

Minutes of the Proceedings of the Meeting of Belmont Parish Council held in Belmont Community Centre on Thursday 7th February 2013 at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Chair B. Howarth, Vice Chair C. Patterson, Councillors E. Marvin, D. Southwell, M. Robinson, K. Neat, I. Walker, A. Walker, A.L. Thomson, S. Inglis, B. Muyaert, K. Holroyd.

Also present: Mrs C Atkinson (Clerk)

12.172 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor T. Baxter

Resolved: that apologies be received and agreed

12.173 Declarations of Interest

Members Please Note: - this is a standard item. If Members are aware of a personal or prejudicial interest in relation to any item on the Agenda this should be disclosed at this stage or when the interest becomes apparent during the consideration of an item in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Members. This item is linked to your Declaration of Members Interest forms please consult these forms when reading these notes on agenda items to ensure compliance with this item.

Declarations of Interest were received from Councillor D. Southwell and K Holroyd (Council Planning Committee) A.L. Thomson (Fire Authority).

Suspension of Standing Orders

The Chairman suspended standing orders

12.174 Miscellaneous Reports

(a) Police

PC W Mughal reported on all incidents within the parish.

Agreed: That the Clerk would send an e-mail to thank PC Ralph Thompson for his work in the parish.

(b) Community Warden

Warden Mr Paul Parker gave a report on dog fouling in the parish, saying faeces was not being picked up by residents and wardens had been given authority to wear plain clothes during dog patrols from 8th February 2013.

He reported dropping of litter outside Ivy Court, also noise and youths in the area.

Dog warning signs have been placed at the Scrambles, on Cycle Tracks and Moorfield car park on Sunderland Road, Gilesgate.

Councillor K. Neat requested there be signs placed at the entrance & exit of the Scrambles.

Councillor D Southwell asked for a dog bin to be sited at or near Ivy Cottage.

Councillor E. Mavin raised a concern of a dog sign outside a private property where the resident has requested that it be removed, the Warden stated this has now been removed.

A member of the public enquired if there was any way of having signage to thank dog walkers who are responsible dog owners for cleaning up after their dogs when walking in the parish. Wardens stated that they do thank dog walkers and that there is a scheme to win a £25 Voucher for being a responsible dog owner.

The Warden reported that dog stencils would not now take place in the parish.

Councillor E. Mavin enquired about fencing of property in Broomside Lane and the Warden said that this has now been dealt with.

Councillor S. Inglis raised concerns about bollards being left on the road, that teenagers were moving them around outside Willowtree Avenue and asked that this be monitored.

Agreed: For the Clerk to enquire with Durham County Council why dog stencils would not now take place.

(c) Members of the Public

A member of the public raised concerns regarding a matter raised at the special traffic meeting. Wheelie bins were being left blocking footpaths by the refuse collection service. He asked for a copy of the response received by the Parish Council from Durham County Council in respect of Councillor E. Mavin's request for bins to be placed against the wall after emptying. It was agreed that this be supplied and the Clerk said that Durham County Council was training staff to do this at the present time.

Councillor D Southwell stated that slow down signs will be placed in the future on the A690, awaiting updated information.

A member of the public said he regretted that when the Police Reports were given at the parish council meeting they used initials, which people don't understand. He also asked if Wardens could report on dog fouling penalties issued.

The Chair stated we do usually receive a Wardens report on a monthly basis by e-mail.

Agreed: for the parish council to give information through the parish Newsletter.

Re-impose Standing Orders.

The Chairman re-imposed Standing Orders.

12.175 Planning Matters

The dates were given for the public meetings by Hargreaves Surface Mining to take questions on its plans to dig coal from Field House, an open countryside site between Low Pitlington and West Rainton. The exhibitions will be held at

- Pitlington Village Hall on Saturday, February 23
- Jubilee Hall, in West Rainton, on Saturday, March 2, both from 10am to 2pm.

Councillor C. Patterson raised concerns regarding heavy transport coming through the parish in regards to the Open Cast site proposals.

Councillor K. Neat raised traffic noise, congestion impacts upon wildlife in the parish.

Declaration of Interest/ Councillor D, Southwell only spoke to give information.

Ramside Executive Homes

Councillor C Pattinson reported on reserved matters relating to this application saying very large houses were proposed. He requested that Belmont Parish Council ask for it to be considered at committee.

Agreed: For Belmont Parish Council to forward a letter to Durham City Planning Office to propose that this application be referred to committee.

107a High Street

Concerns raised about unsightly flue sited on premises.

Agreed: To write to the planning officer to ask if it complies with the original plans.

If it is compliant, Councillor E. Marvin offered to visit the resident to ask for the flue to be painted so that it was more in keeping with the surroundings.

Roundabout at Tesco

Councillor D. Southwell stated a planning application was in process for a roundabout at Tesco.

12.176 To Confirm and Sign as a Correct Record Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd January 2013

Agreed: with amendments

- 12.155(a): PC Mughal reported on the 'Think Cheveley' project.
- 12.162: 10 votes in favour (unanimous)
- 12.163: 10 votes in favour (unanimous)
- 12.167: 9 votes in favour with one abstention
- 12.169: (d) litter pick for Sunday 10th March

12.177 Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda

Agreed: There were no matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda.

12.178 Clerks Report, Correspondence Tabled Items – For Information

(a) Letters were forwarded to:

- (1) Mr May (plaque placement)
- (2) Belmont Community Association (Office Rent)
- (3) Mr C Stoves (Thank you letter)

(b) E-mail forwarded to:

- (1) Mr B Alderson (play area signage request for 5 signs)
- (2) Mr G Fletcher (internal auditor regarding item 4.1.4. Budgetary Control)

(c) Correspondence Tabled Items:

- (1) Clerks and Councils Direct
- (2) The Clerks Magazine

(d) The Elections will be held on the 2nd May 2013 and due to this date I propose that we hold the full parish council meeting on the 16th May 2013.

Agreed: received and agreed

12.179 Risk Management in relation to Items on the Agenda

Members please note:- this is a standard item. Risk Management has been considered when compiling these notes for February 2012 meeting and has been incorporated into reports and presented to Members.

Resolved: Received and agreed

12.180 Financial Matters

Finance documents outlining Receipts and Payment of Accounts

(a) To receive receipts and payments of Accounts from 14th December 2012 – 29th January 2013*

(b) To Consider Donation Requests

None

(c) Membership and Subscriptions

None

Agreed: Received and agreed

12.181 Cemetery Reports

(a) To receive the report of Burials during the month of January 2013

(1) Mrs K Pace Burial PP16 New Single Mrs B Dain

(b) To receive the report of Grave & Ashes Purchases during the month of January 2013

(1) Mrs M Wujturska Ashes Y34

(c) To Consider Memorial Erection and Additional Inscription Applications

(1) Mrs Jean Middlemass Ashes Plaque North East Granite

18" x 18"x 3" thick, plaque cemented to foundation base and cemented into ground.

(d) Ashes Plots

(1) Mrs J Middlemass Ashes Plot Y33 Mrs H Ramsey

(e) Ashes interred in Burial Plots

(1) Ann Finlay Plot x13 Co-op Funeral Service
(2) Howard Duncan Shiel BB15 Ashes Co-op Funeral Service

Agreed: Received and agreed

12.182 Queens Garden Party Nominations 2013

Nominees.
Councillor & Mrs C. Pattinson

Received and agreed: For the clerk to e-mail response on the 11th February 2013.
Mr. Steve Ragg.

12.183 North East Air Ambulance

Agreed: for the Clerk to gain more information regarding the facilitating of an event on training on life saving techniques and access to defibrillators.

12.184 Entry Level Stewardship Renewal

Agreed: Subject to receiving further information and the Handbook edition 4 as required.
Councillor K. Neat offered to assist the Clerk in submitting an application. This was accepted.

12.185 County Durham and Darlington Fire Rescue

Agreed: completion of survey to be delegated to Chair, Vice-Chair.

12.186 Committee / Working Party Reports

(a) Playground Development Committee

Councillor D Southwell wished to thank Belmont Parish Council for the offer of £5,000 for Ashdown Play Area, Gilesgate Moor, but said it would not now be required as the area was not to be developed by the County Council.
Councillor E. Mavin reported that 3 litter bins have been placed on Cheveley Park play area, to be paid for out of Councillor Mavin's Neighbourhood Budget.

(b) Planting Scheme Working Party Committee

Councillor B. Muylaert reported that Broomside Court had been planted with Crocuses.
Councillor I Walker reported that letters would be sent to schools encouraging their involvement in Northumbria in Bloom.
Letters were to be sent out to residents to become involved in Northumbria in Bloom within the parish.

(c) Cemetery Working Party

A Cemetery Working Party Meeting will be held on Monday 11th February 2013.
That the Cemetery Fees, Cemetery Plan would be on the agenda

(d) Friends of Belmont Scrambles Group Information

A Communal Spring Litter Pick will be held on the 10th March 2013.
Councillor K Neat will be organising a working party on Sunday 10th Feb 2013.

(e) Parish Plan Steering Group

Councillor K Holroyd will be arranging a meeting.

(f) Planning Committee

Councillor C. Pattinson had given a planning report earlier.

(g) Finance Working Party

Councillor K. Holroyd reported the reconciliation for the parish council bank accounts.

(h)Personnel and Training Advisory Panel

Staff Appraisal's will be held next week for the Clerk and Clerical Assistant.

(i)Asset Task Group

The Asset Task Group will be discussing the playground equipment valuation and land valuation.

Agreed: to report progress to the April meeting.

(j)Quality Parish Status

Awaiting Quality Parish Status Criteria

12.187 To Receive Reports From Ward Councillors

(a) Belmont Ward

Councillor I. Walker raised concerns about grit bins for Thorndale and Ferndale. The request for a grit bin was referred to the County Councillor.

(b)Gilesgate Moor Ward

Councillor S. Inglis raised concerns regarding the Grange Foundry site.
Councillor D. Southwell confirmed that it has now been resolved.

(c)Carrville Ward

Councillor E Mavin reported on his meetings with an officer and the public regarding a refuge at the bottom of Carrville High Street.

Councillor D Southwell reported on work on grassed area at Willowtree Avenue shops to commence on 11th February, funded from two councillors budgets.

Councillor M. Robinson reported that a transporter had been unloading on the road outside Bristol Street Motors.

12.188 Any other items of interest to note or for inclusion on the next agenda

The Clerk reported that the Moorfield Lighting work is to start next week.

Date and time of next Meeting – 7th March 2013 at 6.30p.m

The Meeting Closed at 9.00p.m.

