

Yorkshire Water Funding Committee

Minutes of Meeting held on 4th April 2024

Those present:

David Llewellyn (DL) (Chairman), Stephen Pritchard (SP), Jenny Walker (JW), Andy Morson (AM), Dan Dent (DD), Martyn Whistler (MW), Claire Hodgson (CH), Martin Stott (MS), Howard Thomas (HT), Alun Johnson (AH) & council Clerk Marina Briggs (MB).

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted for Louise Priestman, Jo Deeming and Edgar Jenkins. Daniel Thrower communicated that he could no longer commit time to the committee and so has resigned his position. Thanks were extended to him for his interest.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 12th March 2024

Approved and duly signed by the Chairman

3. Update from DD on the funded case study

The DWI have stated that they can only release the information regarding the case study for a village in a similar position to Carlton if it is requested by the MP due to GDPR restrictions. DD informed the meeting that all was known at the moment was that it was an ex-army base with around 35-65 house and they obtained grant funding for the installation of the water supply.

ACTION: DD is to look at FOI possibilities, contact with Severn Trent for more information and if nothing further can be obtained, a further letter to our MP will be drafted.

4. Update from MW, MS on the feasibility application to the UKSPF (document attached)

MW informed the meeting of a useful conversation with a member of the admin team at UKSPF. He had advised making a pre application rather than a feasibility application. Due to the rural nature of the NY area, the Rural Prosperity Fund and the UKSPF have been merged together which makes the criteria not quite so applicable to our case. £50k maximum is available and the project needs to be completed by Feb 2025. This may mean that we cannot apply for this round of funding or there may be the possibility of asking YW to break the work down into stages. More UKSPF funding is hoped for in the future but is not guaranteed.

HT agreed that funds that the PC hold for the purposes of improving the water supply could be mentioned in the application as a source of matched funding.

ACTION: MW & MS to amend the application to reflect that under the Rural Prosperity Fund criteria our project fitted well into the Capital Investment category and also that the council had reserves to potentially put towards the project as matched funding. The application will then be submitted.

5. Update from MB on the letters sent to our MP and the NYC

No communication has been received in respect of either letter, but DD informed the meeting that Karin Sedgwick had been in touch to say that the MP's office and NYC are looking into the situation. She has also offered to attend our meetings if required.

ACTION: Invite Karin Sedgwick to the next YWFC meeting

6. Update from SP and CH on possible sources of further funding (document attached).

SP informed the meeting about a call with Sheena Spence from YLCA who is going to check that the PC is in a position to borrow funds and also ask other councils if they have any case studies or contacts who may be able to help. She feels confident that CTPC should be able to borrow funds. The more funds required the greater the scrutiny by the Department of Levelling Up and more proof of community support would be required.

Discussion took place around putting together a model for different scenarios of funding, including grants, council reserves, householder and business contributions and loans.

ACTION: MW & SP to draw up a spreadsheet with different scenarios to circulate to the group.

ACTION: AJ, MS and DD to look at the tax implications for business contributions.

7. Update from SP on further investigation of the Communities Ownership Fund

The YW option does not meet the criteria for the COF but the PWS would.

ACTION: MB to communicate with the PC to ask if they wish to submit an expression of interest in case they wish to apply for funds in the next round of funding in May 2024.

8. Update from JW on the house survey

JW has compiled a comprehensive list which is nearly complete.

ACTION: JW to meet with MB to confirm details regarding each property.

9. To note that the proposed statement on the work of the YWFC was circulated in the latest Parish newsletter.

No feedback has been received to date.

10. Update from MW on Project Plan

The plan circulated prior to the meeting had been updated with applications and works completion deadlines.

11. Discussion on next steps

DL proposed that a plan is drawn up for like-for-like comparisons with the PWS and YW options including replacing the mains.

ACTION: AM to cost out the mains replacement and updated costings for the PWS with input from JW where required.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 24th April, 7pm. Coverdale Memorial Hall Annexe

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8pm

Summary of Actions for YWFC

ACTION	Person responsible
Look at FOI possibilities regarding the case study, contact with Severn Trent for more information	Dan Dent
Amend and submit UKSPF application	Martyn Whistler, Martin Stott
Invite Karin Sedgewick to the next YWFC meeting	Marina Briggs
Produce model of different funding scenarios	Martyn Whistler Stephen Pritchard
Investigate tax implications of business contributions	Alun Johnson Martin Stott & Dan Dent
Inform PC of details of the COF	Marina Briggs
Finalise list of properties	Jenny Walker Marina Briggs
Cost up mains replacement and update costings for PWS	Andy Morson