

# **MICKLEFIELD PARISH MEETING**

## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** **HELD ON THURSDAY 28 APRIL 2022**

**PRESENT:** Public (4)

**In Attendance:** Cllr J A Crossley, chairman of Micklefield Parish Council, J L Hebden, Clerk to Micklefield Parish Council

The meeting opened at 7.34pm and was chaired by Cllr J A Crossley, chairman of Micklefield Parish Council.

### **22/01 – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 29 APRIL 2022**

Proposed by Cllr J A Crossley

Seconded by E Todd

**RESOLVED by unanimous vote that the minutes of the annual parish meeting held on Thursday 29 April 2021 are an accurate record.** The chairman signed the minutes for verification.

### **22/02 – MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 29 APRIL 2022**

**21/02 – (previously 19/08)** Cllr J A Crossley reported that since the previous annual parish meeting, the HS2 Phase 2b project had been mothballed.

**21/03 -** Cllr J A Crossley reported that Micklefield Regeneration Partnership was no longer undertaking the community orchard project. The Partnership had passed the project to Micklefield Parish Council, whose Micklefield in Bloom volunteers had agreed to take on subject to the repair of the stone wall separating the identified space from the adjacent footway.

**21/03 –** Cllr J A Crossley reported that the pub was still closed to business, the school caretaker's house was still empty and the school now had a permanent headteacher. The school had joined a wider academy group and a resident expressed concerns that this might make it harder for local children to attend Garforth Academy, which was a member of a different academy group.

**21/08 -** Cllr J A Crossley reported that both of the Parish Council's vacancies had been filled.

### **22/03 – ELECTORS' QUESTION TIME**

**ELECTOR -** Will the number of Parish Council members increase [with the increase in population]?

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY –** It's not something that automatically happens just because the population of a parish increases.

**CLERK -** Council membership doesn't increase as a result of a Parish Council decision to do so. Larger parishes often have larger Council's but there doesn't seem to be an obvious formula one council member for x number of residents/electors.

**ELECTOR –** Are there any Platinum Jubilee celebration events?

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY –** The Parish Council is 'planting a tree for the jubilee'.

**ELECTOR** – Had tried to organise an event but the venue (Churchville House) was already booked.

**ELECTOR** – There will be tea and cake at the Church on Sunday 5 June.

**ELECTOR** – Residents are not achieving much with solving the vehicular use of FP no. 3. The developer has identified a walkway to protect its workers from traffic but users of FP. No. 3 don't have any protection. Davy Avenue had been blocked the previous week, which had increased the number of vehicles using FP no. 3 as a vehicular access/exit.

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY** – Had seen the protective walkway and wondered if a similar thing could be created for members of the public, if the verge was tarmacked. It could probably be done with various grants but the defined user rights issue would need to be resolved first.

**ELECTOR** – The footpath sign near the school has disappeared and other parts of the footpath are in a terrible state due to the adjacent housing development. There is a discrepancy between the width of the retained footpath to the rear of Hallfield Avenue and that approved. The maintenance strip intended at the rear of the bungalows on Great North Road and the new housing development has not been created.

## **22/04 – TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF BUS SERVICE**

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY** - The timetable changed on Monday 26 April and there is no 164 service running on Saturdays (including the Garforth to Leeds service). Lots of companies have temporary changes to some services and there is a driver shortage, but no other services seem to have been completely suspended as opposed to changing service times. There is no indication of when the service might resume

**ELECTOR** - Is [the service suspension] due to driver shortages?

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY** – There is an HGV driver shortage and some bus drivers may have moved to driving HGVs, as the salary is better.

**ELECTOR** – Is it a problem with the Selby depot? Castleford buses don't seem to be hit with problems.

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY** – Our buses come from the Castleford depot to Leeds and start the route from there, not from Selby.

**ELECTOR** – Are they well used?

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY** – It is a public service and should be averaged out over the week. Arriva operates differently to First, as it doesn't subsidise its less popular services with profit from its more popular services to make a general profit. Arriva wants only profitable services and cuts the rest. In the past, North Yorkshire funded the less profitable services, but not any longer.

**ELECTOR** – A lot of development is taking place on the premise of public transport, but the bus and train services are being cut.

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY** – [The trend] started with the first development and the loss of the Boot and Shoe. Now as more houses are being built, public transport is being cut.

**ELECTOR** – What can be done [about the bus service suspension]?

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY** – You can write to Cllr James Lewis and tell him that it's not okay. The Saturday service has been cut, not reduced, and needs to be dealt with. The ward members may not be aware of the issue.

**ELECTOR** – Had contacted Cllr James Lewis, who had stated that there were no service cuts imminent as bus companies needed to give 10 weeks' notice of change. However, on investigation, Cllr Lewis had confirmed that the service would be cut temporarily (not withdrawn) and he would enquire when the service would resume. There had been no further update.

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY** - About 24 years ago there was no main bus to Leeds and the Parish Council organised a public meeting with Metro, which concluded that a bus including Micklefield would need to be on an existing route (the Selby route). Gradually, bus use dropped and now even a Selby-Leeds route doesn't seem to be sustainable.

**ELECTOR** – You need to build in extra time every time you travel because trains don't turn up. They're unreliable, so people use cars.

### **22/05 – CLAIMED FOOTPATHS/PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY**

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY** – The footpath at the south end of the Crescent has been added to the definitive map. The track to the rear of Hallfield Avenue has not been added to the definitive map but has been retained as an established footpath on Leeds City Council maps. The path that runs southwest from St Mary's Walk had a claim submitted and has been incorporated into the development, so can still be used. The path running southeast from Pit Lane also had a claim submitted and has also been incorporated into the development, with the landowner keeping the remaining bit. Rangers' Walk won't be blocked anytime soon due to the mothballing of the HS2 Phase B project.

**ELECTOR** – People use the cart track from footpath no. 3 to the lower field and around the edge of the field to Lower Peckfield Lane. Maybe that could be claimed.

**ELECTOR** – The trees next to Church Lane, with TPOs, have been felled at some point in the past.

### **22/06 – HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS**

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY** – All approved developments are active. Don't know what's happening with the Site Allocations Review (SAP) review. There's no movement on the Travelling Showpeople's Site. The unsold plots at the old pit site were for sale.

**ELECTOR** - Can landowners within a housing allocation site be forced to sell, for example, the land at Newtown Farm that was an allocation?

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY** – No. Most choose to but can't be forced.

**ELECTOR** – What happened to the Newtown Farm area development?

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY** – It was removed as an allocation but it could be put back.

**ELECTOR** – If [the development] is in greenbelt can it be stopped?

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY** – You can object [on the grounds that it's in the greenbelt] but land can be removed from greenbelt. Greenbelt is designed to separate communities physically, rather than prevent expansion of an existing settlement or to preserve the land indefinitely.

**ELECTOR** – I want to live in a village – a small settlement.

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY** – Yes, but that's not the concern of the planning system.

### **22/07 – COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) SPENDING**

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY** – The Parish Council has held two consultation events and received lots of suggestions that need to be collated. All those present had attended the event. The Parish Council will also need to identify legislation that will permit the money to be spent on each project and that each project fulfils the purpose of CIL. Should the money be spent on one big project? Two big projects? Several smaller projects? A mix of each?

**ELECTOR** – Just because 50 people, for example, suggest something doesn't mean that it's therefore the best thing for the community.

**ELECTOR** – There seems to be a need for a social and community venue.

### **22/08 – HIGHROYDS WOOD PECKFIELD LEVEL CROSSING CLOSURES**

**CLLR J A CROSSLEY** – Network Rail had contacted the affected parties (neighbouring landowners) about the proposed Peckfield level crossing closure mitigation measures, which included options to re-route the bridleway north of the railway line to Ridge Road. The Highroyds Wood level crossing temporary closure was likely to become permanent due to

safety concerns. The proposed diversion route travelled underneath the railway along an existing access route.

**22/09 – PECKFIELD LANDFILL SITE**

**ELECTOR** – The site had continued to operate beyond its closure date. It hoped to cease operations in the near future (sometime in 2022). Operating and depositing wastes beyond the cessation date was in breach of the site’s planning approval.

**22/10 – NEXT MEETING**

Proposed by Cllr J A Crossley

Seconded by Mr P Meir

**RESOLVED by unanimous vote to hold the next Annual Parish Meeting on the last Thursday in April 2023.**

The meeting closed at 9.58pm.

**Signed:**

**(Chairman)**

**Date:**

Joanne Hebden, Clerk and RFO  
Micklefield Parish Council  
(Sole Trustee of Micklefield Recreation Ground Charity)

6 Churchville Avenue  
Micklefield  
LEEDS  
LS25 4AS  
0113 2875829  
clerk@micklefield-pc.gov.uk

