

SACRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings at the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Fulforth Centre on Wednesday 2 March 2016 at 7:00pm.

PRESENT: Councillors F Morrell, R Harrison, Mrs SJ Harrison, Mrs H Liddle, D Robson, S Wilson, B Mulvey, P McLoughlin, D Shotton, Mrs R Shotton, Mrs B Smith, H Dixon and Miss E Waldock

In the absence of both the Chairman and the Vice Chairman, the Clerk invited nominations from the floor for a Member to Chair the meeting. Seconded by Councillor D Shotton, Councillor B Mulvey moved that Councillor F Morrell should Chair the meeting.

Councillor Morrell took the Chair.

172 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor L Claugan & Mrs B Gibson.

173 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 3 FEBRUARY 2016

It was noted that, contrary to the written record, Councillor Mrs B Gibson had not been in attendance at the previous meeting. The amendment would be noted accordingly.

RESOLVED: "That the minutes of the proceedings at the Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on 3 February 2016, as amended, be confirmed as a correct record".

The Chairman proceeded to sign the minutes.

In relation to the allotment fencing at Cross Lanes, Councillor Liddle reported that she had received 2 complaints from local residents. The Clerk reported that quotes were still awaited which were to be obtained by the Allotment Association.

Beacons – The Clerk was awaiting further details in relation to the Queens 90th Birthday Beacons which she would circulate to all Members once received.

In relation to the Christmas Tree, the Clerk was yet to receive a response from Durham County Council as such Councillor Liddle agreed to chase a response.

174 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

175 ISSUES/QUESTIONS – GENERAL PUBLIC

There were no members of the public in attendance, however Councillor Wilson advised that further to concerns which had been requested by members of the public, he had requested a speedwatch to be undertaken in the area.

176 POLICE MATTERS

There were no Police representatives in attendance.

177 CHRISTMAS LIGHTING ARRANGEMENTS

Councillor Liddle provided an overview of progress made in relation to the Christmas Lighting arrangements for 2016/17. Despite Gateshead Council previously expressing a very keen interest in undertaking the required works for 2016/17, they would not know what budget and resources would be available until May 2016. As such, no further progress could be made with them until later in the year. In the meantime Councillor Liddle agreed to pursue other lines of enquiry.

178 GROWING SACRISTON TOGETHER

An itemised breakdown of costings for potential future projects, was presented to the Council.

The Council **RESOLVED** to pay £1601.00 to undertake works at the Village Inn and £500.00 for the Community Pride Day on 14 February.

179 QUEENS 90th BIRTHDAY COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS

Correspondence had been received regarding Commemorative Medals which were being produced by Tower Mint to commemorate the Queens 90th Birthday.

There was a general consensus that the Council would wish to purchase a number of the medals for children within the village, Council Liddle would make enquiries as to the exact number of school age children within the area.

180 DURHAM MINERS' ASSOCIATION

Correspondence had been received from Durham Miners' Association regarding taking out an advert in the 132nd Durham Miners' Gala Souvenir Brochure.

Resolved:- “That a quarter page advert be taken out in the Durham Miners’ Gala Souvenir Brochure at a cost of £165.00”.

181 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

A request for financial assistance had been received from Sacriston Community and Sports Trust to provide funding towards the position of Project Development Worker for 2016/17. Total amount sought from the Parish Council was not specified though to fund the position for the entire year would cost £15, 684.00.

RESOLVED:- “That £16,000 be awarded to the Sacriston Community and Sports Trust towards the position of Project Development Worker”.

182 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

A request for financial assistance had been submitted from Sacriston Colliery Cricket Club. The application sought £2292.00 to pay for legal fees to gain a new club lease for 25 years, to allow the club to pursue funding to continue its development, including an £80,000 extension to the rear of the current club house.

Councillor S Wilson provided Members with further details regarding the planned extension.

It was agreed that consideration of the application should be deferred until the next meeting when the 2016/17 budget would be live.

183 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

A renewal quotation had been received from Cestria for the Grounds Maintenance contract for the 2016 season at St Peters Churchyard. The cost from the previous year had not been increased.

Resolved:- “That the Council appoint Cestria to undertake the Grounds Maintenance Works for the 2016 season at St Peters Churchyard, at a cost of £1248.00”.

184 DEVELOPMENT GROUP

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

185 FULFORTH CENTRE

There was nothing to report however Councillor Liddle took the opportunity to advise of issues which had occurred in the vicinity of the Centre, with bins and

planters being kicked over. No-one had been identified as the perpetrators in these occurrences.

186 ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

Councillor Morrell had attended the Annual General Meeting of the New Hill Allotment Association and there had been no issues to report.

187 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Councillors Liddle & Wilson provided an update in relation to business which affected the village including an update in relation to Growing Sacriston Together, a Health Trust Consultation regarding Mental Health Beds, the Co-op Building, for which an auction pack had been prepared, and for which Councillor Liddle had requested that a caveat be included to cover for the building not to be demolished. It was also reported that as a result of ongoing traffic issues at Finway, it had been requested that a mirror be installed.

Councillor Mulvey raised concerns regarding an overgrown area of land near St Johns Court and Councillor Wilson provided an update.

188 HUMAN & FINANCIAL RESOURCES PANEL

Councillor McLoughlin presented an update in relation to the Human and Financial Resources Panel. At a recent meeting the Panel had predominantly discussed Quality Status and Councillor McLoughlin had raised at that meeting that the Council may currently be eligible to apply for the Foundation Award. As such the Clerk had undertaken some research into the Awarding structure and it did appear that the Council may be eligible to apply.

It was therefore **RESOLVED** that the Council should do whatever work necessary to make an application for Foundation Award Quality Status.

189 SMALL AND MEDIUM LOCAL COUNCILS FORUM

Councillor R Harrison reported that the Police and Crime Commissioner had attended the recent meeting of the Small and Medium Local Councils Forum and he provided an overview of the topics which had been discussed.

190 ST BEDES

Councillor Miss E Waldock reported that the current headteacher at St Bede's had announced their departure with effect from September 2016.

191 NORTHERN INTEGRATIVE HEALTH PRACTICE

Councillor Liddle advised of an open invitation to an open day at Northern Integrative Health Practice at the Cross Roads in Sacriston later in the month.

192 ACCOUNTS

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

Durham Miners' Association - £165.00 – Gala Brochure Advert
Durham County Council - £5490.00 – Christmas Tree Lights Expenses
J Lawton - £412.60 – Salary
HMRC - £103.15 – PAYE Deductions"

193 PLANNING

There were no planning applications to consider.

Signed_____ Chairman