

Minutes of the Belmont Parish Council held in Belmont Community Centre on Thursday 6th September 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman, Councillor D.J. Southwell, Councillors, J. Appleby, E.B. Finlay, P.T. Finley, C.A. Fletcher, B. Howarth, S. Inglis, S. Lowes, E.S. Mavin and L. Mavin.

Also present: Mrs S. Overton (Parish Clerk)

Member of the Public (1)

18.68 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for Absence were received from Vice-Chair, Councillor R. Murphy, Councillors J. Corrigan, J.E. Hedges, T.A. Lemmon and J.J. Wildheart.

18.69 **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.

18.70 **MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS.**

(a) **Police.**

There were no Police present.

(b) **Community Warden.**

There were no Wardens present.

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

A member of the public who was working with other Parish Councils in the area to form a cluster of Parish volunteers asked if Belmont Parish Council would like to be involved. The Chairman invited him to return to give a presentation and asked him to e-mail a summary to the Parish Council for consideration.

The member of public left at 6.45 am.

The Chairman re-imposed Standing Orders.

18.71 **PLANNING MATTERS. ***

The list of Planning Applications received from Durham County Council Planning Department for July/August 2018 has been circulated to Members.

Councillor B. Howarth gave a planning report to Councillors with particular reference to the Planning Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 9th August 2018 and the following applications:

DM/18/02153/FPA Angel Developments, St Andrews Park – Erection of Drive-thru Restaurant

After discussion it was agreed to send letter to delegated officer to say there was no objection from the Parish Council – letter circulated to all members.

DM/18/02152/OUT: Angel Developments, St Andrews Park – Retail development.

After due consideration it was agreed to send letter to delegated officer to say there was no objection from the Parish Council – letter circulated to all members.

DM/18/02314/FPA: Inchgap Retail for Elvet Motors, Broomside Park. After discussion it was agreed to send letter to delegated officer to say there was no objection from the Parish Council – letter circulated to all members.

The Chairman thanked her for her report.

18.72 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 5TH JULY 2018. *

Agreed.

18.73 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA.

18.63 Pg 4 – A recent school crossing concern has now been resolved, the caretaker of the school will take over the role.

18.64 Pg 5 – (m) Public Arts Group Councillors were informed that monies were available until 2021 regarding Public Arts.

18.64 Pg 5 – (n) Area Action Partnership (AAP) The Chair asked if anyone would like to represent the Parish Councils and to let the Parish Office know.

18.74 MATTERS OF INFORMATION, CLERK'S REPORT, CORRESPONDENCE TABLED ITEMS – FOR INFORMATION.

Letters sent/received:-

(1) Planning letters to Planning Officer, Durham County Council – discussed under agenda item 18.04 Planning Matters

Agreed.

(2) Letter with completed documents to Land Registry (Purchase of Belmont Allotments)

Agreed.

(3) Notice of Conclusion for the Audit Annual Return received from the External Auditors, this has been displayed on the Parish Website for information

Agreed

18.75 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 2018 meeting and has been incorporated into reports and presented to members.

Agreed.

18.76 FINANCIAL MATTERS.*

(a) Finance documents outlining Receipts and Payment of Accounts for July/August 2018.

(b) Bank reconciliation to end of July/August 2018.

(c) Donation requests for July/August 2018.

Citizens Advice County Durham

(1)

Agreed - £50.00

Received and Agreed.

18.77 CEMETERY REPORTS.

(a) To Receive the report of Burials during the month of July/August 2018

(4)

(b) To Receive the report of Grave & Ashes Purchases during the month of July/August 2018

(5)

(c) To Consider Memorial Erection and Additional Inscription Applications during the month of July/August 2018

(4)

(d) Ashes interred in Burial Plots during the month of July/August 2018

(0)

Received and Agreed.

18.78 NOTICE OF CONCLUSION FOR THE AUDIT ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018.

The yearly accounts were approved and received.

Received and Agreed.

18.79 APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO THE CEMETERY RULES AND REGULATIONS. *

Received and Agreed.

The Chairman informed Councillors that updating of the Cemetery Robing Room would be discussed at a future date.

18.80 APPROVE ESTIMATES FOR WINTER PLANTING 2018.

The winter planting estimates were agreed at the last Planting Scheme Working Party meeting.

Received and Agreed.

18.81 REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TOWARDS COST OF INFORMATION SIGN AT FRONT OF BUILDING.

It was agreed to give a grant towards the cost of the recently erected signage outside Belmont Community Centre.

Agreed: £50.00

Councillors E.B. Finlay and B. Howarth declared an interest (Belmont Community Association)

18.82 WORKING PARTY REPORTS.

(a) Appeals Committee

No meeting was held this month.

(b) Asset Task Group

No meeting was held this month.

A meeting to be arranged in November (value of allotments will be available).

(c) Cemetery Working Party

A meeting was held on Thursday 9th August 2018. see attached notes*

An emergency meeting was held on Thursday 9th August 2018.

(d) Christmas Tree Working Party.

No meeting was held this month.

(e) Complaints Procedure Committee

No meeting was held this month.

(f) Finance Working Party

No meeting was held this month.

A meeting is arranged for Monday 17th September at 6.00 in Belmont Club.

(g) Friends of Belmont Scrambles

A report has been received from Friends of Belmont Scrambles*

(h) Parish Newsletter Working Party

No meeting was held this month.

The Parish Newsletters have been distributed and have been well received.

(i) Personnel and Training Advisory Panel

No meeting was held this month.

(j) Planning Committee

A meeting was held on Thursday 9th August 2018.

(k) Planting Scheme Working Party

A meeting was held on Friday 6th July 2018 - see attached notes*

A meeting will be held on September 7th at 9.30 am, discussions will include attendees for this years Awards Ceremonies for Northumbria in Bloom and Beautiful Durham 2018 and contacting Belmont Community School to discuss turning childrens artwork into calenders.

The Chairman thanked members of the Planting Scheme Working Party for their hard work throughout the year.

(l) Playground Development Committee

No meeting was held this month.

(m) Public Arts Group

No meeting was held this month

(n) Area Action Partnership (AAP)

No report has been received this month.

(o) National Association of Local Councils) NALC

No report has been received this month.

18.83 REPORTS FROM WARD COUNCILLORS.

Belmont

A request for a cycle rack outside Belmont Library is getting funding and will be going ahead.

A concern was raised regarding the owner of a nearby restaurant due to close down knocking on residents doors late at night informing them of the closure. A number of elderly residents were upset by the visit.

A concern was raised regarding a fence at the end of Grange Road and Belmont Club becoming overgrown with trees and bushes. It was agreed to contact the appropriate person to obtain a costing for removal of the overgrowth.

A concern regarding drainage problems at Chevely Park Shopping Centre has now been resolved.

A resident raised a query why the Park and Ride Scheme was not available on Sundays.

Carrville

A concern regarding weeds in Grange road is being dealt with and is in the process of being removed.

A Councillor raised a concern regarding a number of trees and bushes covering information signs in the area, they were advised to provide more detailed information and contact the County Councillor to deal with the matter.

A concern was raised regarding a speeding car mounting the kerb, the Chair advised taking down details time/date/colour/make and registration details and he will approach the Assistant Chief Constable with the concern.

Gilesgate Moor.

A concern was raised regarding cars parking on the grass verge at the bottom of Deans Walk, registration details to be sent to the Highways Officer who will write to offenders.

A concern was raised regarding a man-hole cover with a fence around it, outside a property in Willowtree Avenue, the concern to be reported to Durham County Council and British Telecom as a Health and Safety issue.

A concern was raised regarding a motorist parking on a nearby island as she visited the hairdressers at Willowtree Shops, the County Councillors suggested putting flower tubs in place to deter future offenders.

A concern was raised regarding youths hanging around the Sports Pavillion, the Police to be made aware of the concern and to keep an eye out for any future problems.

18.84 COUNCIL BUSINESS (ANY ITEM WHICH HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR DISCUSSION DURING THE MEETING FOR APPROVAL OR OTHERWISE).

None.

18.85 DATE OF NEXT MEETING THURSDAY, 4TH OCTOBER 2018.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm

Date: _____

Chairman's Signature : _____