**Present:** Cllr Tony Wood (Chair), Cllr Caroline Goodrick, Cllr Malcolm Foster, Cllr Sarah McIntosh, Cllr Ben Fargher, Cllr Dario Elice, William Heyes (Clerk)

1 resident of the village

Action

| **54.** | **Apologies**  None | | | | | |  |
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| **55.** | **New Clerk - Will Heyes**  [will.heyes@bulmer-pc.co.uk](mailto:will.heyes@bulmer-pc.co.uk) - 07891288285 - please contact Will for Parish Council matters. | | | | | |  |
| **56.** | **Minutes of the last meeting 30th October 2023**  Approved and signed by the Chairman as being a true and accurate record. | | | | | |  |
| **57.** | **Matters Arising**  There is still no contact from NYC regarding road sweeping or the filling of extra pot holes regardless of Cllr Elice’s attempts. Cllr Elice will continue to make contact  The rotten ash tree, near the old quarry (Ganthorpe road junction), is still to be cleared. Cllr Foster has contacted Castle Howard, but has received no response.  The dog poo dispensers have been ordered by Cllr McIntosh and will be put up around the village by a resident. They will be placed near the bins in locations that have previously been discussed. | | | | | | DE  MF  SM |
| **58.** | **Declarations of Interest**  No additional declarations were made | | | | | |  |
| **59.** | **Public Participation Session**  The PCC are planning to repair the Church tower at a cost exceeding £200k. It was agreed that these are needed repairs but the money will need to be raised through a Faculty and fundraising events.  The Church graveyard wall is due to be repaired with funding from AONB and NYC, though this work has not begun yet, it has to be finished by end of March for the grant to be accepted. Cllr Foster to chase.  Cllr Goodrick stated that there is a projected increase in Council Tax, to be voted on by NY Council. This follows on from road maintenance and repairs throughout North Yorkshire. | | | | | | MF |
| **60.** | **Financial Update & Approval of Payments** | | | | | |  |
| 5.01.24 | TW / DE |  | PCP Market Research | Survey Invoice BPC1 | £1,006.62 |
| 22.01.24 | PO | £1,568.00 | Village Hall Committee | Purchase of Projector etc |  |
| 24.01.24 | TW / DE |  | Groundwork UK R/C | Refund NP Grant | £461.00 |
| 28.01.24 | TW / DE |  | Destiny Entertainments Ltd | speakers, DVD | £578.00 |
| 28.01.24 | TW / DE |  | Visunext UK Ltd | Projector, Screen | £990.00 |
| **61.** | **Current bank balance £4725.98** | | | | | |  |
| **62.** | **Precept –**  Precept of £2,400 has remained the same as previous years and an application has been made to NYC | | | | | |  |
| **63.** | **Village Hall - Annual Report**  No report was submitted last year but it is required this year. Cllr Wood will follow this up. | | | | | | TW |
| **64.** | **Planning Applications**  The following planning application was received;  ZE23/06927/FUL - Kilburn House - Erection of an agricultural building  A visit was made to the site on 8th January 2024 and no objections were raised to the works. | | | | | |  |
| **65.** | **Neighbourhood Plan**  The first survey has been completed with a 42% response, which is an overall positive response. The results are to be published on the village website as soon as it is formatted correctly for online viewing; paper copies are available on request (please email [will.heyes@bulmer-pc.co.uk](mailto:will.heye@bulmer-pc.co.uk))  The Working Group are looking to employ a planning consultant from Compass Point, Whitby. The consultant will advise on the next steps in creating the NP. An application for a grant has been made to Locality to fund this up to March 31st and a second application will be made to continue funding from April 1st. The intention of the committee is to complete the Plan by the end of this year, for it to then be submitted to NYC for review and finally to residents for a vote.  Cllr Goodrick confirmed that the NYC will shortly be issuing a new call for sites in North Yorkshire. It is noted that following the Escrick Park Estates appeal to build a new settlement (Heronby) in Selby District, NYC are considering building one entire new settlement rather than piecemeal settlements throughout North Yorkshire. | | | | | | TW |
| **66.** | **Bulmer Parish Council Website**  Cllr Elice has built the new website and created new email addresses for some Cllrs; with the intention for all Cllrs to have them soon. All contact details are available on the notice board and the village website - bulmer-pc.co.uk  Separate parts of the website will be updated by delegated members of the village so that it can be kept up to date. These separate parts include; Local News, Neighbourhood plan, Parish Council Matters and other amenities such as the Church (PCC), Village Hall, Community Speed watch etc.    It is intended that a meeting will be arranged with these members to receive instructions on how to keep their parts of the website up to date. | | | | | | DE  WH  DE |
| **67.** | **Village Noticeboard and Telephone**  The new notice board will need oiling and cleaning, it was agreed that this should take place twice a year spring and before winter.  The telephone box is in need of being painted. Cllr McIntosh will get quotations for this service.  The Parish Council is grateful for the effort of the resident that keeps the Telephone box library clean and tidy on a regular basis - Thank you. | | | | | | SM  SM |
| **68.** | **Defibrillator and VETS telephone service**  Cllr Elise has been in contact with community heartbeat to replace the pads on the defibrillator and that the batteries are running ok.  There is a call for volunteers to join the VETS telephone service group. There has been some concern from members of the group that they feel unprepared with the duty of VETS and that the list of volunteers needs to be updated, new instructions issued and training on the machine requested. When updated the new list and instruction will be published on the village website. | | | | | | DE  TW |
| **69.** | **Community Speed Watch**  The Community Speed Watch session has continued to run and succeeds in slowing traffic down in the village. There is a call for more volunteers to join the efforts of the Speed Watch group - please email Anne Christine if you wish to volunteer or for more information about the group; annechristinet@hotmail.com  There is also a call for ideas that will work in the long term to slow down traffic. The council discussed the use of a matrix traffic sign (flashy sign) which records the speeds of all vehicles through the village, allowing repeat offenders to be logged; this information can be used to advise police on the time in which these offenders move through the village. It is a movable system and would require different concrete posts to be placed through the village for it to be moved to different points. With each post costing approximately £500 and the sign itself costing well in excess of £1000 it would be an expensive purchase for the village and would require further discussion.    Smaller solutions were discussed; the use of 30 mile per hour signs on wheelie bins and gates, however these were deemed to be a low impact solution (although inexpensive). | | | | | |  |
| **70.** | **Welburn Road Footpath**  The Welburn Road Footpath has grown over and become very narrow for pedestrians. Cllr Foster is going to get quotes to carry out the works.  It has also been noted that many of the trees along this stretch of road have low hanging branches which may cause hazards to motorists. Cllr Foster is going to get quotes to tidy these trees as well as trees down Wandales Lane. | | | | | | MF  MF |
| **71.** | **Oak Tree at the east end of the village**  Residents have reported concerns that the oak tree to the East of the village has grown too large; obscuring views for motorists and pedestrians. The council further discussed the same for the large oak tree further in the village (in front of Slothwood) and both should be dealt with with a matter of urgency. As prominent trees with historical value, both within the conservation boundary they should be surveyed by an arborist. Cllr Wood will arrange for reports to be carried out on both trees before works are proposed. | | | | | | TW |
| **72.** | **Urban Grass Cutting letter from NYC**  The council received a letter from NYC stating a purchase order will be raised of £481 to cut certain grass verges of key visibility around the parish five times per year. The council discussed whether it would be of better value to get the grass verges cut by a contractor and include more areas of verges and footpaths. Cllr Fargher will ask for quotes for these additional areas before comparing it to the NYC offer. | | | | | | BF |

| **73.** | **AOB**  There were comments made that residents' recycling was placed in the street on evenings/days of high wind. It was discussed that netting should be available in the council lorries and should be readily available to residents. Cllr Wood will email Ryedale/NYC to enquire about the availability of netting covers for recycling boxes.  There was a village Whatsapp group set up during the pandemic to help support and care for members of the village; there are approximately 40 residents in the group. Cllr Elice has created a Whatsapp community which includes general chats, village news, village events etc. It was agreed for the two groups to be amalgamated to include as many residents as possible. Cllr Elice will work to join these two groups.  It was brought to attention that there was a recent theft of a motorhome in a nearby village; fortunately all criminals were caught in quick succession. It is advised that if residents see suspicious activity or calls, please report them to 101. If you have strong and legitimate concerns please call 999 as information about criminal groups is very useful to the police. We strongly believe we live in a very safe area, but please remain vigilant and look out for our community.  After a few communication issues with Barclays bank. Cllr Wood and Cllr Elice confirmed with the bank that there were no further issues.  The mobile post office van visits on Wednesdays in Welburn and is a convenient commodity for residents in the area; the contact and opening hours are available in the post office website and often posted in the Howardian. | TW  DE |
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| **74.** | **Future Meetings**  29th April 2024, 7pm in Bulmer Village Hall. |  |
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|  | Meeting Closed at 8:20PM |  |

Signed Chair Bulmer Parish Council