

Hartwith cum Winsley Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held Tuesday 18th April 2023 at 7.00 pm at The Annexe, Summerbridge Methodist Church.

1	A roll call of Parish Council officers was taken at the beginning of the meeting. The following were present: Chair Cllr T Watson, Vice-Chair Cllr F Clark, Treasurer Cllr B Thornton, Cllr H Benn, Cllr J Derry, Cllr S Langley, NYC Cllr N Hull, Clerk T Dawson
2	The Chair welcomed two representatives of the National Trust Brimham Rocks. There were no apologies for absence.
3	The meeting received and approved the minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 26th April 2022
4	The meeting received North Yorkshire Council annual report from Councillor Nathan Hull Cllr Nathan Hull. The new North Yorkshire Council launched on 1 st April 2023 with a smooth transition. There have been some minor issues such as some My Harrogate customers not receiving emails. The parish councillors and the clerk reported issues with garden waste not being collected.
5	<p>The Council received the Harrogate Borough Council annual report from Councillor Tom Watson:</p> <p>Harrogate Borough Council was created on the 1st April 1974 incorporating parts of former West Riding and North Riding Councils areas. The main settlement areas are Harrogate, Knaresborough, Ripon, Pateley Bridge, Boroughbridge, Masham, and there are over 120 smaller settlements scattered across the district.</p> <p>How things have changed since 1974</p> <p>The population of Harrogate has grown over the years from 102,407 in 1971 pre-Harrogate Borough to 162,700 In the 2021 census.</p> <p>In 1982 Harrogate International Centre opened its main auditorium with seating capacity for 2,000 people. In the same year the International Centre hosted the 27th Eurovision Song Contest. HIC has continued to host events and exhibitions from the 1980's to the present day.</p> <p>Harrogate Borough Council became custodians of the Stray in 1985. The land is owned by the Duchy of Lancaster.</p> <p>The Victoria Garden Shopping Centre opened in 1992 and in 1995 Ripon Leisure Centre opened its doors along with The Jennyfield Styan Centre Community Centre with the construction of Knaresborough Community Centre in 1996.</p> <p>In 1998 we received a Royal Visit from Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II who opened the Sun Pavilion In Valley Gardens after its restoration.</p> <p>1999 saw a major expansion to our sport and leisure services with the opening of Harrogate Hydro which replaced the old Coppice Valley Pool.</p> <p>The Nidderdale Leisure Centre and Pool was opened in Pateley Bridge in 2005.</p> <p>When we entered the new millennium we saw a major political change in local government with the introduction of the Cabinet system of governance at Harrogate Borough.</p> <p>2002 saw the introduction of kerbside recycling which increased the amount of material being recycled by residents.</p> <p>Restoration of the Royal Hall was completed in 2008. The grade 2 listed theatre has a seating capacity of 950 and was opened by the (then) Prince Charles.</p>

The decision to build the new Civic Centre highlighted our approach to long term planning and the environment with the completion and opening in 2019.
When the pandemic hit the UK in March 2020, we had a strong platform from which to transfer to full time working from home with minimal service impact.
Our ICT services were able to develop our existing platform to ensure that all office staff could work from home.

In April 2020 HCC and our estates team worked together with the NHS to support the setting up of a Nightingale Hospital in the Conference Centre. This delivered a 500 temporary bed hospital facility at HCC which could be used if required until the pandemic receded.

In 1974 there were 8,000 council owned houses flats and bungalows in the Council's ownership. Under

the right to buy act the number of council owned properties in 2023 is approximately 3,800. In spring 2021 the Council opened Fern House in Starbeck, a purpose built hostel solely for single people. Unfortunately we still have approximately 2,200 residents on our council housing waiting list requiring affordable rented accommodation.

Ongoing refurbishment of the Hydro pool at Jennyfields continues, with a new pool and leisure centre being built at Knaresborough and Ripon pool completed in 2022.

There have been 48 Mayors of The Borough of Harrogate in the 49 years and in 1974 there were over 60 elected members of the Borough Council until 2018 when the number was reduced to 40 elected members.

The last full Borough Council meeting was held on 23rd March 2023 and Harrogate Borough Council along with all councils in North Yorkshire will be merged into one council on the 1st April 2023 under the name of North Yorkshire Council.

It has been an honour to represent the residents of Lower Nidderdale and Nidd Valley Ward on Harrogate Borough Council and I would like to thank all Parish Councillors, Parish clerks and residents for their support over the years.

Kind regards
Councillor Tom Watson.

6 The Council received the Chairman of Hartwith cum Winsley Parish Council's annual report:
A new memorial was erected at Poppy Fields remembrance garden to record the names of residents who had served in World War Two and had returned home, The dedication of the memorial took place on Platinum Jubilee Sunday when we celebrated Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee with a lunch at the Methodist Church.

As Chair of Parish Council I would like to say a big thanks to all who helped in this project.

Grants were obtained from Locality budget to upgrade the defibrillator cabinet outside Todd's hardware shop in Summerbridge and install a new defibrillator and cabinet outside Clarity Arts at Unit 7 New York Industrial Estate. Thanks to Councillor Hull for his support in this project.

Harrogate Borough Council street litter bins are still continuing to cause problems.

Vehicle Activated Signs. Last year the Parish Council took ownership of 2 vehicle activated signs. These signs record speed of vehicles and indicate to drivers if they are driving at excess speed in the 30 mph zone.

Highways problems continue to cause a number of problems within our Parish.

Unfortunately I don't have an update on yellow lines at junctions in Summerbridge.

Parking is still a major problem in Summerbridge, and I would ask residents to park safely and not to block site lines at road junctions that merge into B6165 Main Street.

A number of maintenance issues continue to be raised by Hartwith cum Winsley Parish Council with Area 6 Highways.

In May of this year we will celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III after the death of Queen Elizabeth II last September after 70 years on the throne.

A Planning Application to erect 24 houses at Birchwood Summerbridge was submitted to Harrogate Borough Council (application was refused)

I would like to thank all Councillors, Parish Clerk and Parish Caretaker for their hard work and support in the past year.

Kind regards

Councillor Tom Watson, Chair of Hartwith cum Winsley Parish Council.

7 The meeting received the following reports:

Property Operations Manager at National Trust Brimham Rocks.

Things coming up at Brimham Rocks this year:

- Simon Armitage poetry commission and installation of poem into the landscape. Poem is complete and installation scheduled for Spring/Summer.
- Work taking place to lay new path around back of Brimham House to Idol rock and introduction of steps to trig point. Will make improve accessibility for push chairs and ‘tramper’ mobility scooters.

General:

- We will continue to use the overflow field that we rent for peak days where possible to reduce impact of parking on roadside. The field can only be used in dry conditions. We actively message on our website on busy days around parking with consideration to neighbours and emergency services
- Visitor numbers seemed to return to ‘normal’ levels last year following an extremely busy period post covid
- Since last attended a meeting single solid white lines have been painted onto the road leading to Brimham entrance which has helped prevent parking here

Area Ranger – National Trust Brimham Rocks

- Fence has now been installed –approximately 6.5km, 18 pedestrian gates, 24 stiles. Two separate grazing compartments, one on North Moor one on South Moor. This will facilitate grazing from May to October.
- Grazing will commence May (date TBC) – Belted Galloways, no bulls and no sucklers. 10 on North Moor, 24 on South Moor.
- Desired outcomes include: vary age structure of the moorland plants; graze off purple moor grass; reduce birch saplings and break up bracken rhizomes.
- We will monitor the impact of the grazing on the land and the users of the site in conjunction with Natural England.
- Countryside Stewardship Agreement is now in place
- Bracken spraying will resume this summer (part of new 10-year plan)
- Birch control is now included in a new 10-year plan

Cllr Hull asked the NT representatives about precautions in the face of fire due to rising climate temperatures: National Trust staff members have undertaken specific fire hazard training; access to drinking water for animals at the site has been improved; media statements about fire risks are regularly released. The representatives advised it is illegal to close the site but members of the public can actively be discouraged from visiting at unsafe times.

Cllr Langley asked about heather management using cattle grazing to reduce old growth: results will be monitored and will be cut if necessary.

Cllr Watson asked about cattle grazing, given that bracken is poisonous to cattle when ingested: the NT is not the owner of the animals, but the owner has visited the site and is happy for it to proceed; a Dead Animal Policy is in place.

Nidderdale Safer Neighbourhood Group Report April 23

The Nidderdale Safer Neighbourhood Group is an essential part of keeping us informed of all aspects of our neighbourhood i.e. crime, fire, ambulance and various other services. It is important that we are all aware and do our best to keep our neighbourhood a safe and secure place to live and work.

The meeting takes place at Pateley Bridge every three 3 months and has recently moved from evening to afternoon sessions, and it is hoped that that will make attendance more convenient for the members.

I have represented Hartwith cum Winsley Parish Council at the NSNG meetings since Amy 2023 and find it very informative and helpful So a very big thankyou to all.

Councillor Jenni Derry

North Yorkshire Police Hartwith-cum-Winsley Annual Parish report

28 Crimes in total committed in past year (since 01/04/2022)

Autocrime: 1, theft from a vehicle at Brimham Rocks

Criminal Damage; 3, all vandalism at Brimham Rocks

Fraud; 4, all relating to on-line or telephone scams

Other Offences; 1, disorderly behaviour

Sexual Offences; 2, both connected to the possession of indecent images of children

Theft; 5, three stolen motor vehicles (quad bike, builder's lorry, car), shoplifting, and theft of a caravan.

Violent Crime, 12, a wide variety of crimes are included in this category including fights, domestic violence, dog bites, and harassment.

Total 28

The overall number of crimes in the parish is very low and I would like to reassure parishioners that this is a very safe area in the context of crime. Considering the wider Nidderdale area theft of equipment from farms, such as quadbikes, is a persistent problem although the number of actual offences in the area is very low.

The best advice for preventing any kind of theft is to take have a sensible level of security, consistent with the value and importance of the property in question, and to be vigilant.

Always report suspicious activity; that is anything which seems, out of place, unusual, and doesn't fit in with day-to-day life. To report incidents by telephone calling 101 will get you through to the police control room who will log your report and can allocate police resources immediately. I acknowledge that the 101 service often involves a wait for someone to answer the phone, but this is still the best way to report an incident and have it recorded and acted upon straight away. It is also possible to report incidents on-line via the North Yorkshire Police website. This service is evolving, and emails and other on-line messages are monitored by the control room so that if necessary a quick response can be initiated.

Fraud is the crime which we are most vulnerable to. Vigilance and knowledge are key. There is plenty of advice and guidance on-line, in the media and in police news releases.

PC820 Bill Hickson, Pateley Bridge Police Station, 13th April 2023

8	Elector's question time. No electors were present.
9	Exchange of Information. No new information was provided.
1	The Council agree a provisional date of 16 th April 2024 for the next Annual Parish Meeting. The meeting closed at 7.40 pm.

To be confirmed at the next Council meeting.