

**Minutes of Belmont Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2015 at  
6.30pm In Belmont Community Centre.**

**Present:** Chairman Councillor D. J. Southwell, Vice-Chair R. Murphy, Councillors T. Charlton, P. Conway, K. Corrigan, J. Knight, B. Howarth, S. Inglis, L. Mavin, B. Muylaert, A.C. Walker.

**Also Present:** Shirley Overton (Clerical Assistant) Members of the Public (3)

**15.61 To Receive Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors J.Corrigan, E. Mavin, G. Robinson-Lundy, D. Waggott,

Apologies were also received from Police, Wardens and Parish Clerk

**15.62 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 Councillors K. Corrigan and P. Conway regarding planning matters.

**15.63 To Receive Miscellaneous Reports**

**(a) Police**

There was no Police present.

**(b) Community Warden**

There was no Warden present.

**(c) Members of the Public**

There were three members of the public present.

**The Chairman suspended Standing Orders.**

Members of the public raised concerns regarding the proposed one way system for Wantage Road.

- Volume of traffic
- Double parked cars
- Presence of children playing in the surrounding streets.

**Agreed:** County Councillor to inform the residents of future meetings regarding this matter.

**The Chairman re-imposed Standing Orders.**

**15.64 Wantage Road, Feedback**

This matter is to be deferred to next Parish Council meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015. Councillor P. Conway is going to organize a meeting at County Hall, Councillor K. Corrigan and P. Conway will be informing residents with dates and times.

**15.65 To Consider and Make Comment on Planning Matters\***

Obtained from Durham County Council Planning Department for August 2015  
Councillor B. Howarth gave an in depth planning report to members (see attached)\*.

**The Chairman suspended Standing Orders.**

A member of the public raised concerns on behalf of residents regarding the conversion of an existing cycle and management store into a studio apartment and associated works. The concerns raised were:-

- Design (deviating from the original design) out of character with the rest of apartments
- Loss of green space
- Unacceptable living environment

**The Chairman re-imposed Standing Orders.**

**Agreed:** For a letter to be sent to County Hall outlining requesting that the decision is referred to the County Council Planning Committee.

Members of the public left at 7.00pm

The Chairman thanked Councillor B. Howarth for her hard work regarding the Planning, Councillor J. Knight seconded it.

**15.66 To Confirm and Sign as a Correct Record Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 2nd July 2015**

Minutes attached. \*

**Received and Agreed:**

**15.67 To Receive Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda**

Item 15.50 The Kissing Gate at the Scrambles is almost ready.

Item 15.59 A resident had been invited to the Northumbria in Bloom Awards Ceremony.

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

**(a) Letters/E-mails sent, received**

- (1) Zurich Insurance incident letter.
- (2) Annual Return form
- (3) Elaine Crowe (leaving letter)
- (4) Planning letter to Barry Gallivett.
- (5) Revenue and Benefits rates slip signed by Chairman.
- (6) BDO STOY amended Annual Return Form.

**(b) Correspondence Tabled Items:**

- (1) Grass Roots (Community News)
- (2) Clerks Magazine

**Agreed:**

A Personnel and Finance meeting with the Internal Auditor to be arranged for Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2015. At 2.30pm

**Agreed:**

**15.69 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 September 2014 meeting and has been incorporated into reports and presented to members.

**Agreed:**

**15.70 To Consider and Make Comment on Financial Matters\***

Bank reconciliation from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015

Finance documents outlining Receipts and Payment of Accounts

To receive receipts and payments of Accounts from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 – 30<sup>th</sup> April 2015 \*

To receive receipts and payments of Accounts from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015-31<sup>st</sup> May 2015

To receive receipts and payments of Accounts from\_1<sup>st</sup> June 2015-30<sup>th</sup> June 2015

To receive receipts and payments of Accounts from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015-31<sup>st</sup> July 2015

To receive receipts and payments of Accounts from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2015-31<sup>st</sup> August 2015

Bank balances April 2015 to June 2015

**Received and Agreed:**

**(b) To Consider Donation Requests**

(0)

**(c) Membership and Subscriptions**

(0)

Councillor R. Murphy thanked the Chairman for all his hard work regarding finance during the Clerks absence.

Chairman D.J.Southwell thanked Shirley Overton (Clerical Assistant) and Adrian Thurlwell (Information Technology Assistant) for their support during the Clerks absence.

**15.71 To Consider and Make Comment on Cemetery Reports\***

**(a) To receive the report of Burials during the month of July/August 2015**

Jay Anthony Parsons

New double LL 14

Stuart Wright FS

**(b) To receive the report of Grave & Ashes Purchases during the month July/August 2015**

(2)

**(c) To consider Memorial Erection and Additional Inscription Applications during the month of**

**July/August 2015**

(5)

**d) Ashes interred in Burial Plots during July/August 2015**

(0)

**Received and Agreed:**

**15.72 Pension Regulator**

Deferred until next meeting.

**15.73 General Power of Competence**

Deferred until next meeting.

**15.74 Speeding on Broomside Lane**

Deferred until next meeting. Councillor J. Knight gave apologies on behalf of a resident who was unable to attend the meeting.

**15.75 Senior Citizens Christmas Party (catering arrangements)**

Councillor B. Howarth to contact Belmont Community School by e-mail regarding the catering arrangements for the Senior Citizens Christmas Party. Councillor R. Murphy and J. Knight expressed a wish to be involved with the arrangements.

**Agreed.**

**15.76 Remembrance Day Parish Council Wreath and Refreshment Donation.**

Councillor B. Howarth reported that wreath had been ordered by Councillor P. Conway. Chairman D.J. Southwell to lay the wreath at the Remembrance Day Service.

A donation of £100.00 to be made to Belmont, St. Mary Magdalene Parish Church Council for refreshments.

**Agreed.**

Councillor P. Conway joined the meeting at 8.00pm

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

**(a) Playground Development Committee information**

Mr E. Malarkey has offered to do the painting in the playground at Moorfield after price has been agreed.

Councillor D.J. Southwell (Chairman) reported that he had approached a dog walker regarding dog fouling near the play area.

It was agreed for Councillor D.J. Southwell (Chairman) to put up a sign on spare post regarding dog fouling.

The basket swing still has to be replaced on Moorfield Play Area.

**Agreed.**

**(b) Planting Scheme Working Party Information**

Councillor B. Muylaert gave a verbal report regarding Northumbria in Bloom judging in July – awaiting results. Councillor B. Muylaert will report back at the next Parish Council meeting in October. Councillor B. Howarth said she would attend the Beautiful Durham Awards if no-one else wanted to attend.

**Agreed.**

**(c) Cemetery Working Party Information**

Councillor B. Howarth reported that the Cemetery Working Party had agreed the materials and colour for the new coping stones.

The minutes from Mr Rob Howard (repairs to Cemetery wall) had been received, Councillor B. Howarth apologised for the delay.

Chairman D.J. Southwell reported a sign had been done regarding work on the Cemetery gates commencing the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015 for five weeks. All Funeral Services have been notified of the work.

Mr Rob Howard (contractor) will be told of any burial ceremonies and work will cease during that period.

Letters to be circulated to twenty residents near the works area by Councillor T. Charlton, informing them of work schedules. It was agreed that the local Newspapers be informed of the works. Chairman D.J. Southwell to approach Mark Tallantyne (Newspaper Editor).

Councillor R. Murphy to update website and notice boards with information regarding the Works schedule.

**(d) Friends of Belmont Scrambles Group Information**

- Apologies were received from K. Neat . It was agreed that a farmer from East Rainton Mr. John Bailey will cut the grass at the meadow to an acceptable level.
- Two steps have now been repaired.
- The Himalayan Balsam has been dealt with three times.
- The replacement and welding of the Kissing Gate

**(e) Planning Committee**

There was nothing to report

**(f) Finance Working Party**

There was nothing to report.

**(g) Personnel & Training Advisory Panel**

There was nothing to report.

**(h) Asset Task Group**

There was nothing to report.

**15.78 Ward Councillors**

**Belmont**

There was nothing to report.

**Carrville**

There was nothing to report.

**Gilesgate-Moor**

There was nothing to report.

**15.79 Any Other Items of Interest to Note or for Inclusion on the next Agenda.**  
**Date and time of next Meeting –Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015 at 6.30p.m to be held at Belmont Community Centre**

None

Chairman's Signature ----- Date -----