



SACRISTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on the 6 March, 2019
Fulforth Centre, Sacriston

Present: Cllrs H.Dixon (Chair), E. Waldock (Dep Chair), D. Robson, P. McLoughlin, R. Harrison, B. Smith, G. Ludlow, F. Morrell, K. Wilson, K. Carter, L. Claughan, L Burn, Clerk J.Evans

Apologies: County Cllr S Wilson

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|----------|-------------------------------------|--|---------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Introductions | Chair opened the meeting @ 6.30pm and welcomed everyone. Apologies were accepted. | HD | |
| 2 | Disclosure of Interest from Members | None | | |
| 3 | Public Questions | <i>(Questions & Comments from the public in attendance – max 5 mins per item/individual)</i> A number of Gentlemen present to raise their concerns over the way in which the Allotments at both Cross Lanes and Daisy Hill were being managed. In particular concerns raised over: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The waiting lists not being applied...not a public document• Too many people have more than one allotment• Storage containers and caravans are held on site• Far too many notices, rules and regulations• Their voice is not heard...issue with proposed rent increase. RESOLVED The Chair thanked them on behalf of the Parish and assured them that the matter was being taken seriously and that the Parish was waiting for feedback from the lawyers at the National Allotment Association. The matter was going to be discussed further in the main body of the meeting and as in any other public meeting they were welcome to stay. | HD | |
| 4 | Co-opted Member | Following a presentation from Mr Hubber a membership vote was undertaken | All | |

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| | | RESOLVED It was decided to appoint Mr. Hubber as a co-opted member of the Parish Council and members welcomed him to the meeting. He was provided with all the necessary enrolment documentation | JE | |
| 5. | Minutes of the Previous Meeting | Council Meeting Held on 6 February 2019 Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair – Actions to be covered in the Agenda | HD | |
| 6. | Police Matters | Cllrs Dixon, & Robson attended the TLP in the Fulforth Centre where anti-social behaviour was discussed. It was reported that in the last 2 weeks over 50 youths had been seen on the front street causing concern some had been identified by CCTV footage and the Police have photographs and were contacting parents. It is evident however that a number of youths are not from Sacriston and were bringing alcohol into the village in McCall's bags RESOLVED The Police were going to visit McCall's shop in Witton Gilbert. Partnership organisations, SYP, Engage and Nathan Hopkins @ Wood shop to provide support where possible. | HD | |
| 7. | Clerks Report | Planning – Nothing to report Correspondence – Darlington Borough Council was contacting all Councils to determine if they had any publications with advertisement space. The request had been transferred to the vice Chair as she currently has responsibility for the Parish Magazine. Allotments – The Secretary of the Allotment Association Mr P Dawson, had requested Fencing repairs to the Allotments at Cross Lane Ethical Standards – JE had forwarded all Members documentation on Ethical Standards in Public Life for their attention and guidance along with information on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Durham Plan • Safeguarding • Risk Management Polling Stations – Durham County Council in line with legal guidance is undertaking a review of its Polling Stations and Districts which has to be done every 5 years. The consultation will run from 1 March 2019 until 31 March 2019. Roadworks – Cross Lane, a new culvert and gas/electric connections will take place and 2-way lights will be in place 25/5/2019 – 14/4/2019 approximately. The road will also be closed on 6 March 2019. | EW | |

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| | | <p>Poplar Street (rear of Plawsworth Road) – there will be a road closure from 30/4/2019 – 14/5/2019 approximately to provide a new electricity supply.</p> <p>North East Velo Event - The Head of Culture & Sport, Stephen Howell @ Durham County Council had emailed the Parish to make them aware of a of a road cycling event to take place in the County in September 2019. More information is to follow but it has the potential to boost the County economy attracting up to 15,000 visitors & participants.</p> <p>RESOLVED Report received with thanks Members will consider the request for fencing along with other concerns with respect to the Allotments.</p> | All | |
| 8. | County Councillor Reports | <p>The Clerk read both County Cllr reports received via email:</p> <p>Cllr Liddle Thanked the Parish and provided the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In her role as Vice Chair of the Safer, Stronger Communities and Scrutiny Committee she will be leading a Road Safety Steering Group looking at the County as a whole. 2. She is working with GP's from the Village Surgery and the practice Manager to run a weekly parent group at the surgery. It will run on Friday mornings and will take the format of a coffee morning where she will have an advice surgery and bring in external partners such as, the fire service, neighbourhood protection, wellbeing for life and the Prince Bishops Community Bank etc to offer advice and support to parents. 3. She is hoping that her project to restore the Coop building and workshops will start in the next couple of months. Durham County Council have carried out surveys (asbestos, structural bat etc) and together they are looking at ways in which to apply for grant funding to manage restoration works etc. It is envisaged that the site will become an education and social enterprise hub to benefit the people of the village and surrounding villages. 4. She is setting up a Period Poverty Scheme to support females in her division who are unable to afford sanitary products due to financial constraints. <p>Cllr Wilson Cllr Wilson apologised for being unable to attend the meeting due to illness but provided an update as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ongoing discussions re Cross Lanes Roads 2. He had discussed the volumes of construction traffic on plawsworth road but had been instructed by both the Police and Highways that it was a public highway and | | |

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| | | <p>very little could be done about it. He has however asked for a traffic survey re speed and usage and will report back</p> <p>3. He has made contact with Jessica Wray from Karbon Community Engagement. She has some useful ideas which may benefit groups in the village and he felt it would be appropriate to invite her to a future meeting.</p> | | |
| 9. | Parish Assets | <p>Bus Shelters – Cllr Claughan reported concerns over recent vandalism to the bus shelter @ Lingey Close.</p> <p>War Memorial – Nothing to report</p> <p>Parish Building – Nothing to report</p> <p>Allotments – The Parish is still awaiting feedback from the National Allotment Association but the volume of complaints is still on going. JE had arranged for Mr Ward to collect all documentation including financial materials to ensure that repairs to the water leak at Cross Lanes could be undertaken.</p> <p>It was acknowledged that as land owners the Parish has a responsibility to its tenants and various options had to be considered including seeking legal advice from an appropriate Solicitor. This would be discussed further by the HR & Finance Group.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>1, Cllr Dixon to investigate the damage to the bus shelter and organise repairs if necessary</p> <p>2. Members of the HR & Finance Group to discuss the allotment situation and possible options</p> | HD | |
| 11. | Reports from Group Representatives | <p>Development Group – It was confirmed that the Group had £2,400 remaining from the shop front project and also a £700 balance giving a remaining budget of £2,900. Discussions took place as to whether this should be used for the Sacriston in Bloom project especially with regards to new plants and hanging baskets etc.</p> <p>Fulforth Centre – The 2 ladies who have started working in the community kitchen are doing an excellent job and are now preparing Sunday Lunches @ £4.00 as well as lunches on a Tuesday and Thursday.</p> <p>Human & Financial Resources Panel – The Allotments were discussed and it was decided that the best approach would be to ballot individual allotment holders to determine what they wanted the Parish to do as land owners. To do this full contact names and address were needed.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>1. The balance from the Development Group project should be used for Sacriston in Bloom projects.</p> <p>2. JE to write to the Secretary of the Development Group, Mr. Peter Dawson and request the contact details of all allotment holders at both Cross Lane and Daisy Hill.</p> | JE | |

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| 12 | Xmas Extravaganza | Cllr Robson had met with David Liddle regarding the Christmas light installations. A cost has been requested for additional lights to be installed around the Fulforth Centre Square to provide more presence at “switch on” and also during the extravaganza fayre. This is the last year of the present contract and the company will provide additional lighting free of charge (just pay for installation if the contract is renewed). They may also be interested in the old lights currently in storage. | DR | |
| 13 | Risk Management | Cllr Dixon had prepared a risk register for the Parish which he had presented to the HR & Finance Group for their comments. Members had proposed a couple of changes which he had updated and the revised copy would be circulated. Cllr Dixon also reported that a Asset Management policy was needed and it would be discussed at the HR & Finance Committee. | HD | |
| 14 | Budget | Confirmed the balance in the Bank to be £38,715.50 and a VAT reclaim had been made for £1,498.97 A cheque was needed for Northumbria in Bloom event @ £10 The Parish Clerk had been paid until 28 February but will require another payment for March 2019. No Grant Applications had been received in the time period | HD | |
| 15 | AOB | None | | |
| 16 | Date & Time of Next Meeting | Next meeting Wednesday 3 April, 2019 @ 6.30pm Chair thanked everyone for their attendance Meeting Closed @ 8.30 pm Signed <div style="text-align: right;">Chairperson</div> <div style="text-align: right;">Date/...../.....</div> | | |

