

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WINGATE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY, 7th OCTOBER 2019

Present: Councillors K McGonnell (Chair), E Mason, J Higgins, S Williams, J Cairns, P Daly, J Hogg

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Mason and J Bradley.

2019/10/07/01

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no representatives of the public present.

2019/10/07/02

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on 9th September 2019 were **AGREED** as a correct record. It was noted that item 2019/09/0912 should refer to Woodmans Cottage Allotment site and not Market Crescent.

2019/10/07/03

POLICE MATTERS

There was no Police presence although the Clerk gave an update on crime related statistics during the previous month. Pact priorities for the coming month were noted as being anti-social behaviour at the fishing pond and at the park. The Clerk advised that problems at the park appeared to have reduced considerably. School visits were noted as taking place although a Member felt that targeting particular schools was something the Police should consider.

The crime statistics included:

8 burglaries
 2 thefts
 9 criminal damage

One of the reports of criminal damage included a car of the Vice Chairman being burnt out. Members felt that statistics did not necessarily include all crimes in the village and it was suggested that three other cars had been burnt out. Incidents of quad bikes on the pit heaps area was noted along with vandalism to the fencing around the small park area on the front street. It was suggested that residents were losing confidence in the Police. It was also suggested that new street lighting was also a problem which potentially made streets unsafe.

It was noted the Vice Chair and County Councillor Higgins were meeting the Crime Commissioner the following day and the Clerk, Chair and Vice Chair were meeting local Police officers later that week.

RESOLVED the information given be noted and further progress be awaited.

2019/10/07/04

HIGHWAYS AND STREET SCENE UPDATE

(1) Proposed Parking and Waiting Restrictions, Co-operative Roundabout and Moore Lane

Discussion followed on details relating to proposed parking and waiting restrictions at the Co-operative roundabout and at Moore Lane details of which had been circulated with the agenda. Members were supportive of the proposals but recognised that the needed to be enforced. It was felt that restrictions at Moore Lane could potentially move the problems to North Road. The Clerk suggested that the Co-operative store should be approached to contribute to the proposals in the vicinity of it.

RESOLVED the Parish Council support the proposals and further progress be awaited.

(2) Notice Boards

RESOLVED the Clerk be authorised to proceed with the installation a notice board adjacent to the pit wheel.

(3) Adoption of a Former red BT Phone Box

RESOLVED that the potential location and use of a former BT phone box be considered at a future meeting of the Parish Council.

2019/10/07/05

PROGRESS REPORT

(a) Section 106 Funding

The Clerk advised that while there was potentially circa £370k of funding available to be spent on recreation and sports facilities throughout the village Durham County Council had advised it could only consider applications once the funding was in place and this was not guaranteed. It was also noted if the funding was to be achieved it could take several years.

This advice from Durham County Council was felt to be contradictory to that previously given

RESOLVED the information given be noted and further word be waited following ongoing discussions with Durham County Council.

(b) Christmas Celebrations

The Clerk advised that the annual carol service was to take place on Thursday 12 December. Lighting decorations were to be installed week commencing 25 November. Three additional columns were to be tested for suitability at a cost of £250. The Christmas tree provider had advised at short notice it could not provide a tree this year and so the Clerk advised he had agreed alternative arrangements which could involve having to select a tree from Otterburn. Members agreed to continue with normal Christmas party donation with an increase to £200 to the Constitutional Club.

RESOLVED that:

- (a) The information given be noted;
- (b) The Clerk be authorised to proceed with payment for additional column testing; and
- (c) The Clerk be authorised to proceed with school and community group Christmas party donations with an increase to £200 to the Constitutional Club; and
- (d) Further progress be awaited.

- (c) Market Crescent Site Meeting
The Clerk advised that he had agreed with the Chair and Vice Chair for this to be put on hold temporarily.

RESOLVED the information given be noted and further progress be awaited.

- (d) Pit Heaps
The Clerk advised that a further site meeting involving the County Council and the Police at which the Parish Council had been invited to had taken place. County Councillor Higgins gave an update on proposals which included blocking some access point to the former pit heaps area with boulders. A plan was being worked up by the County Council which was to be shared with the Parish Council. It was suggested that once agreed the proposals should then be shared with neighboring allotment tenants.

Members supported the proposals in principle and it was **RESOLVED** the information given be noted and further progress be awaited.

2019/10/07/06

PARISH COUNCIL WEB SITE

The Clerk advised that the external auditor had highlighted a requirement for the Parish Council to display its audit on a web site. It was noted that the potential for a Parish Council web site had been discussed previously. It was noted the County Council offered a web site service with fees attached to it.

Following general discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk make further investigations into a web site and further progress be awaited.

2019/10/07/07

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED that no objections be made to the following applications:

Change of use from public open space to enclosed private garden at 80 North Road East

Change of use from residential to hairdressers at 34 North Road West

2019/10/07/08

CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) County Durham and Cleveland County Training Partnership- Chairmanship Training

RESOLVED that details of chairmanship training at Peterlee on 22 October 2019 be noted and Members wishing to attend contact the Clerk. Councillor Williams expressed an interest.

- (b) CDALC AGM

RESOLVED that details of the CDALC AGM on 12 October 2019 be noted.

- (c) East Durham Area Action Partnership Board Meeting

RESOLVED that details of the East Durham Area Action partnership meeting

to be held on 9 October 2019 be noted.

(d) CCG Consultation

RESOLVED that details of consultation relating to the stroke rehabilitation ward 6 a Bishop Auckland hospital be noted.

(e) Use of the Park

RESOLVED that a care worker and mental health patient be authorised to use the park for metal detecting

(f) Great North Air Ambulance

RESOLVED that a donation of £300 be made towards the Great North Air Ambulance service.

2019/10/07/09

PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED that authorisation be given for the following payments:

Npower- Xmas Tree Lights

Cheque No. 405317 £34.82

Webster Landscaping- Watering of Baskets

Cheque No. 405318 £540

Anglian Water- Park

Cheque No.405319 £32.90

Durham CC- Diesel

Cheque No.405320 £56.87

BT- Broadband at Park

Cheque No. 405321 £70.80

Steadfast Security- Security at Allotments

Cheque No. 405322 £660

Harrisons Packaging- Doggy Bags

Cheque No. 405323 £774

Aqua Gas and Heating- Park Toilets

Cheque No. 405324 £580

Wingate Community Association—Annual Funding

Cheque No. 405325	£11000
TSL- Machine Hire	
Cheque No. 405326	£882
TSL:- Line Marker	
Cheque No. 405327	£115.20
TSL- Fertilizer	
Cheque No. 405328	£55.20
Horns Garden Centre- Misc Supplies	
Cheque No. 405329	£29.19
Skill Mill- Works at Park	
Cheque No. 405330	£1190.50
Mazars LLP- External Audit	
Cheque No. 405331	£480
Clerk- October Office Allowance	
Cheque No. 405332	£50
Steadfast Security CCTV Monitoring	
Cheque No. 405333	£169
Orbis- \Security Shutter Hire	
Cheque No. 405334	£166.26
UK Fuels- Petrol	
Cheque No. 405335	£11.42
UK Fuels- Card Charge	
Cheque No. 405336	£32.40
UK Fuels- Petrol	
Cheque No. 405337	£12.14
Clerk- Refund for Lap Top Repairs	

Cheque No. 405338	£100
Wingate Community Association- Refund for Play Scheme	
Cheque No. 405339	£3025.35
Clerk- Line Rental and Calls	
Cheque No. 405340	£45
Park Keeper- Line Rental and Calls	
Cheque No. 405341	£45
Park Keeper- Mileage Refund	
Cheque No. 405342	£60.75

2019/10/07/10

REPORTS

(a) **The Clerk**

There were no reports from the Clerk.

(b) **Members**

(1) Durham County Council Reports

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that verbal reports from County Councillor Higgins continue without the need for written reports.

(2) Market Crescent Allotments- Fires

A Member reported fires from the Market Crescent allotment site the previous Friday evening.

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

(3) Park Housing Estate and New Avant Site

A Member raised concerns that the Park Housing estate and the new Avant site were to be joined however it was noted that planning permission for this had already been approved.

RESOLVED the information given be noted

(4) Memorial Outside of the Community Centre

A Member raised concerns about youths climbing on to the memorial outside of the Community Centre and suggested that there should be fencing around it. County Councillor Higgins advised he would make a contribution to fencing from his AAP budget.

RESOLVED the Clerk investigate fencing and further progress be awaited.

(5) Responsibilities of the Clerk

Following a request it was **RESOLVED** the responsibilities of the Clerk be considered as an agenda item at the next meeting.

(c) **County Councillor**

County Councillor Higgins gave a brief update on his activities. It was noted that he was meeting the Crime Commissioner the following day and had arranged to meet the lead County Councillor on highways matters the following week. It was noted bus bays would be remarked in the following few weeks. Fencing around the small park on the front street area had been removed although there had also been some vandalism. County Councillor Higgins stated that a recent article covering temporary speed zones had highlighted their lack of effectiveness.

Following general discussion County Councillor Higgins was thanked for his report and it was **RESOLVED** the information given be noted.

2019/10/07/11

SCHEDULE OF ONGOING MATTERS

RESOLVED that the schedule of ongoing matters be noted.

2019/10/07/12

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the press and Public be excluded from the following item of business due to the disclosure of confidential information.

2019/10/07/13

WOODMAN'S COTTAGE ALLOTMENT SITE

The Clerk gave an update on the Woodmans Cottage Allotment site and confirmed that the County Council had now advised that it did not wish to retain the piece of land in its ownership which was being used for allotment purposes. It was suggested that this gave the Parish Council of discussing the future of the whole site with the allotment tenants.

RESOLVED the Clerk, Chair and Vice Chair be authorised to meet with the tenants of Woodmans Cottage Allotment site to discuss the future of it.

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

CHAIRMAN

DATE