

Minutes of the Belmont Parish Council held on Thursday 5th September 2019
at 6:30pm in Belmont Community Centre.

Present: Chairman, Councillor D.J. Southwell, Vice- Chair Councillor R. Murphy,
Councillors J. Appleby, E.B. Finlay, C.A. Fletcher, B. Howarth, S. Inglis, M. Watson, S. Lowes,
E. Mavin and L. Mavin.

Also present: Mrs. S. Overton (Parish Clerk)

Members of the Public (5)
Neighbourhood Wardens (2)

19.66 To Receive Apologies for Absence.

Apologies of Absence were received from Councillors P. Finley, C.A. Lattin, T.A. Lemmon
and J. J. Wildheart..

Received.

19.67 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.

Received.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders

19.68 To Receive Miscellaneous Reports.

(a) Police.

There were no Police present a report was received and circulated to Councillors for
information. A concern was raised regarding the report not being up to date with recent
events in the area. The Chairman advised inviting the Chief Constable and the Police
Crime Commissioner to the next Parish Council meeting to discuss concerns.

A concern was raised with regards to anti-social behaviour by a group of youths
congregating at the back of the Community Centre.

(b) Community Warden.

The Wardens gave a report regarding various issues in the area relating to anti -social
behaviour, fly tipping, untidy gardens, etc. The wardens reported they will be doing
regular visits to the Scrambles and areas where youths congregate in future to keep an
eye on things.

The Chairman thanked the Wardens for their report .

The Wardens left at 18.40 pm.

(c) Members of the Public.

A resident enquired if the green space at the back of Carrsdale was going to be used
for car parking, the County Councillor said there are no plans for this.

A resident raised a concern about the height of the trees at the back of Carrsway causing

subsidence on some properties. The Chairman advised arranging a meeting with the appropriate Officer from Durham County Council to identify certain areas, the Chair, Councillor DJS, Councillor EM and resident to be involved.

A concern was raised regarding speeding on the A690 asking if the Parish Council could approach the Highways Department to enforce a designated 50 mph speed limit. The member of the public also enquired about reducing the speed limit to 40mph from mini-roundabout down Belmont Road onto the A690. The Chair said he would work with the County Councillors to address his concerns.

A suggestion was made to look at tarmacking the back lane of Teesdale Terrace from available 106 monies.

Three members of the public left at 18.55 pm.

The Chairman re-imposed Standing Orders.

19.69 To Consider and Make Comment on Planning Matters*.

Minutes of Planning Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 7th August 2019 tabled at meeting.

DM/19/01516/FPA: 44 Kepier Crescent, Gilesgate, DG1 1PG – Change of Use from C3 to C4 (HMO) Letter of objection sent. **Application Approved.**

DM/19/01160/FPA: Front Street, New Durham, DH1 2EP – hand car wash. Letter of objection sent **Application Pending.**

DM/19/02310/FPA: Dog's Day Pet Care Belmont Industrial Estate Change of Use discussed but not contested.

DM/19/02331/FPA: ENGAGE Training Centre Belmont Industrial Estate Change of Use discussed but not contested.

Minutes of Planning Committee Meeting held on 29th August 2019

Meeting publicised due to scale of development – well attended by members of the public.

Meeting attended by a Planning Officer for advice.

DM/19/02546/FPA: Former Gilesgate Comprehensive School, Gilesgate Moor, DH1 1HN – Erection of 60 dwellings with access and landscaping. It was agreed to send a letter to the Planning Department outlining the Parish Councils views and some concerns.

The Planning Committee Chairman BH circulated a draft letter to Councillors which was **ratified .**

Agreed – Unanimously

Also tabled at meeting Weekly Planning list for July and August 2019 and Delegated Decisions July/August 2019. Major applications had been covered in above reports and discussion.

19.70 To Confirm and Sign as a Correct Record of the Minutes of the Meeting of Belmont Parish Council held on 4th July 2019. Minutes attached *.

Agreed.

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

Received.

19.72 To Receive Matters of Information, Clerk's Report, Correspondence Tabled Items, Letters/ e-mails received - for information.

- 1/ Received Conclusion of External Audit (agenda item 19.13)
- 2/ Planning letter sent regarding application DM/19/01516/FPA .
- 3/ Planning letter sent regarding application DM/19/01160/FPA

Received.

19.73 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 meeting and has been incorporated into reports and presented to members.

Received.

19.74 To Consider Financial Matters

(a) To Receive Receipts and Payments during the months of June/July/August 2019.

Received and Agreed.

(b) To Receive Bank reconciliation to end of June/July/August 2019

Received and Agreed.

(c) To Receive budget summary for April/May/June 2019

Received and Agreed.

(d) To Consider Grant Request during the month of June/July/August 2019.

Cheesy Waffle (damage to garden and leisure area).

(1)

Received and Agreed.

The Chairman informed Councillors he had been approached by the Cheesy Waffle Manager asking if the Parish Council would be willing to help financially after recent vandalism by youths had destroyed the projects garden and leisure area.

The Chair asked Councillors if they were in agreement to give a one off payment of £1000.00 towards a metal fence to deter future incidents.

Agreed - Unanimous.

19.75 To Consider and Make Comment on Cemetery Reports.

(a) To Receive the report of Burials during the month of July/August 2019.

(5)

(b) To Receive the report of Grave & Ashes Purchases during the month of July/August 2019.

(6)

(c) To Consider Memorial Erection and Additional Inscription Applications during the month of July/August 2019.

(3)

(d) Ashes interred in Burial Plots during the month of July/August 2019.

(0)

Received.

19.76 To Discuss Medium Term Planning

The Chairman informed councillors that he would be looking at the budget for the next two years with the Parish Clerk.

Agreed.

19.77 To Approve Winter Planting

The winter planting to be agreed in principle and agreed and approved at the Planting Scheme Working Party with possible minor adjustments regarding choice of plants.

Agreed.

19.78 To Discuss Durham AAP 'it's up to you 2019'.

It was agreed for Councillor CF to work with Cheesy Waffle Project Group to look for funding from the Area Action Partnership 'it's up to you 2019' and any other groups.

Agreed.

19.79 Conclusion of External Audit 2019.

The Chairman reported he had now received the Conclusion of External Audit 2019 Audit report 2019 and is in accordance with proper practices with no other matters giving cause for concern.

Agreed.

19.80 To Discuss company advertising in the Parish Newsletter.

A request from a company asking if they could advertise their business in the Parish Newsletter.

Agreed: to write back saying the Parish Council has in exceptional circumstances allowed this but it is not 'best practice'.

A suggestion was made regarding advertising businesses on the parish website the Vice-Chair RM to make enquiries and report back.

19.81 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) Christmas Tree Working Party.

A meeting was held on Tuesday 16th July 2019 - see attached *

A request from the Chair of the Christmas Tree Working Party asked if the Parish Council could sponsor a Christmas tree.

Proposer Councillor SL

Seconder Councillor EF

Agreed.

- (e) Complaints Procedure Committee
No meeting was held this month.
- (f) Finance Working Party
No meeting was held this month.
- (g) Friends of Belmont Scrambles
A report has been received and circulated to Councillors.
The Vice Chair to meet with the appropriate Officer regarding a fallen branch on Rennys Lane, two warning signs have been put up for safety purposes.
Agreed: the appropriate works have been delegated to the Vice-Chair for the work to be carried out.
- (h) Parish Newsletter Working Party
No meeting was held this month.
- (I) Personnel and Training Advisory Panel
No meeting was held this month.
- (j) Planning Committee
A meeting was held on Thursday 25th July 2019 at 5.00 pm in Belmont Community Centre –see attached *
A meeting was held on Wednesday 7th August 2019 at 11.00 am in Belmont Community Centre - see attached *
A meeting was held on Thursday 29th August 2019 at 5.30 pm. in Belmont Community Centre.
- (k) Planting Scheme Working Party
A meeting was held on Friday 5th July 2019 at 9:30am in Belmont Community Centre – see attached notes*
A meeting was held on Tuesday 6th August 2019 at 10.15 am in Belmont Community Centre – see attached notes*
- (l) Playground Development Committee
No meeting was held this month.
A playground inspection meeting to be arranged for Saturday 14th September meeting at 10.00 am outside Belmont Community Centre.
- (m) Public Arts Group
No meeting was held this month.
The Chairman advised members of the Public Arts Group to fill in the 106 application form for available 106 monies, any proposal over two thousand pounds would need three quotes.
- (n) Special meeting (speeding restrictions Broomside Lane)
A meeting was held on Thursday 15th August at 6.00 pm in Belmont Community Centre – see attached notes*
It was reported that the meeting had been well attended and issues by residents discussed at length in relation to speeding traffic, the Highways Officers to look at concerns and report back with a plan of action.

(0) Area Action Partnership (AAP)

There was nothing to report.

(p) National Association of Local Councils (NALC)

There was nothing to report.

19.82 To Receive Reports from Ward Councillors.

Belmont

A concern was raised regarding the increasing amount of cars parking on the junction coming out of Grange Road leading onto Newlands Road.

A concern was raised regarding cars parking on double yellow lines outside Cheveley Park School the matter to be reported to the Wardens.

Carrville

A concern was raised regarding a fence on Carrsway.

There has been no update on box junction at Carrsdale.

A concern was raised regarding parking at Carrsway.

Gilesgate Moor.

A concern was raised regarding recent anti-social behaviour by youths congregating at the cricket pavilion

A concern was raised regarding recent parking issues on Sunday mornings and Monday evenings caused by people attending a new fit club near Willowtree shops.

A resident enquired about the progress of white lines, the matter to be chased up by Durham County Council.

A concern was raised regarding five cars parked at the entrance to Willowtree Avenue.

A concern was raised regarding cars parking at the top of the entrance going down to the Community Centre. The Chairman suggested white lines on either side of the road the matter to be forwarded to Durham County Council.

19.83 Council business (any item which has been brought to the attention of the Chairman for discussion during the meeting for approval or otherwise)

19.84 Date of Next Meeting Thursday 3rd October 2019

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.