

## BELMONT PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of Belmont Parish Council held at Belmont Community Centre on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2013 at 6.30. p.m.

Present: Chairman Mrs B. Howarth, Vice Chairman C. Pattinson, Councillors K. Holroyd, S Inglis, E.S. Mavin  
K. Neat, M Robinson, A.L. Thomson, I. Walker, A.C. Walker.

Also Present: PC Mughal  
Mrs C Atkinson (Parish Clerk),

#### 12.153 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors D.Southwell, B. Muylaert.

**Agreed:** apologies were received and agreed

#### 12.154 Declarations of Interest

Members Please Note :- this is a standard item. If Members are aware of a personal or prejudicial interest in relation to any item on the Agenda this should be disclosed at this stage or when the interest becomes apparent during the consideration of an item in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Members. This item is linked to your Declaration of Members Interest forms please consult these forms when reading these notes on agenda items to ensure compliance with this item.

12.12 Declarations of Interest were received from Councillors Mrs B.Howarth, K.Holroyd (Belmont Community Association).

The Chairman Mrs B Howarth set down Standing Orders.

#### 12.155 Miscellaneous Reports

##### a) **Police**

PC Mughal e-mailed a report to the Parish Council on 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

##### Belmont/Carrville

12<sup>th</sup> December - Mobile phone stolen from a Belmont School blazer during school time.

14<sup>th</sup> December – Reg. Plates stolen from a parked car (Cheveley Park)

15<sup>th</sup> December - Parked car window smashed, handbag stolen.

Total of 26 calls – 10 of which anti - social behaviour related

Reported anti - social behaviour - 7 to 14 years of age group

Total of 26 calls – 10 of which were anti - social behaviour

##### Gilesgate Moor

6<sup>th</sup> December – locker broken into and property taken at Faerch

8<sup>th</sup> December – vehicle window smashed whilst parked at Belmont Community Centre

12<sup>th</sup> December – number of vehicles broken into at Premier Inn, Belmont Ind. Est + Renny's Lane

17<sup>th</sup> December – Burglary at Exotics, window smashed and property taken

17<sup>th</sup> December – Burglary at Rowan Tree Avenue – dwelling ransacked

20<sup>th</sup> December – Employee theft at Jagal House, Damson Way – Carbon Monoxide detectors

26<sup>th</sup> December – Burglary at Rayners Hairdressers, Sunderland Road

Total Calls 80 – 7 of which were anti- social behaviour related.

**Key Messages**

Darkness, let's ensure lighting

Not to leave valuables on show.

Not to leave valuables on show in vehicles.

At the suggestion of the Chairman, PC Mughal agreed to send to the Parish Office a short item advising the public of key crime prevention precautions for inclusion in the next Parish Newsletter.

PACT Meeting (Sherburn mpt)

PC Mughal reported no shop lifting incidents were reported in County Durham over the Xmas period.

The Chair B. Howarth asked PC Mughal about cars parking on single yellow lines in the parish. PC Mughal reported that this was being monitored, also about scrap metal merchants in the parish, PC Mughal also reported monitoring.

The Chair requested that the Wardens be informed.

The parish council thanked PC Mughal for his work in the parish throughout the year.

PC Mughal reported on the Cheveley Park Project.

**b) Community Warden**

None Present

The Parish Council have referred 4 reports of dog fouling on Monks Crescent which is being patrolled but has worsened. The Parish Council agrees that the standard of dog fouling patrolling has decreased.

**c) Members of the Public**

None present

The Chairman Councillor B Howarth re-imposed Standing Orders.

**12.156 Sign as a Correct Record Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2012**

Minutes attached. \*

**Agreed:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2012 be accepted with amendments.

Minute No. 12.138

Minute No. 12.148

**12.157 Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda**

Minute 12.138 - Belmont Parish Council's Clerk forwarded a letter to Durham County Council Refuse Department and also e-mail but we have received no response in regards to bins causing obstruction.

**12.158 Matters of Information, Clerk's Report, Correspondence Tabled Items – For**

**Information \***

**Received and agreed**

**a)** Letters received:

- 1) Durham County Council (Mr G Garlick) Grass Cutting

**(b)** Planning letters received:

- (1) 107A High Street, Carrville, Durham DH1 1BQ

**(c)** Letters were forwarded to:

- (1) Durham County Council (Grass Cutting) Mr G. Garlic/ Mr T Collins
- (2) Neighbourhood Services (Moorfield, Street Lighting), Mr G. Stephenson.  
Awaiting date for works to commence
- (3) Belmont Community School
- (4) E-mail to Durham County Council Refuse Department

**(d) Correspondence Tabled Items:**

- (1) Clerks and Councils Direct
- (2) The Clerks Magazine
- (3) Durham Green Belt Campaign
- (4) The Voice of Local Councils

**12.159 Risk Management in relation to Items on the Agenda**

Members please note:- this is a standard item. Risk Management has been considered when compiling these notes for January 2013 meeting and has been incorporated into reports and presented to Members.

**Received and Agreed:**

**12.160 Planning Matters\***

Members noted the December Planning List, particularly with regard to the (retrospective) Planning Approval of 107A High Street, despite a formal objection by the Parish Council and presentations to the Planning Committee on the day by County and Parish Councillors urging refusal.

**Agreed:** For the Clerk to arrange a Planning Committee meeting.

**12.161 Financial Matters\***

Finance documents outlining Receipts and Payment of Accounts

**(a) To receive receipts and payments of Accounts from 24<sup>th</sup> November– 14<sup>th</sup> December 2012\***

**(b) To Consider Donation Requests**

None

**(c) Membership and Subscriptions**

None

**Received and Agreed:**

**12.162 Budget (12.14)**

The budget for 2013/2014 was handed out to members. The budget was put forward to the Parish Council from the Finance Working Party where it was agreed in conjunction with the Clerk. Chairman Councillor K Holroyd reported on the budget headings/information.

**Agreed and approved:** with 11 votes in favour (unanimous)

**12.163 Precept** (12.15)

Councillor K.Holroyd, Chairman of the Finance Working Party proposed a precept of £69,000

**Agreed and approved:** that the precept required will be £69,000 with 11 votes in favour (unanimous)

**12.164 Cemetery Reports** (12.10)

**(a) To receive the report of Burials during the month of November 2012**

(1)

**(b) To receive the report of Grave Purchases during the month of November 2012**

(1)

**(c) To Consider Memorial Erection and Additional Inscription Applications**

(0)

**(d) Ashes Plots**

(0)

**(e) Ashes interred in Burial Plots**

(0)

**(f) Memorial erection and ashes plot.**

Mr May requested a memorial plaque and purchase of an ashes plot in memory of his parents who resided in the parish.

**Received and agreed.**

**12.165 Play Areas** (12.11)

Agreed for the Clerk to inform B. Alderson of the sign requirements for four play areas (2 signs for Moorfield – total five signs) after the Playground Development Chairman and Council Chairman had ascertained the correct name and postcode for each play area.

**Received and agreed** the Interplan Sign Systems Ltd quotation.

**12.166 Office Rent** (12.12)

Councillor B Howarth (Chairman) and Councillor K Holroyd declared an interest in the item as Belmont Community Association Committee Members and took no part in the discussion or decision. Councillor B Howarth asked the Vice – Chairman to chair this item.

Belmont Community Association's proposed phased scheme for increased office rent was fully discussed.

A Parish Council Proposal to accept the Belmont Community Association scheme, as presented, was defeated with 3 votes in favour, 4 against and 3 abstentions.

**Agreed:** A subsequent Proposal to accept the rent of £2200 for May 2013 – April 2014,

the rent for 2014 – 2015 and subsequent years to be reviewed by the parish council in June 2013.

#### **12.167 Broomside Lane Update (12.13)**

BHP Law's letter dated 17<sup>th</sup> September was circulated and members noted that our offer, agreed by Council at the December meeting, of an 8 foot strip of land for parking has not been accepted. The counter-offer of a 10 meter strip of land was rejected by Members by 10 votes with one abstention. Cllr Pattinson to report the outcome to our solicitor.

**Agreed** for Councillor C. Pattinson to consult with the solicitor on behalf of Belmont Parish Council with 10 votes in favour and 1 abstention.

#### **12.168 Internal Audit Report 2012/2013 (12.16)**

**Received and agreed:** for the Clerk to inform the internal auditor of an error in item 4.1.4. Budgetary Control

#### **12.169 Committee/Working Party Reports (12.17)**

- a) Playground Development Committee information  
Playground signs already discussed
- b) Planting Scheme Working Party information  
A Planting Scheme Working party meeting will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2013 to discuss budget and finance.
- c) Cemetery Working Party information  
A meeting to be arranged
- d) Friends of Belmont Scrambles Group information  
Councillor K. Neat reported an arrangement for litter pick for Sunday.
- e) Parish Plan Steering Group information  
A meeting to be arranged shortly
- f) Planning Committee  
No report
- g) Finance Working Party  
The final budget was agreed, presented by full council and also the precept.
- h) Personnel & Training Advisory Panel  
The Information Technology Assistant Mr C Stoves will be leaving us on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2012, we would like to thank him for his work and wish him well in the future.  
Shortlisting for interviews for the post will take place on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2013.
- i) Asset Task  
Meeting to be arranged
- j) Quality Parish Status Group  
A meeting to be arranged  
The criteria of quality parish status is changing and the new arrangements are awaited

**Agreed:** to postpone meeting if new information has not been received from Mr S. Ragg

**12.170 Ward Councillors (12.18)**

**Belmont Ward**

- (a) Councillor A. Walker raised concerns over not salting bus routes. Salt bins and filling of them at Swinside Drive, Cheshire, referred to Councillor K. Holroyd.

**Gilesgate Moor Ward**

- (b) Mrs Chris Barber, The Links Resident, had expressed concern with regard to the parking of vehicles for sale on verges in front of car retail premises on Belmont Road, Councillor L Thomson requested the Parish Council to write to Durham County Council Highways.

**(c) Carrville Ward**

- Councillor C. Pattinson raised concerns about the condition of salt bin at Newlands Road and asked that this be reported to Durham County Council.

**12.171 Any Other Item of Interest to Note or for Inclusion on the next Agenda. Date and time of next Meeting –Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2013 at 6.30p.m to be held at Belmont Community Centre**

The Clerk informed the Parish Council of the Durham Green Belt Campaign.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

Date:

Signature: