



**SACRISTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 6.30pm  
In The Fulforth Centre**

**Present:** Cllr H. Dixon (Chair), Cllr E Waldock, Cllr D Robson, Cllr F Morrell, Cllr L Claughan, Cllr R Harrison, Cllr J Barrett, Cllr D Forth, Cllr A Page, Cllr L Burn, Cllr R Sharp and Miss C. Wilson (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Apologies received from Cllrs S Wilson and G Ludlow (Vice Chair)

**Item No:**

1.	<b>Introductions and Apologies for Absence</b>	The Chair opened the meeting at 6.30pm and welcomed everyone.  Apologies received and accepted from Cllr S Wilson and G Ludlow (Vice Chair)
2.	<b>Disclosure of Interest from Members</b>	Nothing to report.
3.	<b>Questions from the public</b>	(Questions & Comments from the public in attendance – max 5 mins per item/individual)  Becca Hicks – the new project development worker for The Fulforth Centre attended, introduced herself and gave a brief presentation around her background to members.  Two members of the public were in attendance. A report was provided to Cllr Dixon which was read on their behalf. The two family members are upset regarding circumstances which have occurred with DCC since the death of her husband.  <b><u>RESOLVED</u></b> Cllr E Waldock is to investigate this matter and liaise with them directly.
4.	<b>Previous meeting minutes</b>	Previous minutes from 6 <sup>th</sup> July 2022 were accepted and signed as a true record.  Discussed cameras. One of the cameras facing the pit wheel has gone off. If electrician is unable to talk through the issue with Linda over the phone he will attend when he is back from holiday.
5.	<b>Police Matters</b>	No PACT report received this month.
6.	<b>Clerks Report</b>	<b><u>Planning Application</u></b>  DM/22/02024/FPA - 6 Valley View, Sacriston, Durham, DH7 6NX Proposed extension of existing single garage

		<p>DM/22/01967/FPA - 2 Valley View, Sacriston, Durham, DH7 6NX Single storey front extension.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED</u></b> No objections raised.</p> <p><b><u>Highways Report</u></b> Wall repairs to be carried out to rear of Front Street.</p> <p><b><u>Civility and Respect Project</u></b> Training available - Civility and respect — Uncovering the issues for the public sector by Becky Walsh Delegate fee: £15 <u>For councillors only session</u> 19 September 2022 — 11 am (60 minutes)</p> <p>Operation London Bridge training - Tues 11th Oct 2022, 6-7.30pm free – clerk enrolled.</p> <p>VAT for unregistered councils training - clerk enrolled at a cost of £30</p> <p>Finance &amp; Budgets - Tues 18<sup>th</sup> Oct 6 – 8pm – Zoom - Clerk enrolled at a cost of £10</p> <p><b><u>Email from Member of Public</u></b> Email regarding the empty planting circles and comments regarding the different coloured plants. Clerk has responded to request ideas be put forward for future years and ask member of the public if they would like to volunteer as we are always looking for people to help with such projects.</p> <p><b><u>Fyndoune School Fires</u></b> Facebook message received from local resident regarding fires at the school. This has happened on 3 occasions and the fire service have been called. Resident directed towards DCC and asked Cllr S Wilson and Cllr E Waldock if they could progress this matter.</p> <p><b><u>Northern Powergrid</u></b> Sent via email to members regarding grants of £1,000 to £20,000 which are available to organisations through the Foundation, with a focus on supporting energy resilience during emergency events.</p> <p>Email sent which was to members regarding an application recently submitted seeking approval for the allocation of monies presently being held in the Authorities Section 106 account.</p>
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		<p>Monies are available for this proposed scheme within the Electoral Division and as such the proposal is considered to have merit in principle. However, a final decision on the request will only be made when the application has been considered at a forthcoming meeting of the Council's Section 106 Working Group.</p> <p>Comments on the application need to be submitted inside 21 days.</p> <p><b><u>Live Well North East</u></b>  We are just emailing to say thank you to the Parish Council for the kind donation to Live Well North East, your donation is being used towards our Community Fun Day on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September. This day is going to be held at Sacriston Colliery Cricket Club from 12pm – 4pm.  This day will be completely free to our community - there will be inflatables, arts and crafts, face painting, a sensory tent, free taster sessions of all our services and free hot dogs/alternative for every person attending. The cost we will have is a raffle and a tombola to help raise funds for our community work. We have a large range of freebies from water bottles to stress balls!</p> <p>Naturally we would love to invite you all to this event and thank you for your support.</p>
7.	<b>Sacriston in Bloom</b>	<p>Northumbria In Bloom awards ceremony to take place on 28<sup>th</sup> September. Tickets are £7.50 each. To invite members of Cross Lane allotments and St Bedes School.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED</u></b>  Those wanting to attend, please contact the clerk.</p>
8.	<b>Village Schools</b>	<p><b><u>Fyndoune</u></b></p> <p>Meeting with Amanda Hopgood (DCC), Claire Hanson (Assets), County Cllrs and various Parish Cllrs. During a walk round of the site concerns were raised about the condition and maintenance of the site. DCC are to investigate this further to see what can be done. Schedule 1 has not even been started, although previously we have been advised it had. Upon the start of the new term there will 20 more people attending the school. Concerns expressed to DCC regarding the houses at Priory Court, and it was advised that a higher fence will be erected.  Clean and Green are going to be taking over cutting the grass of the whole site.</p>

		<p>Cllr Burn advised that the Cricket Club now has access to use the sports hall during the winter. She also advised that as of January DCBC is being taken over by an academy.</p> <p>Cllr Robson advised that Education Plus have had an extension to use the building until April 2024.</p>
9.	<b>Parish Assets</b>	<p>Bus Shelters – nothing to report.</p> <p>Village Clock – nothing to report.</p> <p>Parish Building – nothing to report.</p> <p>War Memorial – nothing to report.</p> <p>Pit Wheel – Weather permitting, work on the resin pathway is to commence on Monday.</p>
10.	<b>County Councillor's Reports</b>	<p>No reports received from Cllr E Waldock and Cllr S Wilson;</p> <p>Cllr E Waldock;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Meeting held with the housing officer for Karbon homes, issue of the tub raised, and the state it is in. She is looking into the matter.</li> <li>2. Number of trees around the plots of land owned by Karbon are due for pruning across the next couple of weeks.</li> <li>3. Several issues relating to ASB at the top estate have been raised and have been working with partners to try to address this.</li> <li>4. Fyndoune Hill, residents have been informed by DCC about the issues with rats. I have been working with several residents on this matter.</li> <li>5. Speeding issues have been reported along beside Lingey Close, to the Industrial estate. Unfortunately, there is currently not enough data to result in further investigations. Looking at how this may be generated.</li> </ol> <p>Cllr S Wilson;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Rear of car wash - this area is being monitored by police as there has been a lot of activity in the area.</li> <li>2. Daisy Hill allotment site - can it be requested/ensured that all animal feed is sealed as trying to prevent rats getting to it. Rat run is being used from over the road and trying to cut down on that.</li> <li>3. Bus timetables have changed and service 725 now run by Weardale. Ticketing work still ongoing, however no further complaints raised yet.</li> </ol>

		<p>4. Usual issues around Housing still prevalent.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED</u></b>  Cllr Sharp is to contact Cllr S Wilson to obtain further information regarding the rats at Daisy Hill.</p> <p>Cllr Burn raised that bus passes were not being accepted on Weardale buses.</p> <p>Cllr Dixon has also had a conversation with a member of the public about an elderly gentleman who goes for a walk down to the Womble Park and uses one of the seats to sit on. The seat in question is quite low and the gentleman is finding it difficult to get up from the seat once he sits down. Cllr Dixon has inspected, and the seat is quite low. Request for a higher seat to be installed.</p> <p>Cllr K Wilson raised the matter that a couple of members of the public have been using the zebra crossing and cars have not stopped. The matter has been raised with the Police who have advised that this is a matter for DCC.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED</u></b>  Cllr Waldock will investigate why the bus passes are not being accepted and speak to DCC about installing a different seat.</p>
11.	<b>Group Representative Reports</b>	<p><b>Fulforth Centre Committee Meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Queens Jubilee Party in Park was a great success.</li> <li>• Rotas need to be reviewed for future events.</li> <li>• There has been a request for an increase to the funding which is allocated for the Christmas Extravaganza due to the increased costs of a stage.</li> <li>• The community café has commenced.</li> <li>• Request to allotment holders for any spare fruit and vegetables that can be used towards the meals.</li> <li>• Discussed the possibility of the centre becoming a warm hub.</li> <li>• Discussed steering group and requested a member of the Parish Council to be part of the group.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>RESOLVED</u></b>  It was agreed by all that we are to increase the donation to £5500 which is an extra £500 from last year.</p> <p><b>Sacriston Community Development Group</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No meeting held.</li> </ul>

		<p><b>Sacriston Parish Allotment Committee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Persimmon Homes have signed the agreement and Cllr Ludlow has lodged this with the Land Registry. We need to keep original information and send copies. The cost in relation to the Land Registry is £90.</li> <li>• Cllr Kevan Jones MP has now replied and as the agreement with Persimmon has been signed there is nothing further, he can do.</li> <li>• Discussed vacant allotments.</li> <li>• Inspections have taken place.</li> </ul> <p><b>New Hill Allotments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rent has been paid</li> <li>• No AGM</li> </ul> <p>Discussed if we could intervene regarding the running of the allotments. Powers were originally delegated to New Hill Allotment Association. Council have previously requested to see the accounts however, to date have still not seen copies. It was discussed whether we should ask for a copy of the rules and constitution ask for a list of members, and request copies of the AGM minutes. Nothing was confirmed regarding next steps.</p> <p><b>HR &amp; Finance Group</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clerk is trying to re-enrol and complete a redeclaration into the Pensions Regulator.</li> <li>• Discussed complaints policy and agreed to adopt SLCC Policy.</li> <li>• Filming and Recording Policy discussed and agreed that our Policy was sufficient and in line with other council's policies.</li> <li>• Civility and Respect Project was discussed.</li> </ul> <p><b>CDALC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AGM taking place on 8<sup>th</sup> October 22. Voting to take place in person.</li> <li>• Discussed that hybrid meetings for Parish Councils should not be taking place.</li> <li>• Police and Crime Commissioner would like a pledge to be made regarding ASB. CDALC have said they will not do the pledge, but Parish Councils should work with the police locally.</li> <li>• Would like Parish Councils to apply for help regarding paying wages. More information to follow.</li> <li>• Levelling up fund available. Event taking place at Ramside Hall on 19<sup>th</sup> September 22.</li> <li>• ERS is to review all AAP's.</li> </ul>
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12.	<b>Budget &amp; Grant Applications</b>	<p>As at the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022 there was £97,172.30 in the bank.</p> <p><b><u>Invoices to pay</u></b>  David Ogilvie - £3,007.20 VAT £501.20  Printer subscription July - £9.99  Printer subscription August - £9.99  Mobile phone bill - £6 renewed automatically</p> <p><b><u>Grant Application</u></b>  Durham Hospitals Radio – requesting funds towards upgrade of technology. Discussed and agreed that this is a vital entertainment for anyone in hospital and agreed to donate £250.</p> <p><b><u>RESOLVED</u></b>  Durham Hospitals radio - £250</p> <p><b><u>AGAR</u></b>  The clerk informed members that she had received communication from Mazars who had requested further information about the asset register. Upon review of the information, the clerk found that the asset register amount was incorrect and that there was a discrepancy of £535. The clerk informed Mazars of the incorrect amount. Mazars advised that they could sent the audit back to be corrected at a cost of £40 + VAT. The Chairman and the clerk agreed that this was the best way forward to ensure that the AGAR is correct for next year. Members were emailed and kept up to date with matters.</p> <p><b><u>VAT</u></b>  Clerk is to complete VAT return.</p>
13.	<b>Policies and Procedures</b>	Civility and Respect pledge was read out to members and all statements were agreed. The clerk is to sign the pledge on behalf of the Council.
14.	<b>Date and time of next meeting</b>	<p>Next meeting to be held Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 6.30pm</p> <p>Meeting closed at 19.41pm</p>

Agreed and signed by Chair of Sacriston Parish Council ..... Date .....