

Minutes of the Belmont Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 6:30pm in Belmont Community Centre

Present: Chairman Councillor D.J. Southwell, Councillors J. Appleby, J. Corrigan, E.B. Finlay, B. Howarth, S. Inglis, P.L. Langley, M. M. Leggott, S. Lowes, L. Mavin, J.A. Sykes, and S. White

Also Present: S. Overton Parish Clerk, Members of the Public (3)  
Police (2)

17.49 To Receive Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Vice-Chair Councillor R. Murphy, Councillor E. Mavin and Councillor O. Whear.

17.50 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.

**The Chairman suspended Standing Orders.**

17.51 To Receive Miscellaneous Reports

(a) Police.

The two police from the area introduced themselves to members, the Chair thanked them for doing a good job in the parish. The police informed members that they were currently looking at new ways of communication with parish councils and also looking at reviewing current PACT meetings to deliver a better service of communication.

(b) Community Warden.

Apologies were received from the Community Warden a report to be e-mailed to the Parish Office and forwarded to all councillors for information.

(c) Members of the Public.

A member of the public enquired about when the repair to the gate in the Cheveley Park Play area would be completed, the Chairman informed the resident that the work would take approximately eight weeks to complete.

The Chairman after discussions with residents present is to hold a site meeting with a Durham County Council representative, AVANT Homes representative, Councillors and residents on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July at 1.15 with regards to the Gabion Wall re-instatement and overspill on the embankment near footpath 5.

The police left at 7.00 p.m.

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

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

a) Lists of Parish Planning Applications for June 2017 and Delegated Approvals for June 2017.

b) Notes from Planning Committee Meeting on Tuesday 29th June 2017.

c) Letter to delegated planning officer re DM/17/01827/FPA: Avant – Retaining Wall

d) Letter re cladding and fire safety Renny’s Court.

Councillor B. Howarth gave a verbal report on applications in the above documents drawing particular attention to applications:

DM/17/01201/FPA for L & C Investments Ltd (We Buy Any Car.com) – Durham County Council Approved – delegated.

DM/17/01434/FPA for Dominos Pizza UK and Ireland – DCC Approved – delegated.

DM/17/01827/FPA for Avant Homes – Retaining Wall (retrospective application).

Agreed – retrospective approval of letter sent to planning officer following Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting of 29/16/2017. Concern expressed regarding structural discrepancies; façade; depositing of spoil; foundations; contaminants; clearance and reinstatement of PROW 5; gradients and inspection. Also to ask for referral to Durham County Council Committee (since agreed for September).

For details see Parish Council Planning Committee notes (b) and letter (c) as listed above.

DM/17/02035/FPA for the Durham Centre – Units 1&2 Belmont industrial Estate. Change of Use and increased conference facilities with associated expansion of car park.

Agreed – not to object to conference centre project but raise concern regarding loss of trees and ask for protection of adjacent A690 highway trees band and request indigenous tree planting – letter to be sent to delegated officer.

For details see PC Planning Committee notes (b) as listed above.

RENNY’S COURT Cladding and fire safety.

Agreed – to express concern re steps against fire risk such as fire resistance of cladding; fire alarms, sprinklers; fire doors and exit signage. Also ask for collapsible barriers in Renny’s Lane.

For details see Parish Council Planning Committee notes (b) as listed above.

Received and Agreed.

17.53 To Confirm and Sign as a Correct Record Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Belmont Parish Council held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017. Minutes attached \*

Amendment

17.46 item J g 5 – Planting Scheme Working Party – date amended to 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

Agreed.

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

17.34 Community Warden – Letters have now been distributed to residents of Carrville High Street (approximately one hundred) regarding speeding behind the back of Carrville High Street.

Agreed.

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

1. Invitation to Mayor and Mayoress of Durham to attend Children’s Art Competition in Belmont Library.
2. Thank you letter to Mayor of Durham for his attendance.
3. Thank you letter to Ravensworth Nurseries for the quality of this year’s plants.

4. Thank you letter to Belmont Library for hosting the Childrens Art Competition.
5. E-mail to Matt West thanking him for his attendance at the Children's Art Competition photographer for Northern Echo).
6. Thank you to National Trust who recently did some work on the Scrambles with local school children.  
Agreed.

17.56 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 June 2017 meeting and has been incorporated into reports and presented to members.  
Agreed.

17.57 To Consider Financial Matters\*.

(a) Finance documents outlining Receipts and Payment of Accounts for June 2017

(b) Bank reconciliation to end of June 2017.

(c) Budget Summary for April/May/ June 2017

(d) To Consider Donation Requests

Mayors Appeal 2017/2018

Belmont CA Baby and Toddler Group

(2)

Agreed: £50.00

(c) Membership and Subscriptions

(0)

Received and Agreed.

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

(a) To Receive the report of Burials during the month of June 2017

Stuart Wrights FS	Haydon Watson Burial	New ashes 14a
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Stuart Wrights FS	Margaret M.M. Muir Burial (pre-purchased)	LL 12 Section B
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Stuart Wrights FS	Tom Adey Re-open	CR 5 Section C
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(3)

(b) To Receive the report of Grave & Ashes Purchases of June 2017

Mr & Mrs K & S Walker	15 a	New ashes
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Mr & Mrs J. A & B.W. Bones	NN 15 Section B	New burial plot
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17.64 Identity Badges with Photographs.

A proposal of identity badges was raised for councillors when out in public in the parish.  
Agreed: Councillor S. White to approach relevant companies to get costings.

17.65 Planning Training.

Agreed: The Chairman to arrange a for a senior representative to speak to all councillors regarding planning (to be arranged)

17.66 Feedback Regarding Calling to Account Judge Capstick  
Received.

17.67 To Receive Working Party Reports.

(a) Appeals Committee

No meeting was held this month.

(b) Asset Task Group

No meeting was held this month.

(c) Cemetery Working Party

No meeting was held this month.

(d) Complaints Procedure Committee

No meeting was held this month

(e) Finance Working Party

A Finance Working Party was held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2017 \*see attached

(f) Friends of Belmont Scrambles

A report was received from Mr. K. Neat \* see attached.

The recent Bat Walk had been well attended by young people and had been a great success.

For information, Northern Power Grid have been doing repair work to a cable on the Scrambles the work took place over a few days and has now been completed.

**Agreed:** The Parish Council to pay for Councillor S. White to have a CRB check for future involvement with events on the Scrambles or elsewhere.

(g) Parish Newsletter Working Party

A Newsletter meeting was held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June at 5.30 in the Parish Office.

(h) Personnel and Training Advisory Panel

No meeting was held this month

(i) Planning Committee

A Planning meeting was held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at 9.45 am \* see attached

(j) Planting Scheme Working Party

A Planting Scheme Working was held on the Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017. \* see attached notes

Councillor B. Howarth thanked all members of the group for their involvement and enthusiasm with this year's preparation for the Northumbria in Bloom competition.

(k) Playground Development Committee

A site meeting was held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June (this was reported at the previous parish council meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> June).

(m) Area Action Partnership (AAP)

There was nothing to report.

(n) National Association of Local Councils) (NALC)

There was nothing to report.

(o) Christmas Tree Working Party

A meeting took place on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June (this was reported at the previous parish council meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> June)

17.68 To Receive Reports from Ward Councillors.

Belmont

A concern was raised regarding overflowing recycling bins in the Tesco car park.

Carrville

It was reported that the Parish Council are covered for Public Liability regarding Christmas Tree and lights.

Gilesgate

A concern of road/ gutters was raised in the area, County Councillors to look into the matter.

A concern of Ragwort growing beside a footpath was raised, Councillor P.Langley to write a report and send to County Councillor, L. Mavin.

A concern of cricket balls going into a residents garden at Yew Bank Avenue from the nearby cricket pitch has now been resolved.

A problem with trees between 49-51 Willowtree Avenue was raised, Chairman D.J. Southwell and Councillor S. Inglis to meet at shops on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 1:00pm to discuss the problem.

A concern was raised regarding the former Gilesgate Schools gates being open, it was agreed to send an e-mail to Durham County Council Stuart Timmiss to report the issue.

17.69 Any Other Business, Date of Next Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> September Thursday 2017

Belmont War Memorial

A request was raised on behalf of the Friends of Belmont Parish Council regarding adding additional names to Belmont Memorial.

Agreed: It was unanimously agreed by members for the Parish Council to pay for the work and ask the Friends of Belmont War Memorial to proceed and ask different Stone Masons for quotations. Costs will be reported to the next Parish Council meeting.

**Chairmans Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_