

**Minutes of the Belmont Full Parish Council Meeting held on
Thursday 4th January 2018 at 6.30 p.m. in Belmont Community Centre**

Present: Chairman, Councillor D.J. Southwell, Vice-Chair Councillor R. Murphy, Councillors J. Appleby, E. Finlay, B. Howarth, S. Inglis, M. M. Leggott, T.A. Lemmon, S. Lowes, E. Mavin and L. Mavin.

Also Present: Mrs S. Overton (Parish Clerk)

17.158 To Receive Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors J. Corrigan, J.A. Sykes and O. Whear.

The Chair informed members of Councillor S. Whites resignation as a Parish Councillor.

Received.

17.159 To Receive Declarations of Interest.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

The Chairman wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Received.

17.160 To Receive Miscellaneous Reports

(a) Police.

A report to be forwarded to all Councillors when received.

(b) Community Warden.

There was no Community Warden present, a report to be forwarded to all Councillors when received.

A concern was raised regarding poor road markings near the entrance to High Grange Estate, these concerns raised were to Durham County Council regarding poor road markings near the entrance to High Grange Estate'

(c) Members of the Public.

None present.

17.161 To Consider and Make Comment on Planning Matters*.

For discussion at the meeting:

a) Weekly Planning List for December 2017.

Only one item on the list:

DM/17/03960/FPA: Bannatyne Health Club and Hotel, Eden Terrace, Gilesgate Moor, Durham DH1 2HJ. Proposed car park extension.

Agreed that the Parish Planning Committee should consider this application, take any action thought appropriate and report to 1st February Full Council.

Also discussed:

DM/17/03382/AD: Bannatyne Health Club and Hotel – free standing sign on the Sunderland Road corner of the above site.

The Parish Council had strongly objected to this application for reasons given in last month's Planning Report. As agreed, Councillor B. Howarth spoke at the DCC District Committee but it was **APPROVED** – feedback given.

DM/17/03290/FPA: Unit 1 McIntrye Way, Durham Retail Park, Gilesgate Moor, Durham DH1 2RP. Proposed insertion of mezzanine floorspace.

Application is to go to DCC District Planning Committee on 9th January 2018. We will not be sending a representative to speak.

The Parish Council did not object to this application which is predicted to offer 50+ job opportunities. A sequential test has now been done and the recommendation is for **APPROVAL**.

Further information on applications can be seen in Clerk's Correspondence.

17.162 To Confirm and Sign as a Correct Record of the Minutes of the Meeting of Belmont Parish Council held on 7th December 2017. Minutes attached *.

Amendment:-

17.145 PG 4 "increase his contract" not his salary.

Agreed.

Councillor J. Appleby left the meeting at 6.50 p.m.

Councillor T.A. Lemmon joined the meeting at 6.50 pm.

17.163 To Receive Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda.

17.127 PG 2 -The Chairman has spoken to the appropriate person at Durham County council regarding the 30 m.p.h. speed indicator on Carrville High Street, an update will be available shortly.

17.129 PG 3 – The Chairman thanked everyone who was involved with the Senior Citizens Christmas Party positive feedback has been received, letter of thanks to TM Travel for supplying the transport.

17.149 PG 5 - It was agreed to approach the appropriate person to discuss decreasing speed on the A690 down to 50 m.p.h. The Chairman thanked the County Councillors for their input.

17.156 PG 6 – County Councillor E.Mavin reported that the recent request for two grit bins in Belmont Community Centre carpark has been passed onto the Leisure Department.

Received.

17.164 To Receive Matters of Information, Clerk's Report, Correspondence Tabled Items – For Information*.

1/ Thank you letter to Belmont Community School regarding Senior Citizens Christmas Party.

2/ Letter to Durham County Council regarding Licensing Officer.

Received and Agreed.

17.165 To Consider 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 January 2018 meeting and has been incorporated into reports and presented to Members.

Received.

17.166 To Consider Financial Matters*.

(a) Finance documents outlining Receipts and Payment of Accounts for December 2017.

(b) Bank reconciliation to end of December 2017.

(c) Budget Summary for October/November/December 2017.

Received and Agreed.

17.167 To Consider and Make Comment on Cemetery Reports*.

(a) To Receive the report of Burials during the month of December 2017

(3)

(b) To Receive the report of Grave & Ashes Purchases of December 2017

(2)

(c) To Consider Memorial Erection and Additional Inscription Applications during the December 2017

(2)

Received and Agreed.

17.168 Standing Orders Update.

The Chairman informed members that the matter is in hand and will be attended to.

17.169 Financial Regulations For Approval.

The Chair explained the Asset Register increases were due to replacement of playground equipment in play areas. Poplar Play Area at Carrville didn't increase as only repair work was undertaken.

Agreed.

17.170 Summer Planting

The summer planting costing 2018 was put to members for approval.

Agreed and Approved.

17.171 Identity Badges Update

The Chairman asked Councillors to call into the Parish Office with a passport size photo of themselves in preparation for the identity badges. The Administration/Information Technologist Assistant Mr. A.Thurlwell to take pictures if a Councillor does not have a passport size photograph.

Agreed: For Councillor B. Howarth to approach Belmont Community School to seek advice and discuss arrangements for production of badges.

17.172 Cheque Signatories.

The Chair to contact Barclays Bank to amend signatory list for signing cheques.

Agreed.

17.173 Community Policing (bicycles).

A suggestion of purchasing three bikes for the Police, two for men, one for female plus safety helmets was discussed. The Police to maintain them after purchase and be responsible for their use. The Chairman said that the presence of Police in the area was an advantage to the Parish.

Agreed: For Vice-Chair, Councillor R. Murphy and Councillor S. Inglis to accompany Police to look at purchasing bicycles at Halfords.

17.174 To Receive Working Party Reports.

(a) Appeals Committee

No meeting was held this month.

(b) Asset Task Group

A meeting was held on Wednesday 6th December 2017 at 9.30 am.

(c) Cemetery Working Party

No meeting was held this month.

(d) Complaints Procedure Committee

No meeting was held this month

(e) Finance Working Party

A meeting was held on Wednesday 6th December at 9.30 am.

A meeting was held on Wednesday 13th December 2017 at 9.30 am.*

(f) Friends of Belmont Scrambles

A Scrambles report was forwarded to the parish office from Mr. K. Neat (Friends of Belmont Scrambles) to be handed out to all members for information purposes*

(g) Parish Newsletter Working Party

No meeting was held this month

(h) Personnel and Training Advisory Panel

No meeting was held this month.

(i) Planning Committee

No meeting was held this month.

(j) Planting Scheme Working Party

A meeting was held on Friday 8th December 2017. * see attached.

The Chair of the Planting Scheme Working Party Councillor B. Howarth reported that the Children's' Calendars were selling well.

The summer costings for plants had been discussed by the Planting Scheme Working Party members and were within budget. It was agreed that they should be recommended to Full Council for approval.

k) Playground Development Committee

No meeting was held this month

(l) Christmas Tree Committee

No meeting was held this month.

The Christmas Tree has now been taken down and is ready to be recycled, Councillor E. Mavin reported that the Christmas Tree had been well received with positive feedback from residents. The Chairman thanked everyone involved regarding the planning for the event and said an excellent job had been done.

(m) Area Action Partnership (AAP)

The Chair asked members if they would like to put their names forward to represent the Parish Council at future Area Action Partnership meetings as the current representative has now resigned. Members to give their names to the Clerk who will inform the appropriate person at County Hall.

(n) National Association of Local Councils) NALC

The Chair asked members if they would like to put their names forward to represent the Parish Council at future National Association of Local Councils) NALC meetings as the current representative has now resigned. Members to give their names to the Clerk who will inform the appropriate person at County Hall.

The Chair reported to members that the new rules covering Data Protection has not been finalised yet and members will be informed as soon as information is available.

17.175 To Receive Reports from Ward Councillors

Belmont

A concern was raised regarding poor road markings in the area causing safety issues, the matter to be taken up by Durham County Council.

For information, Gloucestershire Drive is to be re-surfaced this month.

A concern of a large pot-hole along Broomside Lane has now been repaired.

Carrville

A concern was raised regarding poor road markings in the area causing safety issues, the matter to be taken up by Durham County Council.

A concern regarding broken traffic lights on the A690 wiped out on New Year's Eve has now been repaired.

A concern regarding overflowing drains in Carrsway has now been resolved, a similar concern in Fallsway is still ongoing.

A concern of rubbish being dumped outside certain properties in Carrville High Street has been reported. The Neighbourhood Warden to be contacted by the County Councillor with the numbers of those houses affected.

A concern was raised regarding Sycamore leaves causing problems in Poplar Play Area. The County Council dealt with this quickly and the resident was very pleased.

A concern of a damaged bollard on Carrville High Street has been reported but as it is not on Durham County Council land, Councillor Mavin is looking into who is responsible for it.

Gilesgate Moor.

A concern was raised regarding poor road markings in the area causing safety issues, the matter to be taken up by Durham County Council. A concern was raised regarding a depression in the road on the A690 road at Carrville roundabout just past the opening to the Caravan Park as you head towards Durham, the matter to be looked at by County Councillors.

It was reported that the paper shop on Willowtree Avenue was willing to host a defibrillator Councillor L.Mavin to approach the shop to discuss further, the Chairman said that any training needed regarding usage would be paid for by the Parish Council.

A recent concern of abandoned shopping trolleys in the area has now been dealt with.

A concern was raised regarding speeding buses on Willowtree Avenue estate, the matter to be reported to the bus company concerned.

A concern was raised regarding mud slippage at Magdalene Gardens due to the recent heavy rainfall, the matter to be monitored as further slippage could descent onto the nearby slip road.

17.176 Any Other Business

With reference to the recent Special Meeting held on Monday 20th November 2017 regarding Polling Cards, the Chairman put to members that if any vacancies arise on the Parish Council over the next twelve months, the Parish Council does not issue polling cards as it is not a legal requirement.

Proposer: Vice-Chair Councillor R. Murphy

Seconder: Councillor B. Howarth.

Agreed unanimously.

17.177 Date of Next Meeting

Thursday, 1st February 2018

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm.