

**Minutes of the Meeting of Belmont Parish Council held at Belmont Community
Centre on Thursday 4th July 2013 at 6.30pm**

Present: Chairman D.J. Southwell, Vice-Chair G. Robinson-Lundy, Councillors, J. Knight, A. Walker, S.Inglis, T. Charlton, B. Howarth, L. Mavin, R. Murphy, B. Muylaert, E. Mavin and Patrick Conway.

Also Present: Mrs. C. Atkinson (Clerk)

13.55 To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Katie Corrigan, D. Waggot.

13.56 To Receive 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.

Declarations of Interest were received from Councillor J. Knight, B. Howarth (Belmont Community Association)

The Chairman Suspended Standing Orders.

13.57 To Receive Miscellaneous Reports

(a) Police

Apologies were received from P.C. N. Quarmby.

Incidents

Gilesgate Moor:

4 calls of anti-social behaviour to stores in the retail park and Dragonville which were predominantly groups of children causing a nuisance. There were 2 other calls of groups of children causing a nuisance in the area. There were 3 reports of off-road motorbikes in the area, mainly Renny's Lane using "The Scrambles".

Belmont:

There was 1 call of a group of children causing a nuisance, as well as 2 calls of off-road bikes in the area.

Carrville:

There were 2 calls in relation to off road bikes and vehicles causing a nuisance, as well as 1 call in relation to a group of children causing a nuisance.

The pattern in relation to the incidents of anti-social behaviour is predominantly off-road bikes, which we will be working with our off-road bike section from our Road Policing Unit (RPU) to target this issue.

Crime

Gilesgate Moor:

There were 4 thefts from vehicles, 4 shopliftings and 4 burglaries.

Belmont:

There were two thefts from vehicles and 1 burglary.

Carrville:

There was one theft that of a purse at an organised event.

From the overview of the crimes, it predominantly seems to be thefts from vehicles and shopliftings. Our dedicated regional shoplifting team is aware of the latter, and I have emailed our volunteer Val about setting up an "Operation Hawkeye" to combat future thefts from vehicles in the Belmont and Gilesgate areas. Operation Hawkeye aims at the police working with volunteers from the public to educate drivers on what they leave on show to opportunist thieves.

13.58 To Receive an Update on Belmont Road/Belmont Industrial Estate works meeting held on Wednesday 12th June 2013. Mr Dave Wafer Strategic Traffic Officer, Durham County Council.

Mr D. Wafer reported that 1. there would be 3 junction improvements: A690 roundabout, Belmont Industrial Estate. A19 junction, 2. that this will reduce traffic and will not need the A1M junction changed. £450.000 (Capital Grants) had been made available to resolve junction issues.

3. That there would be Bus Service diversions to Willow Tree Avenue.

4. That there would be advertising in the local press, signs placed on roads, advertisement on the County Council Website and travel updates.

An outstanding issue regarding the speed limit will increase traffic capacity, ease for traffic to get out, barrier to intend traffic to turn left constraints, slip road entrance to Belmont Industrial Estate.

Broomside Lane work would be starting July to go through to September to cause less disruption.

Concerns were raised regarding Carrville Highstreet and Willow Tree Avenue in regard to the closure of the slip road leading from the A690.

The Chairman thanked Durham County Council for getting things in place promptly.

The Chairman thanked Mr Dave Wafer for his time and presentation.

(b) Community Warden (Mr W. Clifton)

Apologies were made from Mr W. Clifton and a Warden report received.

Warden Report.

ASB, 2 incidents, Cheverly Walk, Devonshire Road, both incidents were resolved by Wardens.

1 Traffic light failure, Wardens tasked from police to resolve

Wardens have had no reports of incidents from area phones.

(c) Members of the Public

There were no members of the public at the meeting.

The Chairman re-imposed Standing Orders.

13.59 To Consider and make Comment on Planning Matters*

Obtained from Durham County Council Planning Department for June 2013.

(a) Planning Application List*

Received and Noted.

13.60 To Confirm and Sign as a Correct Record of Minutes of the Parish Council held on Thursday 6th June 2013

Minutes attached*

Agreed: To Sign the minutes as a correct record with amendments:

13.31 Woggat to Waggot

13.34

13.43

13.50

13.61 To Receive Matters of Information, Clerks Report, Correspondence Tabled Items – for information*

Letters were forwarded to:

(a) Mr P Mahan (regarding painted headstone and surround in Belmont Cemetery)

(b) E – Mails forwarded to:

- (a) Cooper Stott Solicitors (4th June meeting decision) Laura Eden (Planning)
- (b) Standing Orders Review for September
- (c) Olivers Tree Report Received
- (d) Grant Awarding Policy Review for September
- (e) Publication Scheme Review for September
- (f) The office computers have now been purchased and installed including back up external drives.
- (g) The office printer with Konica Minolta has become obsolete and the 5 year contract ended. (start date 25 April 2008 – 25 April 2013) The parish office had been left with no means to print and no offer of replacement by Konica.
- (h) A new printer has been purchased from PC World with the authorisation of Chairman and Vice-Chairman
- (i) Correspondence Tabled Items:
 1. Durham City Homes
 2. Clerks and Councils Direct
 3. Tenant Matters
 4. Network (Children's What's on)
 5. Campaign to Protect Rural England
 6. LCR (The Voice of Local Councils)

Available to all members from the parish office

Received and Noted:

13.62 To Receive Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda

There were no matters arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda.

Received and Agreed:

13.63 To Consider 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 July 2013 meeting and has been incorporated into reports and presented to members.

Received and Agreed:

13.64 To Consider and make comment on Financial Matters*

Finance documents outlining Receipts and Payments of Accounts

- (a) To Receive receipts and payments of Accounts from 1st June - 30th June 2013

Received and Agreed:

- (b) To Receive the Monthly Bank Reconciliation for May/June 2013*

Received and Agreed:

- (c) To Consider Donation Request

(0)

Received:

- (d) Membership and Subscriptions

(0)

Received:

13.65 To Consider and Make Comment on Cemetery Reports

- (a) To receive the report of Burials during the month of June 2013
(1)

Received:

- (b) To receive the report of Grave & Ashes Purchases during the month of June 2013
(0)

Received:

- (c) To Consider Memorial Erection and Additional Inscription Applications
(4)

Received & Agreed:

- (d) Ashes Interred Plots
(0)

Received:

- (e) Ashes interred in Burial Plots
(0)

Received:

13.66 To Consider and Make Comment on Broomside Land

The decision taken at the June meeting has been set aside, in full agreement by the Parish Council.

Agreed: For a special meeting to be held on the 12th September at 7:00p.m with the solicitor in attendance with an open invitation to members of the public complying with standing orders.
More than 8 council members were present and agreed to re visit the decision and to have a special meeting to be held on 12th September 2013.(Rescission of previous resolutions section specifies 'written' notice)

Agreed: To advertise on the parish noticeboards in pursuant of registering Broomside Lane land.

Received: The Clerk advised Parish Councillors that this is public money, is it in good faith of the community, that the Parish Council would need to decide the correct route forward.

13.67 To Receive an Update on Belmont Road / Belmont Industrial Estate works meeting held on Wednesday 12th June 2013. Mr Dave Wafer

This item was Discussed earlier in the meeting.

13.68 To Receive committee / Working Party Reports

- (a) Playground Development Committee information

Agreed: To Defer until the next meeting

- (b) Planting Scheme Working Party information

Agreed: Defer

- (c) Cemetery Working Party information

Agreed: Defer

- (d) Friends of Belmont Scrambles Group information

Agreed: Defer

(e) Parish Plan Steering Group information

Agreed: Defer

(f) Planing Committee

Agreed: Defer

(g) Finance Working Party

Agreed: Defer

(h) Personnel & Training Advisory Panel

Agreed: Defer

(i) Asset Task Group

Agreed: Defer

(j) Quality Parish Status

Agreed: Defer

13.69 To Receive Reports from Ward Councillors

(a) Belmont

Agreed: To Defer

(b) Carrville

Agreed: Defer

(c) Gilesgate Moor

Agreed: Defer

13.70 Any Other Items of Interest to Note or for Inclusion on the next Agenda. Date and time for next Meeting – Thursday 5th September 2013 at 6:30p.m. To be held at Belmont Community Centre

(a) Travellers –

Agreed: (To agenda for the 5th September meeting)

It was agreed to look at a hitchlock for the gate on Moor Field and for a large boulder to be placed in order to restrict access.

It was agreed to speak to Durham County Council's Traveller Leason Officer, Christine Duckworth, it was also suggested that we write a thank you letter to her and her staff.

(b) It was **Agreed** to arrange a special meeting to review Standing Orders.

(c) It was **Agreed** for Olivers Tree report to be forwarded to the Cemetery Working Party.

(d) It was **Agreed** for the Grant Awarding Policy to be forwarded to the Finance Working Party.

(e) It was **Agreed** for the Publication scheme to be forwarded to the Personnel Committee.

(f) **Received:** That the Office computers and printer have now been purchased and installed.

All members were handed a copy of the Committee & Sub – Committee members list.

Meeting Closed: 9:00p.m.

Date_____

Chairman Signature_____