

**Minutes of Belmont Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 6.30 p.m. in Belmont Community Centre.**

**Present:** Chairman Councillor D. J. Southwell, Councillors T. Charlton, P. Conway, B. Howarth, S. Inglis J. Knight, E. Mavin.L.Mavin, G. Robinson-Lundy D.Waggott, A.C.Walker

**Also Present:** Shirley Overton (Clerical Assistant) Members of the Public (2)

**15.100 Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors J. Corrigan, K. Corrigan, Vice-Chair Councillor R. Murphy and, B. Muylaert,

Apologies were also received from police and Warden

**15.101 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 was received from Councillor P. Conway regarding planning matters.

**The Chairman suspended Standing Orders**

**15.102 Miscellaneous Reports**

**(a) Police.**

There were no police present at the meeting due to bonfire events around the area. Information sheet presented.

**(b) Community Warden.**

There was no warden present at the meeting due to bonfire events around the area.

**(c) Members of the Public.**

There were two members of the public present.

The two members of the public from Magdalene Avenue raised concerns regarding anti-social behaviour from youths in the area (Vandalising parked cars and being abusive to residents). Durham County Councillor P. Conway to take up the issue with Durham City Homes and Police.

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

**15.103 Planning Matters\*.**

Obtained from Durham County Council Planning Department for October 2015)

Councillor B. Howarth gave a planning report to members.

Planning

Councillor B. Howarth commented on current planning applications with reference to DCC Planning List for October 2015 and Delegated Outcomes for October 2015 drawing attention to related Parish Council action.

Summary as follows:

Application DM/15/01743/FPA: Cheveley House, Brackendale Road, Belmont, Durham.

Amended application as numbered above- Pending decision at DCC Committee on Nov 10th.

It was agreed that the parish council would not make further representation at committee.

Application DM/1503186/FPA: A690 Specialist Cars Ltd. Belmont Bridge Carrville, Durham.

Extension of garage to form workshop.

Full Council ratified a letter of objection on highway safety grounds, loss of onsite parking and parking congestion. Delegated decision pending

Application 15/03291/VOC: 17 Ramside Park, Carrville, Durham.

No objection to design modifications. Delegated decision pending

Application DM/15/02349/FPA: Shell Service Station, Highstreet, Carrville.

Refurbishment and redevelopment. Approved

Applications for lawful development certificates for retail purposes (Class A1) without restriction on range of goods for Durham Retail Park Units 2-3-5-6-7-8-10

Diagnostics and Treatment Centre (renal dialysis & surgery): Parish Council and local DCC Councillors received pre-planning information intention for application to be made for land adjacent to Durham City AFC at Belmont Business Park. Agreed to await application with interest.

**Received and Agreed:**

**15.104 To Confirm and Sign as a Correct Record Minutes of the Meeting of Belmont Parish Council held on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015. Minutes attached \***

**Received and Agreed:**

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

A cheque for £200.00 has been sent to Friends of Belmont School.

A cheque for £150.00 had been given to Vice-Chair Councillor R. Murphy towards the purchase of the senior citizens raffle prizes.

A donation for £100.00 has been sent to Belmont St Mary Magdalene Parish Church Council towards refreshments for Remembrance Day.

A cheque for £50.00 for a wreath for Remembrance Day for the British Legion.

The problem of running water on road near Belmont Library has still not been resolved. Durham County Councillor P. Conway to look into the matter.

**Received and Agreed:**

**15.106 Matters of Information, Clerk's Report, Correspondence Tabled Items – For Information\*.**

**(a) Letters/ E-mails forwarded to**

- (1) Letter of thanks to Mayor
- (2) Letter and Memorial information to E.Raynor and Sons
- (3) Letter to Zurich regarding insurance claim
- (4) Letters to C.Atkinson

**(b) Correspondence Tabled Items:**

- (1) Clerks Magazine
- (2) Clerks and Councils Direct
- (3) D S G Retail Limited
- (4) Insurance Claim Poplar Road.
- (5) Tesco Local Community Scheme.
- (6) Grab a Grant (Durham City Homes)
- (7) Mobile telephone

**Received and Agreed:**

**15.107 Risk Management in relation to Items on the Agenda.**

**Agreed:**

**15.108 Financial Matters\*.**

- (a) Chairman reported that the Internal Auditor was examining the Accounts up to the end of September 2015.
- (b) Financial Statement for October 2015.

**Received and Agreed:**

**15.109 Cemetery Reports\*.**

**(a) Burials during the month of October 2015**

Alan Glasper	J 724	Stuart Wright Funeral Services
	Re-open	

**(b) Grave & Ashes Purchases during the month of October 2015**

(0)

**(c) Memorial Erection and Additional Inscription Applications, October 2015**

(3)

**Received and Agreed:**

**15.110 Beautiful Durham**

Councillor B. Howarth reported that Belmont had won best large village and two individual awards for best gardens. Belmont Allotment Association won best horticultural award and a special environmental award. It was suggested that letters of congratulations be sent to those concerned, if addresses were known, and also put in the next parish newsletter.

The Chairman thanked the Planting Scheme Working Party for their hard work and dedication.

**Received and Agreed:**

**15.111 National Audit Return 2014/2015**

The Chairman reported the National Audit Return had been approved, then appropriate information had been displayed on the parish council notice boards.

**Received:**

**15.112 Responsible Dog Owner Campaign**

Durham County Councillor P. Conway reported there had been various events in the area for dog owners, involving chipping, putting up signs on Moorfield, going around the local schools and visiting residents in the area.

**Received:**

**15.113 Wantage Road area feedback.**

Councillor P Conway gave a verbal report to members.

Councillor P.Conway reported on the issue of traffic problems on Wantage Road as raised by some local residents. Following two meetings during the summer, a further one had been arranged by county councillors on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015 to consider various options presented by highways officers.100 % invitations had been delivered to local residents who could be affected. Between 50 and 60 residents attended the meeting and county councillors had received 20-25 representations from people unable to attend.

Following a wide ranging discussion the meeting concluded

- (a) No option would solve the problems as perceived by some residents
- (b) Therefore no further work should proceed on options.
- (c) Traffic movement in the east of the city was a major challenge and the County Durham Plan should examine this matter, taking into account the need for traffic management on the A690 at Rainton, the need for junction improvements on the motorway and improved circulatory traffic management in the Belmont, Carrville and Gilesgate Moor area
- (d) The efficiency of road bumps on Wantage Road should be investigated and representations to Lees coaches made about their use of the road.

**15.114 Working Party Reports.**

**(a) Appeals Committee**

A meeting was held this month regarding Parish Clerks Contract

**(b) Asset Task Group**

No meeting was held this month. It was agreed to hold a meeting in January 2016.

**(c) Cemetery Working Party**

Councillor B.Howarth reported that the cemetery wall and gates were complete and handed over from Mr.R.Howard Durham County Council. There is a twelve month warranty for the work carried out.

A meeting was held with Susan Harris regarding cost for repairs of footpath.

Councillor B. Howarth reported work on the tarmac regarding the problem of tree roots will be completed this week.

The Chairman D.J. Southwell thanked the committee for their hard work and dedication.

**(d) Finance Working Party**

No meeting was held this month.

**(e) Model Publication Working Party**

No meeting was held this month.

**(f) Parish Newsletter Working Party**

No meeting was held this month.

**(g) Personnel Training Advisory Panel**

No meeting was held this month.

**(h) Planning Committee**

As item 15.04

**(i) Planting Scheme Working Party**

A meeting was held this month which will be reported at the December parish council meeting next month. The Chairman thanked Councillor T. Charlton for making the bird table which has since been put in the cemetery and for making bird boxes which have been fixed to trees. Councillor G. Robinson-Lundy offered two bird tables for the cemetery.

**(j) Playground Development Committee**

Councillor E. Mavin received a quotation for playground repairs to the three playgrounds, Poplar Road, Cheveley Park and Moorfield It was agreed to apply to the Tesco Local Community Scheme and to work with County Councillors regarding funding from 106 monies if required.

**Received and Agreed**

**(k) Friends of Belmont Scrambles**

Councillor B. Howarth reported that the Annual General Meeting report had been received, to send copy of e-mail to all councillors.

It was reported that a litter pick will be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

Overhanging branches on the Scrambles have now been cut back, the notice board has now been cleaned.

It was reported that there was no notice up in the Scrambles regarding public liability, it was agreed to contact Zurich Insurance Company to put together a form of words on the notice to protect the parish council.

**Received and Agreed**

**15.115 Reports from Ward Councillors**

**Belmont**

Councillor E.Mavin raised a concern from a resident regarding grass and garden waste collection scheme finishing too early.

Councillor G. Robinson-Lundy reported a tree has been pulled up between Ferndale and Gorsedale Drive.

A concern was raised regarding plants being stolen in the area.

**Carrville**

Councillor J. Knight raised a concern of youths attacking a tree for conkers in Fellside Gardens.

**Gilesgate Moor**

Councillor S.Inglis raised concerns of state of road due to work from building site in Willowtree Avenue.

Councillor P. Conway said sweepers had been employed to clear debris from road at frequent intervals.

Councillor S.Inglis raised concerns of falling leaves in the area. Councillor P. Conway said issue is in hand.

**15.116 Any Other Business, Date of Next Meeting Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2015**

- (a) Summary of proposed variation to terms and conditions of employment of Parish Clerk, Mrs C.Atkinson.
- (b) It was agreed that a letter be sent to Durham County Council regarding the closure of the Durham Light Infantry Museum. All agreed that it was a tragedy for all who served in the regiment and their families.

Meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

Chairman's signature ----- Date -----