

SACRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings at the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Fulforth Centre on Wednesday 5 October 2016 at 6:30pm.

PRESENT: Councillors D Robson, L Claughan, Ms E Waldock, B Mulvey, P McLoughlin, Mrs B Smith, F Morrell, R Harrison and Mrs SJ Harrison and H Dixon.

81 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors R Shotton & D Shotton, S Wilson and H Liddle.

82 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 7 SEPTEMBER 2016

RESOLVED: "That the minutes of the proceedings at the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 7 September 2016, be confirmed as a correct record".

The Chairman proceeded to sign the minutes.

In relation to minute no. 66, the Clerk reminded Members that there had been localised issues regarding the petrol mower. As such it had been decided that the Parish Council would keep the mower as a community asset. The Clerk checked with the Council's insurers and confirmed that there would be no additional cost on the insurance policy as the Council were already covered for assets such as mowers. As such arrangements would be made for the purchase of the mower to go ahead.

In relation to allotment fencing, a quote had previously been received from Hazeldene Fencing to complete a small section of fencing work at Cross Lanes Allotments and the Council agreed that the company should be instructed to undertake the necessary works. As no invoice had yet been received, Councillor Dixon agreed to check to see whether the work had yet been undertaken.

83 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

84 ISSUES/QUESTIONS – GENERAL PUBLIC

There were no members of the public in attendance.

85 POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Adam Wignall attended the meeting to introduce himself as the new PCSO for the area. He was accompanied by 2 officers from the Chester le Street area. A copy of the latest PACT report was also circulated for information.

86 GROWING SACRISTON TOGETHER/IN BLOOM

The Clerk reported an update relating to In Bloom/Growing Sacriston Together. The project had achieved a Silver Gilt at the Northumbria In Bloom presentation, which was an outstanding achievement for the first year of entry.

It was reported that there was to be an environmental day on 25 October, which would particularly focus on planting bulbs and tidy up the village for the autumn. Following discussions Council **RESOLVED** to contribute £200.00 for the purchase of bulbs from the Growing Sacriston Together budget allocation.

Council was keen to express its gratitude to the Project Development Worker for her hard work with the In Bloom project, as such a letter of appreciation would be sent.

87 CHRISTMAS TREE/LIGHTING

In relation to Christmas Lighting, the Chairman advised that tests had now been carried out by DCC on all the village Christmas lights, 2 were unsuitable for use and so the County Council would loan 2 to the Parish for the upcoming season.

88 AUDIT REPORT

The Council's External Audit by BDO had been concluded and the Clerk provided an overview of the audit report (for copy see file of Minutes). The recommended action within the report, which was minor, was accepted by the Parish Council.

89 MP'S MEETING

The Clerk advised of a forthcoming meeting which was to be held to which delegates from all Parish and Town Councils were invited. The meeting was to be attended by 4 of the 5 local MP's who would give talks and respond to questions on both local and national issues. Councillor Harrison was already due to attend in his capacity as an executive Member of CDALC, the Chairman of the Council agreed to accompany him.

90 DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Councillor Waldock provided an update in relation to the Development Group.

91 FULFORTH CENTRE

There was nothing to report.

92 ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

Councillor Dixon advised that following a site meeting, a quote had now been received from Cestria for the grasscutting work required in the vicinity of Cross Lane allotments. It was felt that the quote was quite high as such Councillor Dixon was to liaise with 2 local gentlemen who had been recommended to undertake the necessary works.

93 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

There were no County Councillors in attendance.

94 HUMAN & FINANCIAL RESOURCES PANEL

Councillor Waldock provided an update from the recent meeting of the Panel. A letter had been considered by the Panel from a member of the Parish Council, focusing on accessibility and working hours of the Clerk etc. A response had been sent to the Councillor answering a number of the points which had been raised. It was for full Council to have a discussion regarding when the Clerk would take her holidays.

After much discussion it was **RESOLVED** that it be noted that ***“The Clerk would ordinarily take her holiday allowance during the months of August and December and would liaise with the Chairman and Council should there be any changes to this arrangement”.***

The next meeting of the Panel would be held on 19 October 2016.

95 QUALITY STATUS

Councillor McLoughlin had now met with Mr Lee Vest, a local gentleman who worked in website design and maintenance. A quote had been provided for services to the Parish Council and this was circulated for Members attention. It was noted that Mr Vest was willing to provide the Council with a years support for the same price as 10 hours support.

It was **RESOLVED** that the quote be accepted and that Mr Vest be invited to attend the next meeting of the Quality Status Working Group on 19 October 2016.

96 ACCOUNTS/GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Clerk reported a Grant Application which had been received from Sacriston Colliery Cricket Club Football Club, seeking £400.00 grant from the Council to cover the licence fee for the Colliery Welfare Football Pitch. Following due consideration Members RESOLVED to make a donation of £200.00 to the Club and to signpost them to other possible funding streams.

RESOLVED: "That authority be granted for payment of the following accounts:

Sacriston Colliery Cricket Club Football Club - £200.00 – Donation

BDO - £360.00 – Audit Fee

Sacriston Community Association - £200.00 – Bulbs

NPOWER - £21.58 - Energy Bill

J Lawton - £412.60 – Salary

HMRC - £103.15 – PAYE Deductions"

97 PLANNING

There were no planning applications to consider.

Signed _____ Chairman