

**Minutes of Belmont Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2016 at  
6.30pm In Belmont Community Centre.**

**Present:** Chairman Councillor D. J. Southwell, Vice-Chair R. Murphy, Councillors T. Charlton, J. Corrigan, J. Knight, B. Howarth, S. Inglis, D. Waggott and A.C. Walker

**Also Present:** Shirley Overton (Parish Clerk)

16.27 To Receive Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P. Conway, K. Corrigan, E. Mavin, L. Mavin, B. Muylaert and G. Lundy,

16.28 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.

16.29 To Receive Miscellaneous Reports

(a) Police.

There were no police present.

(b) Community Warden.

Apologies were received from the Community Warden. A report has been forwarded to all councillors.

(c) Members of the Public.

Belmont Community Association, Councillor Dr. B. Moir and Mr. M. Bennett.  
Belmont Bowling Club Mr. T. Dixon.

**The Chairman suspended Standing Orders.**

16.30 Representatives attending the meeting:

The Parish Council has been approached by a representative from the Banks Group, Mr. L. Stokes, Community Relations Manager, regarding funding for local communities and Parish councils from the Banks Community Fund. Mr Stokes said this was an excellent opportunity to apply for funding for up to £20,000.00 - £25,000.00. Mr.M. Bennett from Belmont Community Association said that Belmont Community Centre was currently in the process of updating its kitchen facilities and he enquired if funding would be available for this purpose? Belmont Community Centre would like to address social and isolation issues for local residents by holding lunch clubs, tea dances and coffee mornings for the purpose of social interaction within the community. Mr. L. Stokes said that Belmont Community Centre would have no problem for eligibility as the criteria for funding is accessible for the whole community and must be drawn down and spent within nine months. Mr. L. Stokes said that forms could be downloaded from the website and completed electronically. Mr.T. Dixon from Belmont Bowling Club enquired if funds would be available for the maintenance of the

club's lawns. This would involve the purchase of two pieces of machinery and a storage unit for security. Mr. L. Stokes said that the Bowling Club would meet the criteria for funding for machinery and equipment.

The Chairman D.J. Southwell thanked all the representative for attending the meeting.

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

16.31 To Consider and Make Comment on Planning Matters\*.

Obtained from Durham County Council Planning Department for May 2016

A planning report has been received from Councillor B. Howarth.

Chairman D.J. Southwell reported that the ASDA Application was in abeyance and that an update should be available for the July meeting.

**Received and Agreed.**

16.32 To Confirm and Sign as a Correct Record Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Belmont Parish Council held on 5th May 2016 Minutes attached \*.

**Received and Agreed.**

16.33 To Receive Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda.

16.15 For information purposes the potholes in Belmont Community Centre car-park are the responsibility of the Leisure Department at County Hall.

16.18 War Memorial Grade 11 – It was reported that the War Memorial had been given a small mention in the local paper with regards to it having been added to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest.

16.19 It was reported that Belmont Parish Council is liable for the rates of the cemetery and the Parish Office. A business rates relief form is to be completed for the Parish Office as this is the biggest bill.

**Agreed:** To pay rates for Belmont Cemetery and apply for rates relief for the Parish Office.

16.20 Christmas Tree Lights- Vice-Chair Councillor R. Murphy is taking this matter forward with the Church.

16.25 Councillor B. Howarth reported that to date that there has been no planings received for the Scrambles. It was agreed for Chairman Councillor D.J. Southwell to contact Durham County Council in regards to this matter.

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

(1) Letter received from Valuation Office Agency regarding Rating Revaluation 2017 Cemeteries in Belmont with an attached spreadsheet to complete.

(2) E-Mail from National Association of Local Councils regarding National Pay Award 2016/2018.

- (3) Small Business Rates Relief has been received for completion for Belmont Parish Council Office
- (4) Annual Return posted to BDO STOY
- (5) E-mail has been sent to Larisa Heinrich, Church Commissioners London regarding Land Ownership of Rennys Lane.

16.35 To Consider Risk Management in relation to Items on the Agenda.

**Agreed.**

16.36 To Consider Financial Matters\*.

Finance documents outlining Receipts and Payment of Accounts for May 2016  
Bank reconciliation to end of May 2016.

**Received and Agreed.**

16.37 To Consider and Make Comment on Cemetery Reports\*.

(a) To Receive the report of Burials during the month of May 2016

Doreen Shiel	Stuart Wright F S	BB 15 Section A Re-open
Francis Cochrane Lyn	Stuart Wright FS	NN 7 Section B New single
Charles Gauden Wayper	Sherburn Hill FS	Ashes Y 45

(b) To Receive the report of Grave & Ashes Purchases during the month of May 2016

Francis Cochrane Lyn	New single	NN 7 Section B
John Appleby Allott	New double	N 16

(c) To Consider Memorial Erection and Additional Inscription Applications during the month of May 2016

Gladys Ormiston	J 717 Section M	North East Granite
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(d) Ashes interred in Burial Plots during the month of May 2016

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**Received and Agreed.**

16.38 Consideration for Feasibility Study for 20mph Zone / 20mph Speed Limit.

A meeting was held at County Hall with two officers in regards to a Feasibility Study for 20mph Zone / 20mph Speed Limit from Gilesgate roundabout to Carrville roundabout. The meeting was attended by the Chairman D.J. Southwell, Mrs.S. Overton, Parish Clerk and Councillor J. Knight. It was agreed to only apply for funding from the Banks Group if we are going ahead.

**Agreed:** It was unanimous that Belmont Parish Council pay £3000.00 for a Feasibility Study

from Gilesgate roundabout to Carrville roundabout (residential estates).

16.39 Governance Risk Assessment

It was agreed to arrange a meeting for Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June at 9.45 am to update the Risk Assessment for the Parish Office. Chairman D.J. Southwell, Councillors B. Howarth, J. Knight, R. Murphy and Mrs S. Overton Parish Clerk, to be involved in the process.

16.40 Coal tub of historic value sited in the Parish.

It was agreed for the appropriate members to approach Mr. Daemon Sanderson in order to discuss the installation of the coal tub on the land adjacent to the Shell Petrol Station and discuss further with Graham Robson. County Council consent will also need to be sought.

16.41 Road Traffic Closure Order, Remembrance Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> November 2016

**Agreed:** It was agreed to proceed with the Road Traffic Closure Order at the discretion of the Police for the Remembrance Sunday Service which will be held this year on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

16.42 Senior Citizens Summer Show.

It was reported that residents are now starting to contact the Parish Office to reserve places for the Senior Citizens Summer Show to be held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2016. The Parish newsletters are now being distributed to residents with information regarding the show.

16.43 To Receive Working Party Reports.

(a) Asset Task Group

A meeting was held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 10.00 am \* see attached notes

**Agreed:** The Asset Register has been amended and a cheque has been sent to Zurich Insurance.

(b) Cemetery Working Party

No meeting held this month.

(c) Finance Working Party

No meeting held this month.

(d) Friends of Belmont Scrambles Group Information

A report was received from Mr. K. Neat of Friends of Belmont Scrambles\* see attached report.

Councillor B. Howarth commented that the Scrambles was looking particularly attractive at this present time.

(e) Parish Newsletter

No meeting held this month.

The Parish Newsletters have been completed and distributed this month.

(f) Personnel & Training Advisory Panel

No meeting held this month.

(g) Planning Committee  
No meeting held this month.

(h) Planting Scheme Working Party

A meeting was held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2016 at 9.30 am \* see attached notes.

It was reported that the local school children's artwork will be judged on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> June and finalists' pictures will be judged by Belmont Library staff.

Councillor B. Muylaert to complete the form from the Mayor's Office to confirm his attendance at the award ceremony on Monday June 20<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 am in Belmont Library. The Mayor is invited to present the awards to the winners of the art competition.

(i) Playground Development Committee information

A site visit was held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 5.00 pm \* see attached report.

All five play areas were visited, two at Cheveley Park, Moorfield, Poplar Road and Poplar Drive to discuss what equipment needs updating over the next three years.

**Agreed:** That updating of play equipment would be well within budget from 106 monies and that this item would be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting to be held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2016. There was need to progress the replacement of a piece of the roundabout and the basket swing at Cheveley Park Junior and servicing of the tea cup in Cheveley Park Infant.

(j) Area Action Partnership

Councillor J. Knight to forward a report to the Parish Office for information purposes. It was reported that the official opening of Wharton Park was on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

(k) National Association of Local Councils.

There was nothing to report.

#### 16.44 To Receive Reports from Ward Councillors.

##### Belmont Ward

A concern was raised of damage to hedgerow in Rennys Lane.

It was reported that seventeen calls have now been received from residents to Simon McGinety, Senior Tree Officer regarding the leaflets that have recently been distributed to residents whose land borders Rennys Lane encouraging them to take care of the environment. The feedback has been positive as residents have also been concerned about damage to the hedgerow. Vice-Chair Councillor R. Murphy reported that the land adjacent to the southern boundary is owned by the Church Commissioners but they don't own the paths or the hedgerows on either side of Rennys Lane.

A report of problems with litter and of graffiti in Rennys Lane underpass has been raised from residents, it was agreed for the Parish Council to contact Joe Peat from Streetscene regarding this matter.

A street light (1236) in Rennys Lane has still not been fixed, it was agreed for the Parish Office to pursue the matter.

It was reported that the grass-cutting is not getting done, it was agreed to contact a County Councillor to look into the matter.

#### Carrville Ward

A report of potholes at Wantage Road, Carrville has been raised, this is a Durham County Council matter.

Carrville and Belmont Residents Association are having a trip to Scarborough on the 18<sup>th</sup> June 2016, it was agreed to put the information on the parish website for information purposes.

It was agreed that a fence is needed along the railway embankment to discourage fly tipping, the Chairman has agreed to pursue this matter. It was also agreed that residents should contact Streetscene to report any further incidents of litter and fly tipping.

#### Gilesgate Moor

It was reported that the footpaths have now been cleaned and swept in Ernest Place.

A report of leaves building up in drains is a Durham County Council matter.

There has been a request for speed humps in Denes Walk, residents are to be told that a Feasibility Study is to be done in the area with regards to speeding.

#### 16.45 Any Other Business, Date of Next Meeting 7th July Thursday 2016

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.