised during public question period at the last Council meeting. The legal position is -

Remote meetings are not permitted since the end of the Covid restrictions.

What that means is that although a Council can arrange a Zoom or other such connection (usually if a member of the Press requires it) anyone who is so connected can only view or listen to the meeting and they cannot take any part in the meeting such as speaking at any stage including any public question time that a Council may permit + that includes any Councillors who may not be able to be physically present as no-one can be deemed to be present remotely.

The Governments view was that it could be open to abuse as otherwise Councillors may just stay at home and take part instead of meeting in public with residents in their Parish Council meetings.

A decision on this matter is required for the future.

11. NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCILS STANDARDS ARRANGEMENTS - ADOPTION OF CODE OF CONDUCT.

The Council is currently signed up to the Hambleton District Councils Code of Conduct.

The new North Yorkshire Councils Code of Conduct has been forwarded to all Councillors and it is **RECOMMENDED – That the Council signs up to the North Yorkshire Councils Code of Conduct.**

12. GREENS INSPECTION + WILD LIFE AREA.

No new matters to report. The daffodil bulbs especially along the beck sides have done particularly well this year.

‘ 13. CORRESPONDENCE – Other than referred to elsewhere on the agenda.

- (i) Letter Sent to Rishi Sunak MP.

At the agreement of the correspondent Councillors have been forwarded a copy of a letter sent by a resident to Rishi Sunak MP who has yet to communicate with the Council regarding the matter.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Including (i) Date of Next Meeting of the Council (Annual Meeting) – Tuesday 15th May 2023 at 7.00pm.

15. BURIAL MATTERS.

Cemetery of the Year Awards 2023.

Over the past three years entering this competition has proved to be a worthwhile learning curve but it isn't anticipated that the Burial Board can improve on its score of last year which put Brompton Cemetery in the top bracket but some way off the very top as it doesn't for example have mains water, its own gravediggers, lock the cemetery gates at night or supply umbrellas etc in inclement weather.

Progress from when first entering the competition has been excellent as much was learnt from what other Burial Authorities do and how improvements could be made from that, for example with on line burial plot searches and on line burial application forms and a few other tweaks.

Northallerton and Romanby JBC dropped out of the competition last year as they considered that they had taken it as far as they could. **RECOMMENDED – That the Burial Board do not enter the 2023 competition.**

Received from a Resident.

“Having visited the cemetery at Brompton today I just want to say how pleased I was that the benches have been repaired and how nice it was to be able to sit for a while, its lovely to see it is looked after and tidy, I can now get water out of the tank something not been able to do for a while”.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023		
	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2022/23</u>
<u>GENERAL A/C INCOME</u>		
Precept	£54,000.00	£62,000.00
Bank Interest	£3.46	£297.89
VAT Refund	£19,394.28	£4,719.91
Grants	£1,000.00	£11,400.00
Burial Fees	£1,900.00	£3,400.00
Memorials	£90.00	£210.00
Wayleaves	£348.55	£348.55
Allotment Rates	£1,200.00	£1,200.00
Village Caretaking	£0.00	£150.00
CIL Moies	£0.00	£141,100.00
TOTAL	<u>£77,936.29</u>	<u>£224,826.35</u>
<u>GENERAL A/C PAYMENTS</u>		
Salary/HMRC	£4,876.07	£5,831.16
Admin- Expenses,Misc,audit fees,printing,payroll services,web site,newsletter	£3,616.52	£4,139.07
Grasscutting	£10,446.40	£10,135.20
Hedge Cutting	£0.00	£940.00
Dog Bins	£898.92	£1,024.56
Sweeping	£565.92	£733.20
Allotments	£1,500.00	£1,673.18
Insurance	£686.36	£1,636.24
Water End Wildlife Area	£1,634.96	£1,177.75
Cemetery Works	£0.00	£7,808.11
Room Hire	£222.00	£300.00
Recreation Ground	£68.40	£300.00
Noticeboards	£0.00	£0.00
Defib	£0.00	£150.00
Tree Works	£4,280.00	£8,663.24
Donations	£850.00	£894.95
Trade Refuse Bin	£346.41	£326.34
Car Park	£0.00	£0.00
Highways	£35.94	£205.15
Village Caretaking- building materials, hire charges	£1,561.43	£6,294.77
Projects - Bridge	£8,516.45	£0.00
Projects - Cemetery	£3,594.00	£0.00
Projects - School Bridge	£3,809.40	£0.00
Projects - VAS Signs	£0.00	£8,184.00
TOTAL	<u>£47,509.18</u>	<u>£60,416.92</u>
<u>BANK RECONCILIATION</u>		
	<u>2021-22</u>	<u>2022-23</u>
Opening Bank Balances	£5,955.19	£36,736.20
Plus Income Received	£77,936.29	£224,826.35
Minus Expenditure	£47,509.18	£60,416.92
Unpresented cheques	£1,554.00	£1,644.87
Cash in hand	£0.00	£0.00
(Capital assets carried forward see below)		
Figure reported at Annual Return	<u>£37,936.30</u>	<u>£202,790.50</u>
Balance of Barclays Community Account a/c	£200.00	£175.00
Balance of Barclays Business Premium a/c	£36,523.00	£60,586.68
Balance of Barclays Premium Savings a/c	£13.20	£141,024.82
Sub Total	<u>£36,736.20</u>	<u>£201,786.50</u>
Plus credit for cheques presented this year from last year accounts	£1,200.10	£1,004.00
Total	<u>£37,936.30</u>	<u>£202,790.50</u>
Difference	£0.00	£0.00

