

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON MAY 21ST 2021 AT 6:30 P.M. IN  
BELMONT COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Present:** Chairman E.S. Mavin, Vice-Chairman C.A. Fletcher,  
Councillors L. Mavin, P.S. Conway, P.J. Conway, M. Watson,  
M. Bennett, C.A. Lattin, J. Knight, J. Appleby, K. Noble, V. Hawes,  
A.P. Watkins, S.C. White and A.C. Walker

**Also Present:** Parish Clerk S. Overton

**21.01 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR 2021/2022.**

Nominations were requested for Chairman.

Councillor E.S. Mavin was moved and seconded.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor E.S. Mavin be elected as Chairman for the ensuing year.

Councillor E.S. Mavin read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**21.02 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN 2021/2022**

Nominations were requested for Vice Chairman. Councillor C.A. Fletcher was moved and seconded.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor C.A. Fletcher be elected as Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.

Councillor C.A. Fletcher read and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**21.03 TO RECEIVE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2020/2021.\***

The previous chairman's report was agreed as read.

**RECEIVED.**

**21.04 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence received.

**21.05 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE  
AGENDA.**

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.

There were no declarations of interest received.

Councillor A.P. Watkins joined the meeting at 6:45 pm.

**21.06 TO RECEIVE MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS.**  
**POLICE**

A PACT report has been forwarded to all Councillors.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS.**

There were no Neighbourhood Wardens present.

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.**

There were no members of the public present.

**21.07 TO CONSIDER AND MAKE COMMENT ON PLANNING MATTERS\***

A weekly list of Planning Applications for the month of April 2021 has been forwarded to all Councillors.

**RESOLVED:** To receive the applications.

A request was made by councillors regarding the following Planning Application - **DM/21/01611/FPA BINGO HALL SHERBURN ROAD** that the Application goes to Committee in order to give people the opportunity to speak regarding this Application.

**21.08 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD OF THE**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 1ST APRIL 2021 \***

**AGREED.**

**21.09 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD OF THE MINUTES OF**  
**THE SPECIAL PARISH MEETING HELD VIA E-MAIL ON THURSDAY**  
**22ND APRIL 2021\***

**AGREED.**

**21.10 TO RECEIVE MATTERS ARISING FROM FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON**  
**THE AGENDA.**

There were no matters arising.

21.11 **TO RECEIVE MATTERS OF INFORMATION, CLERKS REPORT, CORRESPONDENCE TABLED ITEMS – FOR INFORMATION.**

1. Approval of Grant for Pavilion Security Shuttering on Moorfield. has been received.
2. A Special thank you to Deerness Fencing and Landscaping company who are turfing the area behind the Belmont Community Centre where the old area is at no cost at all and have 5 members of the community volunteering to do the work with them.
3. Confirmation regarding the annual renewal of the Data Protection Fee has been received.

21.12 **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 May meeting and has been incorporated into reports and presented to members.

21.13 **TO CONSIDER FINANCIAL MATTERS.\***

- (a) To Receive Receipts and Payments during the month of April 2021
- (b) To Receive Bank reconciliation during the month of April 2021
- (c) To Consider Donation requests during the month of April 2021  
Belmont Community School  
£50.00

**RECEIVED AND AGREED.**

The previous Chairman was congratulated for keeping the parish councils finances in a healthy state.

21.14 **TO CONSIDER AND MAKE COMMENT ON CEMETERY REPORTS**

- (a) To Receive the report of burials during the month of April 2021  
(2)
- (b) To Receive the report of Grave & Ashes Purchases during the month of April 2021 (0)  
(1)
- (c) To Consider Memorial Erection and Additional Inscription Applications during the month of April 2021  
(3)

- (d) Ashes interred in Burial Plots during the month of April 2021  
(0)

**RECEIVED AND AGREED.**

21.15 **TO RECEIVE CALENDER OF MEETINGS FOR 2021/2022.**

To be arranged at a later date

21.16 **TO APPOINT COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES 2021/2022.**

A suggestion from councillors has been made to streamline current sub-committees into four categories. The categories suggested are as follows: -

**Environment - to incorporate Planting, Playgrounds, Cemetery and Public Art.**

C.A. Lattin  
M. Bennett  
J. Knight  
K. Noble  
P.J. Conway  
A.P. Watkins  
M. Watson

**Communications – Parish Website, Social Media and Newsletter.**

M. Watson  
C.A. Lattin  
C.A. Fletcher  
J. Knight  
L. Mavin  
J. Appleby  
K. Noble

**Finance and Assets**

M. Bennett  
P.S. Conway  
C.A. Fletcher  
S.C. White  
J. Appleby  
L. Mavin

**Planning.**

J. Knight  
P.S. Conway  
C.A. Fletcher  
S.C. White  
M. Watson  
A.C. Walker  
C.A. Lattin.

21.17 **TO APPROVE REPAIRS TO THE SCRAMBLES OFF RENNYS LANE.**

After the newly installed fence was vandalised recently it was decided a longer-term solution would be some strategically boulders. A quotation has been received from Durham County Council to provide and install 12 1.0 to 1.5 tonne boulders at the Scrambles, off Rennys Lane, Durham. The cost of this work will be £1001.68 plus VAT.

**AGREED:** £500.00

21.18 **TO RECEIVE UPDATE REGARDING ERECTION OF TELEGRAPH POLES BY NETOMNIA IN THE GILESGATE AREA.**

An on- line meeting was held on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021 – please see attached notes\*

An on- line meeting was held on 26<sup>th</sup> April – please see attached notes\*

**RECEIVED.**

21.19 **TO RECEIVE WORKING PARTY REPORTS.**

This item to be removed from future agendas due to re-organisation of sub - sub committees and Working Parties.

21.20 **TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM WARD COUNCILLORS.**

**Belmont**

A recent concern reported by a resident regarding the big roundabout in Cheveley Park making a loud noise when in use has now been resolved.

A concern was raised regarding the increasing amount of litter and graffiti in Renny's Lane underpass, Durham County Council said the area is on a weekly programme for litter picking and that the under-pass is due to be painted next week which will cover up the graffiti.

A request was made to Durham County Council for a pedestrian guardrail on the Belmont Link Road. The Council responded saying this area of road does not fit the criteria for the provision of pedestrian guardrail saying they have to be selective as to where they provide pedestrian barriers as it is costly and also becomes a maintenance issue. Residents from the High Grange Estate who wish to access the industrial Estate can use the pedestrian controlled light crossing which has been specifically put in for this purpose at the entrance to the estate.

A concern was raised about the increasing amount of litter near Cheveley Park shops and play area. Carrville Residents Association, Belmont Parish Council, Gilesgate Residents Association and possibly students from Durham University to be involved in a litter pick.

A request was for a larger litter bin for Cheveley Park shops and play area.

### **Carrville**

A concern was raised regarding the poor state of the car park outside Blue House shops in need of a general tidy up and the possibility of getting a litter bin installed the matter was reported to Durham County Council.

A concern was raised by residents regarding issues with fly tipping in the back of Broomside Lane, allegedly caused by electrical contractors working on nearby properties, the matter was reported to Durham County Council.

A concern was raised by a resident regarding speeding issues on Broomside Lane, the matter was reported to Durham County Council.

### **Gilesgate Moor**

Councillor M. Watson reported that anti-social behaviour from youths and adults at Moorfield Park, Pavilion, have been raised by Belmont United coaching staff whilst children's football coaching sessions are taking place. The youths and adults are turning up and hanging around the Pavilion veranda area until Belmont United leave, when asked to vacate the area, the coaching staff receive verbal abuse & threats. The staff and residents are asking if police and wardens could increase patrols in the area late afternoon and early evening as they are feeling intimidated.

Councillor M. Watson reported that a bench in Moorfield, near the Skate Bowl, which had had its concrete footings badly damaged, allegedly caused by vandalism, has now been removed for Health and Safety reasons. A replacement bench will be installed when the new ones arrive.

Councillor M. Watson reported a multiple number of residents are complaining about the installation of telegraph poles regarding the Netomnia company installing broadband services.

Councillor C.A. Lattin reported complaints from local be residents about the three industrial sized waste bins outside the side gate of what used to be the Travellers Rest, on the road v leading down to Tesco. Apparently, there used to be larger gates there and the bins were kept inside the yard. However, they now have a smaller gate, not big enough to get the bins through. Consequently they are kept permanently on the pavement. There is not space for wheelchair users, buggies etc. to pass and they have to detour into the road. It's already a dangerous corner, close to the traffic lights on Sunderland road .

Frank Street Councillor C. Lattin met with quite a large group of residents who raised several concerns.

- 1) A request for white lines on the roundabout round the small green area at the top of Frank Street near Sherburn Road.
- 2) Salt bins and lights needed.
- 3) The lane between Tesco and the right side of Frank Street is continuing to cause concern. Residents say that they have approached Tesco who say they do not own the land and are not responsible for it. I have reported issues with this lane several times about anti-social behaviour and drug abuse down the lane. The door is meant to be kept locked but it is yet again, unlocked. By the gate, litter and fly tipping occurs. Is this council land? The trees are also causing issues in the adjoining gardens, with their roots lifting concrete.

A request was made for a bigger litter bin in Renny's Lane to alleviate ongoing litter issues.

21.21 **COUNCIL BUSINESS (ANY ITEM WHICH HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR DISCUSSION DURING THE MEETING FOR APPROVAL OR OTHERWISE).**

There was nothing to report.

21.22 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS, DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING TO BE ARRANGED.**

**RESOLVED**

Councillor P.S. Conway to look at booking a room at Belmont Community School for the next Full Council Meeting whilst COVID-19 restrictions are in place.

The meeting closed at 20:00pm