

**Minutes of the Full Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June at 6:30 pm  
in Belmont Community Centre.**

**Present:** Chairman, Councillor D.J. Southwell, Vice-Chair Councillor R. Murphy, Councillors E.B. Finlay, B. Howarth, S. Inglis, S. Lowes, E.S. Mavin, J.E. Hedges, T.A. Lemmon and J.J. Wildheart.

**Also Present:** Mrs. S. Overton (Parish Clerk)  
Members of the Public (5)

18.29 To Receive Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors J. Appleby, J. Corrigan, P.T. Finley and L. Mavin.

**Received and Agreed.**

18.30 To Receive 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.

**Received and Agreed.**

**The Chairman suspended Standing Orders.**

18.31 To Receive Miscellaneous Reports.

(a) Police.

There were no Police present at the meeting, a report to be forwarded to all Councillors when received.

(b) Community Warden.

There were no Wardens present at the meeting, a report to be forwarded to all Councillors when received.

A concern was raised about the state of the hedges on Monks Crescent, it was agreed to contact the Community Warden to address the issue.

A concern was raised regarding the poor state of the road gutters and perimeter walls in the Parish becoming overgrown with weeds, the matter to be reported to the Neighbourhood Warden.

(c) Members of the Public.

A concern was raised by a resident regarding groups of youths racing and speeding their cars on B&Q car park and along various streets in the Parish. The Chair to approach the Assistant Chief Constable at the Police to address the issue. The resident was asked to contact Mr. Ron Hog Police Crime Commissioner (PCC) with his concerns.

A concern was raised regarding an overgrown bush on High Grange Estate, the Chairman to contact the appropriate Officer.

Councillor J.E. Hedges joined the meeting at 6.35 pm.

Councillor T.A. Lemmon and four members of the public left the meeting at 6.55 pm.

18.32 Presentation from pupils from Belmont Community School.

The Assistant Head Teacher introduced three of the ten pupils who had recently took part in the Tall Ships Challenge. A presentation was given to Councillors by the pupils, who said that they had learnt invaluable life skills such as team-work and confidence building and that the experience had been fantastic. The Assistant Head Teacher informed Councillors that next year twenty pupils were taking part, ten boys and ten girls. The pupils were hoping to raise money for sponsorship doing bag packing in local supermarkets. It was agreed to put a write up (written by one of the participants) in the next edition of the Parish Newsletter, the Chair thanked the pupils for their informative presentation and thanked the Assistant Headteacher for her input.

**The Chairman re-imposed Standing Orders.**

18.33 To Consider and Make Comment on Planning Matters\*.

The list of Planning Applications received from Durham County Council Planning Department for May 2018 has been circulated to Members.

The Chair of the Planning Committee gave a Planning Report to Councillors – see attached to these minutes.

The Chair thanked her for her report.

**Received and Agreed.**

18.34 To Confirm and Sign as a Correct Record of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Belmont Parish Council held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018. Minutes attached \*.

**Agreed.**

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

18.10 Pg 2 – The 106 Application goes on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2018 to the Area Action Partnership sub-committee at Durham County Council for discussion regarding approval.

18.16 Pg 4 - The Excise of Public Rights has gone up in the Parish Notice Boards and on the Parish website for the period commencing 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018 until the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

18.25 Pg 6 – Robing Room – For information up to £5000.00 can be claimed from 106 monies to help towards the updating of the Cemetery Robing Room.

18.26 (1) Pg 7 – Playground Development Committee - A concern recently raised regarding damaged matting in Moorfield Play Area, Durham County Council have taken responsibility of getting a quote to replace the matting with wet pour. They have since received a quote and it was agreed the Parish Council would pay £2,500.00 towards the total cost.

The Chair looked for approval from all Councillors, this was proposed and seconded by Councillors present, the outcome was unanimous.

Proposed: Councillor E.S. Mavin

Seconded: Councillor B. Howarth

Unanimous.

**Received and agreed.**

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

1. Letter of thanks has gone to Belmont School for their help with the identity badges.
2. VAT Claim Form has now been posted.

3. Thank you letter from the Womens Banner Group for our recent donation of fifty pounds.
4. Data Protection Fee has now been paid.

**Received.**

18.37 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 June 2018 meeting and has been incorporated into reports and presented to members.

**Agreed.**

18.38 To Consider Financial Matters\*.

(a) Finance documents outlining Receipts and Payment of Accounts for May 2018.

(b) Bank reconciliation to end of May 2018.

(c) Donation requests for May 2018.

(0)

**Received and Agreed.**

18.39 To Consider and Make Comment on Cemetery Reports.

(a) To Receive the report of Burials during the month of May 2018

(0)

(b) To Receive the report of Grave & Ashes Purchases during the month of May 2018

(0)

(c) To Consider Memorial Erection and Additional Inscription Applications during the month of May 2018

(0)

(d) Ashes interred in Burial Plots during the month of May 2018

(0)

**Received and Agreed.**

18.40 To Discuss the displaying of Community Information on Parish Council Website.

The displaying of information on the Parish Website was discussed regarding areas that need updating. The Vice-Chair of the Parish Council will discuss this item further at a future

Parish Council meeting.

**Agreed.**

18.41 To Confirm arrangements for Northumbria In Bloom.

The Northumbria in Bloom summer judging is confirmed for Monday 16th July picking up point at Beefeater Inn, Belmont Industrial Estate at 9.30 am returning at 12.30 pm.

The Chair looked to Councillors to agree with minibus and luncheon arrangements (Beefeater Inn).

**Agreed.**

The itinerary and finalising of arrangements to be discussed at the next Planting Scheme Working Party to be held on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June.

18.42 To Discuss lettering on War Memorial Sponsor Stone.

Friends of Belmont War Memorial have received a quote with three options from a reputable firm of Memorial Masons which was handed out to all Councillors. Friends of Belmont War Memorial are happy to pay for half the cost of whichever option is agreed. The Chairman put to Councillors to go for Option 3 which was:-

(remove block, reface, re-cut all letters in relief style text (background) blasted away and lettering left as polished) and refixing £618.00.)

**Agreed:** Durham County Councillors offered to pay £250 towards the cost, with that provision the Parish Council agreed to make up to the full cost of Option 3.

The Chair of Friends of Belmont War Memorial to be e-mailed with the outcome.

A Declaration of Interest was declared by Councillors B. Howarth and E.S. Mavin.

18.43 To Discuss 106 Monies (Environmental) Cemetery Robing Room.

The updating of the Cemetery Robing Room meets the 106 monies criteria, the Chairman to contact the appropriate Officer to discuss the matter.

A concern was raised regarding a small minority of people cutting out turf on their relatives graves to plant flowers etc. The Chairman of the Cemetery Working Party to work with the Vice-Chair to discuss the appropriate wording for a notice to be displayed in the Cemetery to prohibit this activity.

**Agreed.**

18.44 To Discuss Community Defibrillators.

It was agreed retrospectively that the four defibrillators would be purchased by the Parish Council and then refunded by the Area Action Partnership (AAP).

**Agreed.**

Councillor E. Finlay left the meeting at 8.00 pm.

18.45 To Receive Working Party Reports.

(a) Appeals Committee

No meeting was held this month.

(b) Asset Task Group

No meeting was held this month.

(c) Cemetery Working Party

No meeting was held this month.

(d) Christmas Tree Working Party.

No meeting was held this month.

It was reported that the Parish Hall Committee are happy for the Parish Council to access its power supply for this year's Christmas Tree Lights.

(e) Complaints Procedure Committee

No meeting was held this month.

(f) Finance Working Party

No meeting was held this month.

(g) Friends of Belmont Scrambles

A report has been received regarding the Scrambles- see attached \*

(h) Parish Newsletter Working Party

No meeting was held this month.

(i) Personnel and Training Advisory Panel

No meeting was held this month.

(j) Planning Committee

No meeting was held this month.

(k) Planting Scheme Working Party

A meeting was held on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018 - see attached\*

(l) Playground Development Committee

No meeting was held this month.

(m) Public Arts Group

A meeting was held on Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018, at which Councillor J.J Widheart was elected as Chairman of the group.

The Chair of the newly formed Public Arts Group gave a report saying the first meeting had gone very well. Members of the group discussed the re-painting of the Skate Bowl Moorfield and the updating of the seats in the Parish under 106 monies. The cut off dates for applying for 106 monies is 2021. The Chair of the group contacted a local artist to discuss the re-painting of the Skate Bowl in Moorfield. Two quotes have been received, as they are over a certain amount, the County Councillor to contact the appropriate Officer for dispensation to go out to Tender. The Chairman thanked the Chair of the group for her report.

**The Chairman Suspended Standing Orders.**

A resident raised a concern that there had been no notices displayed in the Parish regarding road works in the area regarding closure of Footpath No 5. close to High Grange Estate. The matter to be placed as an item on the July 5<sup>th</sup> Full Council Agenda for discussion.

**The Chairman re-imposed Standing Orders.**

The member of the public left at 8.15 pm.

(n) Area Action Partnership (AAP)

No report has been received this month.

(o) National Association of Local Councils) NALC

No report has been received this month.

18.46 To Receive Reports from Ward Councillors.

Belmont

A second pit tub is nearing completion which is to be placed on Parish Council land Broomside Lane.

A concern had been raised regarding rubble appearing at the side of a building on Broomside Lane, which had recently been purchased from the Parish Council. The resident has agreed for pit purpose kerbs to be in situ as a boundary for a parking space and the parking area to have clean gravel.

A recent concern raised regarding the lack of newspapers in Belmont Library has been addressed.

Councillor J.J. Wildheart left the meeting at 8.25 pm

Carrville

A concern regarding cars parking on the grass verges opposite Bristol Street Motors was raised. At a recent meeting, the Highways Officer recommended yellow lines. Letters were sent out to nearby businesses for consultation and comments were received that they were not happy. There will be a site meeting on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June at 3.30 pm.

A concern was raised about the state of a recently closed shop in the High Street, concerns have since been addressed (grass has now been cut and the door repaired).

A resident request for a litter bin to be installed along High Grange Estate along to first bus-stop in Belmont has been agreed and will be in place soon.

Gilesgate Moor

A concern was raised regarding motorcycles speeding in the back lane of Willowtree Avenue.

The County Councillor to enquire about the amount of grass and weeds amassing in the gutters and perimeters of properties in the area.

A concern of rubbish accumulating at Eden Terrace from a nearby food outlet has been raised.

18.47 Council business (any item which has been brought to the attention of the Chairman for discussion during the meeting for approval or otherwise)

None received.

18.48 Date of Next Meeting Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018

The meeting closed at 8:45 pm