



SACRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 7th December 2022 at 6.30pm
In The Fulforth Centre**

Present: Cllr H. Dixon (Chair), Cllr G Ludlow (Vice Chair), Cllr E Waldock, Cllr D Robson, Cllr F Morrell, Cllr L Claughan, Cllr J Barrett, Cllr D Forth and Cllr K Wilson

Apologies: Apologies received from Cllr R Harrison, Cllr A Page, Cllr S Wilson and Miss C Wilson (Clerk)

Item No:

1.	Introductions and Apologies for Absence	The Chair opened the meeting at 6.30pm and welcomed everyone. Apologies received and accepted from Cllr R Harrison, Cllr A Page, Cllr S Wilson and Miss C Wilson (Clerk). As the clerk was unavailable the Chair took the minutes.
2.	Disclosure of Interest from Members	Nothing to report.
3.	Questions from the public	(Questions & Comments from the public in attendance – max 5 mins per item/individual) None received
4.	Previous meeting minutes	Previous minutes from 2 nd November 2022 were accepted and signed as a true record.
5.	Police Matters	No PACT report Short discussion took place with regards to the letter sent to the Chief Constable which was also circulated to the Police & Crimes Commissioner and our Member of Parliament. Response received from Inspector Lee Morris on behalf of the Chief Constable.
6.	Clerks Report	<u>Planning Application</u> <u>Roadworks</u> Ordinary maintenance patching - Cross Lane, Sacriston - W/C 28th November <u>Purchase of Land</u> A request was received to purchase land adjacent to 27 Newtown Villas, Sacriston. The applicant is in the process of selling their house and believed the land to be in their ownership. The land has been maintained as a garden for a substantial period of time. This

		<p>was emailed to all Councillors for a response. There were no objections/comments received.</p> <p><u>Northern Powergrid</u> Email received from Northern Powergrid regarding the unmetered electricity for the festive lights. We need to complete an inventory and send it so they can calculate the amount of electricity used and bill us accordingly. I have an inventory of the lights so will send this to them.</p> <p><u>Cemetery</u> Email received from a member of the public regarding drug taking in the cemetery on a memorial bench, and also complained about the workers in the cemetery who are just sitting in their vans. She was unhappy with the care and maintenance. Contacted both County Cllrs to inform and also informed the local PCSO and asked him to have a walkaround next time he was in the village to try and deter anyone from sitting in the cemetery taking drugs. He was going to include it on his list.</p> <p><u>Bus Shelter</u> I have informed DCC to progress with the repairs. They have included it on their list of repairs and the blacksmith will attend when possible.</p> <p><u>New Hill Allotments</u> Email received from the gentleman regarding the rubbish still at New Hill. Do we have a contact from the green and clean team so he can contact them directly? Asked both County Cllrs for an update of what was happening.</p> <p>RESOLVED – Cllr Waldock to contact the person in charge of the Green and Clean Team for information/advice.</p>
7.	Sacriston in Bloom	Nothing to report
8.	Village Schools	<p><u>Fyndoune</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report being prepared for cabinet who are to meet next week, however, the report is not expected to be finalised in time for discussion. • Parish concerned about the lengthy time frame and, the lack of information being given to us. • Question raised with regards to Andy Hill, the project lead for the parish and what, if any, information he has to impart.

		<p>RESOLVED – Clerk to contact Andy Hill and request he attends the next Parish meeting in January 2023.</p>
9.	Parish Assets	<p>Bus Shelters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCC informed to progress repairs with the shelter at the Crossroads. • Concerns raised about the lack of a bus shelter at Lingey Close/ bottom of Daisy Hill bank. <p>RESOLVED – Cllr Waldock to raise once again the lack of the bus shelter at Lingey Close/bottom of Daisy Hill bank</p> <p>Village Clock – nothing to report.</p> <p>Parish Building – nothing to report.</p> <p>War Memorial</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern raised that many of the letters are now missing off the War Memorial. It was agreed that costings would be sought with regards to getting this corrected. • It was also raised that there was poor reception for those at the back of the congregation to hear the service. • Use of the microphone had been explained to individuals who had not used it correctly. • There was also a problem with the wreath laying as some recipients of wreaths had not been called forward and had to lay their wreath towards the end. <p>RESOLVED - Cllr Ludlow to get costings for the repairs to the lettering on the War Memorial.</p> <p>Bernice Smith be invited to the November meeting of the Parish Council to ensure the service is managed more professionally on the day</p> <p>Pit Wheel – nothing to report.</p>
10.	County Councillor's Reports	<p>No report received from Cllr S Wilson;</p> <p>Cllr E Waldock;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic issues outside of St Bede's School has been reported through. The temporary lack of a School Patrol crossing has meant this has caused issues for people. Unfortunately, due to issues with staffing in this area, there is no staff to be able to cover anyone who is off sick. This has now been passed to the Trust to see if they can do anything.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still chasing regarding bus stops issue. • Been in contact with Dean in relation to the incident and checking in relation to other matters. • Once again, a brilliant Extravaganza- it gets better every year and with some of the adjustments this year, I think it worked even better, and look forward to next years. • Cemeteries- a meeting was held with a number of different departments to discuss several issues that have arisen in Sacriston cemetery. After some very good discussion hopefully the relevant issues can be dealt with. Some discussions as to how to help with some future issues have been started and will just have to see where this goes. • Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and the best for 2023.
11.	Group Representative Reports	<p>Fulforth Centre Committee Meeting</p> <p>Christmas Extravaganza –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • held successfully! Thank you to the Parish Council for the funding and for everyone who volunteered to run the event. • Great feedback from the local community - including that there aren't similar things in nearby villages, which meant people travelled in to our event. • Income (minus £100 raffle prize) = £1645.09 For comparison: 2021 Income (minus £100 raffle prize): £1522 Raffle & tombola income was lower in 2022, but cafe income was double 2021 income! • Review of Extravaganza undertaken at Committee Meeting, and points noted for 2023.. <p>Party in the Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee agreed it would be good to confirm a date for the Party in the Park, so relevant stakeholders can 'save the date'. • Discussions around whether it is better to keep it on the usual date (22nd July) or move it forward to a similar time to the Jubilee Party in the Park. • Possible Options: Usual date: Saturday 22nd July; Kings Coronation Weekend: 6th/7th/8th May; May Bank Holiday Weekend: Saturday 27th May; Mini Miners Gala Dates (Redhills suggestion to hold local Miners Gala celebrations before the Big Meeting): Saturday 24th June or 1st July <p>RESOLVED - The Parish have agreed that the Party in the Park will be held on Saturday 3rd June 2023</p>

Community consultation survey

- Undertaken during November - approx. 220 responses.
- Results to be analysed in December/January - discuss with Steering Group in January and at Committee Meeting in February.

AAP Older People's Social Isolation Fund

- Has been approved by the first stage of the panel - now will go to the full board in January 2023, with some minor edits as requested by the panel. If approved, earliest project could start is April 2023.
- Approved to be part of the Aviva Community Fund for Warm Space and Lunch Club - Aviva match fund donations up to £250. Raised approx. £1300 to date.
- Committee agreed to spend this on a large TV for the wall and a smaller TV on a portable stand, plus a TV licence, for the Warm Space

Facilities

- Various facility issues being resolved currently, including a split in the MUGA, the automatic opening of the entrance doors and the solar panels
- Would it be possible to get some more litter bins by the benches at the memorial and pit wheel sites?

RESOLVED - County Councillors to request extra litter bins for both Pit wheel and Memorial sites

Lunch Club / Warm Space

- Initiative launched in November
- 82 visits from 41 different people over 5 weeks.
- Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays are busiest days.
- Lunch Club Christmas Dinner planned for 20th December with over 60 people booked.
- If anyone from the Parish Council would like to attend then please book by Thursday 8th December.
- Sacriston Academy choir to sing carols on the day

Sacriston Community Development Group

- Majority of points raised and discussed at the Fulforth Centre were discussed at this meeting
- The pony trap within the fenced area requires some remedial work carried out due to rainwater soak

RESOLVED - Agreed that Albert Lamb would be asked to carry out the remedial work on the pony trap

		<p>Sacriston Parish Allotment Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still trying to organise a skip for the Daisy Hill site • Harry Robson has done a final cut for the year at Cross Lanes • Land Registry forms have been submitted • New lock has now been fitted to the gates at Cross Lanes • Bird Flu notices have been placed at both sites • Bank balance is £1,381.02 however, £460 relates to the deposit for keys • Clerk is finding it very difficult to effectively co-ordinate with the allotment treasurer with regards to account incomings and outgoings, it was therefore agreed at the meeting that we would ask the treasurer to stand down from his post at the AGM in February and the allotment accounts be run solely by the parish clerk <p>RESOLVED - Parish agree that the clerk, as our RFO should also be responsible for administration of the allotment accounts. The current treasurer to be thanked for the work he has done.</p> <p>New Hill Allotments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No meetings have taken place <p>HR & Finance Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Precept discussed and agreed that we recommend to full council that we accept the 2023/24 figure <p>RESOLVED – Agreed by full council that we accept the 2023/24 figure</p> <p>CDALC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report given <p>WITTON GILBERT EDUCATION TRUST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were three applicants of which, two were successful, these being Sacriston Youth Project and, one private applicant. Both were awarded £450.00 • It was discussed that this scheme had been poorly advertised and needs to be reviewed for next year.
12.	Budget & Grant Applications	<p><u>ACCOUNTS</u></p> <p>As at the 5th December 2022 there was £73,379.18 in the bank.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately - £20,000 still to pay out to end of year.

- This would leave approximately £53,379.18 in the account by the end of this financial year.
- With 2023/24 precept added, we would be starting next year with approximately £120,425.11
- Agreed at the HR & Finance meeting not to increase the precept again this year due to the cost-of-living crisis.
- The Parish has sufficient funds that will be carried over into next year.
- Projects proposed for next year would be the pit tub circle at the Crossroads
- Floral / agricultural improvements at Daisy Hill.
- It is also anticipated that we may need to fund the warm space in The Fulforth Centre throughout this current crisis

Clerks Pension

Clerk has been looking at joining the people's pension scheme. The employee pays 4%, the employer pays 3% and the remaining 1% is the tax relief on the employee contribution. The minimum contribution is 8%

RESOLVED – Parish supports the clerk with regards to the people’s pension scheme

Invoices Paid

Clerks Wages including backdated pay - £1050.85
 HMRC - £235.84
 All other payments previously agreed

Invoices to pay

SM events - £180
 Smarty - £6
 Printer Ink - £4.49

RESOLVED – Agreed for invoices to be paid

Donation

Request received from Trevor Gray - Veterans at Ease Charity. He is going to be bringing a Santa sleigh through the villages of Witton Gilbert, Sacriston and Nettlesworth and has requested £500 for the purchase of 500 selection boxes. He will stop at a car park in the village and hand them out.

RESOLVED – This donation is rejected as it would mean paying parish funds into an individuals private account.

12.1	Precept 23/24	<p>The Chair informed the meeting the precept for 2023/2024 has been received and reviewed and it was recommended, as discussed at agenda item 12, there would be no increase to the Precept.</p> <p>RESOLVED – The Chair and the Clerk are to complete and sign the documentation.</p>
13.	Parish Council Vacancy	<p>Major Ann-Marie Johnson gave apologies for non-attendance due to urgent Salvation Army work which could not be put off. She hopes to attend our next meeting in January</p>
14.	Date and time of next meeting	<p>Next meeting to be held Wednesday 4th January 2023 at 6.30pm</p> <p>Meeting closed at 19:35hours</p>

Agreed and signed by Chair of Sacriston Parish Council Date