

**Minutes of Belmont Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 6th February 2014
at 6:30p.m in Belmont Community Centre**

Present: Chair Councillor D.J. Southwell, Vice Chair Councillor G. Robinson – Lundy
Councillors B. Howarth, S. Inglis, K. Corrigan, J. Knight, L. Mavin, P. Conway,
T. Charlton, B. Muylaert, E. Mavin

Also Present: Mr I. Madson (Sherburn NPT)
Mrs C Atkinson (Parish Clerk)
Mr. A.R. Thurlwell (Administrator / I.T. Support)
Louise Harlandson (Representative North Durham Community Engagement Project)
Members of the Public (3)

13.169 **Apologies for Absence**
Councillor A.C. Walker attended later.
Apologies were received from Councillors D. Waggott, J. Corrigan, R. Murphy

13.170 **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 P. Conway (Planning)
Councillor B. Howarth (Scrambles and Lamorna)

Councillor A.C. Walker attended meeting at 6:37pm

The Chairman suspended standing orders

13.171 **Miscellaneous Reports**

(a) Police

(1) Concerns raised: about parking problems on the A690, Junction 62 caused by cars, car sharing, loading and unloading, also it is being used as a pick up point for travelling football fans.

Councillor B. Howarth, Councillor P. Conway said that there is going to be a special meeting called to discuss parking problems on March 6th or 7th 2014.

(2) Motorbikes on the Scrambles.

(3) A Burglary on Swinside Drive was reported.

(4) PACT meetings are to be held on the 13th February 2014 at Broomside Lane, 6:00pm.
Also on the 10th March 2014 at Gilesgate Junior School 6:00pm.

The Chairman thanked the Police for attending Mr I. Madson left the meeting at 7:00pm.

(b) Warden Report

There was no Warden present at the meeting.
No report received.

Agreed: To write to the Warden section regarding none attendance of a warden, representative and no report being received.

(c) Members of the Public

Concerns were raised about U-turns being carried out at the bottom of Willowtree Avenue, the extension to the barrier on Belmont Road and bollards at the junction to Belmont Road, Willowtree Avenue proving to be ineffective.

Concerns were raised about planning on Willowtree Avenue land.

Councillor B. Howarth informed the member of the public that the minutes of the Planning Committee state the reasons for objection to the planning, these also have been passed on to the Planning Officer concerned:

- (1) Loss of open space.
- (2) Traffic increase.
- (3) Inclusion of 3 Story buildings.
- (4) Mine gas.
- (5) Poor Drainage.

A member of the public left the meeting at 7:10pm

The Chairman re-imposed standing orders.

13.172

A Presentation/ Question Forum, North Durham Community Engagement Project

The representative of North Durham Community Engagement Project gave an out line of the project and its aims.

She mentioned that they have links of up to 838 organisations via presentations, Email, advertising and steering groups.

The group aim to produce a quarterly bulletin which will be available free of charge.

The group want as much information as possible to be available to the public such as how to access and understand health services available.

One of the main aims of the project is to correlate information so that they can spot trends, the project is funded until September 2015.

The Chairman Suspended Standing Orders

Question Forum

Questions: Councillor J. Knight asked if she was aware of a leaflet in circulation asking for Medical Records which had an opt out clause in it. He raised a concern that it looked like junk mail and could be discarded as such. He asked if this could be passed on to the Clinical Commissioning Group.

A member of the public enquired about facility for bereavement counselling.

Councillor J. Knight enquired about teenage suicides and hospital appointments not being kept.

Agreed: For the Clerk to contact Louise Harlandson thanking her for attending and also regarding the Parish Council offering to advertise on Parish noticeboards and in the Parish News Letter.

The Chairman thanked Louise Harlandson for the presentation and for coming, she left the meeting at 7:25pm

The Chairman re-imposed standing orders.

13.173

Planning Matters

(a) Willowtree Avenue.

Revised and Re-submitted.

Councillor B. Howarth explained reasons for this application to be turned down earlier in the meeting.

Councillor B. Howarth presented the Weekly Planning list and the County Wide Delegated list.

Councillor J. Knight congratulated Councillor B. Howarth on the presentation of the planning issue.

The Planning Committee suggested that this application be refused.

Councillor E. Mavin proposed a vote be taken in regards to this matter, this was seconded by Councillor G. Robinson Lundy.

Agreed: Vote taken by Council 10 for 0 against, motion passed.

Councillor P. Conway took no part in the above matter in any form be it discussion or vote.

13.174 **To Confirm and Sign as a Correct Record Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 9th January 2014**

Agreed: With amendments.

13.155 PCSO N. Quarmby changed to Pc N. Quarmby.

13.159 Added, Appeal against refusal.

13.159 Added, Councillor P Conway did not take part in discussion or agreement.

13.159 Added, to emphasize members concerns of objecting to the appeal.

13.176 **Matters Arising Not on Agenda**

(1) Risk Assessment

The Risk Assessment was received by the Asset Task Group and it was agreed to forward it to the Parish Council members to approve.

Agreed: With amendments to Page 1 and Page 3.

Agreed: It was received and agreed by all Council Members.

2 Members of The Public left the meeting at 7:45pm.

13.175 **To Receive Matters of Information, Clerk's Report, Correspondence Tabled Items – For Information ***

(a) Letters were forwarded/Received from:

(1) Belmont Community School (in reply to thank you letter)

(2) N Power (to read Robing Room electricity meter)

(3) Planning (Land North of Willowtree Avenue) Mr D Hutchinson

(4) Mr Gilroy (Quotation for Cemetery Wall received)

Agreed: To have set a site visit with the Cemetery Working Party and Mr. Gilroy to discuss works needed.

(b) E-mails received from:

(1) North Durham Community Engagement Team (to confirm attendance for the February meeting.

Agreed: To send letter of thank you for their attendance and also to say that we are looking forward to working with them in the future.

(c) Correspondence Tabled Items:

(1) Clerks Magazine

(2) Grass Roots

(3) Clerks and Councils Direct

(4) Durham Crime-stoppers (Leaflets for noticeboards) Speak out about crime.

Received.

(d) Area Action Partnership Representative Nomination.

Councillor P. Conway nominated Councillor J. Knight, seconded by Councillor K. Corrigan.
Councillor B. Howarth nominated Councillor D.J. Southwell seconded by Councillor A.C. Walker.
Councillor D.J. Southwell withdrew his name from the nominations.

Agreed: To put Councillor J. Knight forward, to the Area Action Partnership for nomination on behalf of Belmont Parish Council.

(e) Freeman Solicitors.

We have been informed that they no longer store Deeds.

Agreed: To arrange for them to be picked up or posed out to Belmont Parish Council office.

(f) Tender Letters.

Letters have been posted out for the tender of works for the Chevely Park Play Area to 4 companies.

(g) Diocese Letter

Received: Regarding consecration of Belmont Cemetery land.

(h) Robing Room

Parish Councillors were informed that the electricity meter within Belmont Cemetery Robing Room has been checked by N Power.

13.176 **Matters Arising Not on Agenda.**

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

13.177 **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 February 2014 meeting and has been incorporated into reports and presented to Members.

Received.

13.178 **To Consider and Make Comment on Financial Matters***

Finance documents outlining Receipts and Payment of Accounts

(a) To receive receipts and payments of Accounts from 20th December 2013 - January 29th 2014 *

Received and Agreed.

(b) To Consider Donation Requests.

(1) Haswell & District Mencap

Agreed: To donate £100.00

(2) Great North Air Ambulance

Agreed: To donate £100.00

(c) Membership and Subscriptions.

(0)

(d) Summer Planting.

Agreed: North East Site Maintenance planting costs, agreed.

Rose/Shrub Beds costs agreed.

Flower Beds costs agreed.

Agreed: For removal of planters from Willowtree shops and for them to be placed into storage.

13.179 **To Consider and Make Comment on Cemetery Reports***

(a) To receive the report of Burials during the month of January 2014.
(0)

(b) To receive the report of Grave & Ashes Purchases during the month of January 2014.
(2)

(c) To Consider Memorial Erection and Additional Inscription Applications, January 2014.
(1) Mr N. Kitching II14 Scott Memorials Namm Specifications

Agreed.

(d) Ashes interred in Burial Plots, January 2014
(0)

13.180 **Dogs not kept on leads/ Dog Fouling.**

Agreed: For Councillor E. Mavin to meet with Barry Alderson.

13.181 **Land at The Front of Lamorna, Belmont Road.**

Councillor B. Howarth declared interest.
An inspection for the safety of the foot path is under way.
Councillor D.J. Southwell intends to follow this matter up at County Hall.
A question was raised to who owns this land at the moment.

13.182 **Exclusion of Public and Press.**

That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s. 100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item.

13.183 **Clerks Contract**

Discussed at Personnel Committee meeting, agreed to forward to full Parish Council for agreement.

Agreed: For the Clerks hours to be 30 hours per week, flexible, holiday limit to be 5.3 weeks plus Bank Holidays per annum.

13.184 **To Receive Committee / Working Party Reports**

(a) Playground Development Committee Information
A meeting was held at 4:45pm on 17th January 2014.

(b) Planting Scheme Working Party Information
A meeting was held at 9:30am on 31st January 2014.

(c) Cemetery Working Party Information

(d) Friends of Belmont Scrambles Group Information

Steps at Coniston are being damaged by off road motorbikes traversing on the way to Leamside track bed.

Agreed: For the Friends of Belmont Scrambles to look into installation of motorbike barriers.

Agreed: For the Clerk to write a letter to Mr K. Neat in regards to this matter.

It was discussed: Dog Fouling to be sprayed pink or not.

Agreed: Voted unanimously that dog fouling spray would be used.

(e) Parish Plan Steering Group Information

(f) Planning Committee

A meeting was held at 4:30pm on 24th January 2014.

Discussed earlier under Planning minute number: 13.173

(g) Finance Working Party

(h) Personnel & Training Advisory Panel

A meeting was held at 4:30pm on 22nd January 2014.

(j) Quality Parish Status

(k) Jubilee Working Party

A meeting was held at 4:30pm on 21st January 2014.

(l) Parish Newsletter Working Party

A meeting was held at 5:45pm on 21st January 2014.

(m) Asset Task Group

A meeting was held at 4:00pm on 30th January 2014.

(n) Special Meeting (Stopping up of Lamorna)

A meeting was held at 6:00pm on 21st January 2014.

13.185

To Receive Reports from Ward Councillors

(a) Belmont Ward

Heading West along Thorndale Road towards the Links – the school sign for St Thomas More School is missing from the pole.

(b) Gilesgate Moor Ward

Sunderland Road is scheduled for works also extensive works to be carried out at the top of Moor Crescent which could last up to 4 to 5 weeks. Letters are being sent out to residents.

The path between Belmont Road and Eden Terrace has been left in an unsuitable condition after council works had taken place.

(c) Carrville Ward

Concerns of cars on Bainbridge Street parking on foot paths, discussed earlier: Minute Number: 13.171

13.186

Any Other Items of Interest to Note or for Inclusion on the next Agenda.

(1) Letter received from the Durham Diocesan Registry regarding cemetery consecration for further information.

(2) Tender letters posted for Cheveley Park Play area.

(3) Deeds for the cemetery.

(4) Playground inspection reports (Mr Snailham).

Date and time of next Meeting –Thursday 6th March 2014 at an earlier time of 6.00p.m to be held at Belmont Community Centre

The meeting closed at 9:00pm.

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____