

Minutes of the Belmont Parish Council held on Thursday 9th January 2020
at 6:30pm in Belmont Community Centre.

Present: Chairman, Councillor D.J. Southwell, Councillors E.B. Finlay, C.A. Fletcher, B. Howarth, S. Inglis, C.A. Lattin, E.S. Mavin, L. Mavin, T.A. Lemmon and M. Watson.

Also Present Mrs S. Overton (Parish Clerk)

Members of the Public (3)

19.139 To Receive Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for Absence were received from Vice- Chair Councillor R. Murphy, J. Appleby, P.T. Finley, S. Lowes and J.J. Wildheart.

Received.

19.140 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.

19.141 To Receive Miscellaneous Reports.

(a) Police.

A report has been circulated to Councillors – see attached *

(b) Community Warden.

There was no Community Warden present, a report to be requested and forwarded to all Councillors.

(c) Members of the Public.

Two representatives from Belmont United Football Club looked for support from the Parish Council with regards to their proposal to enhance facilities for sporting activities in the Parish. The Chairman advised supporting the proposal in principle and to apply for 106 monies when future Planning Applications come in. A letter from the Parish Council to be sent to the club in support of the proposal.

Proposed EM

Seconded LM

A member of the public queried whether the sewers were getting adopted near Hornbeam Close and was informed by the Chairman they were adopted by Northumbria Water Limited.

The Chairman reported that tree work on Moorfield regarding the felling of thirty one trees would be completed shortly. A meeting to be arranged to look at the footpath from Moorfield to Belmont Road during the month of February.

The two representatives from Belmont United Football Club left the meeting at 7:00pm
Councillor TL left at 7:05pm

The Chair re-imposed Standing Orders.

19.142 Recognition of Outstanding Service to the Parish

A presentation took place to recognise Mr EM (Cemetery Contractor) for his dedication and outstanding service to the Parish over the years.

19.143 To Consider and Make Comment on Planning Matters – see attached *

Councillor B. Howarth gave a report to Councillors regarding weekly Planning Applications during the month of December 2019.

She also drew attention to Minutes of Special Planning Committee Meeting held on 13 December 2019.

To Discuss Application reference: DM/19/01160/FPA

Appeal reference: APP/X1355/W/19/3239937

Name of appellant: Amen Kareem

Site: Land To The East Of Whitwell House Front Street New Durham

DH1 2EP

Proposed development: Proposed hand car wash business on vacant site.

Appeal Start Date: 18 November 2019.

Full Council ratified the agreed recommendations:

- To ask the inspector to take account of our original letters;
- To amend the first draft of our suggested response to the inspectorate to say that as there was never any statement or objection to the application from Durham County Council Highways we are happy to leave this aspect of the development to the judgement of the inspector;
- To reaffirm our opposition to this development on this particular site for the reasons previously stated;
- For an amended submission to be drafted by the Chairman of the PC Planning Committee and forwarded to members of that committee for comment and/or approval.

The Chairman thanked BH for her presentation.

Agreed.

19.144 To Confirm and Sign as a Correct Record of the Minutes of the Meeting of Belmont Parish Council held on 5th December 2019 – see attached *

Agreed.

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

19.131 – To Discuss Defibrillator Training PG 3 - The date for the defibrillator training session is scheduled for Tuesday 4th February between 2:00pm – 4pm in Belmont Community Centre.

19.136 - Ward Report Belmont PG 5 - The white lines at the top of Belmont Community Centre are getting done and also bollards to resolve parking issues.

19.136 - Ward Report Carrville PG 5 - The KEEP CLEAR wording to be repainted on the road at the exit from Dene Drive. A site meeting to be arranged (during rush hour period) after re-painting is completed with the Chairman, three County Councillors and the appropriate officer at Durham County Council to discuss possibility of a box junction.

Received.

19.146 To Receive Matters of Information, Clerk's Report, Correspondence Tabled Items – For information.

1. Thank you letter from Age UK regarding recent donation.
2. Thank you letter from St. Margarets Centre regarding recent donation.
3. For information the draw will take place on 24th January regarding this years Royal Garden Party and successful applicants will be notified on the 24th January 2020
4. Tree Work has started on thirty one trees marked for felling on Moorfield.
5. Northumbria in Bloom entry form has now been posted.

Received.

19.147 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 January 2020 meeting and has been incorporated into reports and presented to members.

Agreed.

19.148 To Consider Financial Matters - see attached *

(a) To Receive Receipts and Payments during the month of December 2019

Agreed.

(b) To Receive Bank reconciliation to end of December 2019

Agreed.

(c) To Receive budget summary for October/November/December 2019

Agreed.

(d) To Consider donation Request during the month of December 2019

(0)

Agreed.

19.149 To Consider and Make Comment on Cemetery Reports.

- (a) To Receive the report of burials during the month of December 2019
(1)

Received and Agreed.

- (b) To Receive the report of Grave & Ashes Purchases during the month of December 2019
(1)

Received and Agreed.

- (c) To Consider Memorial Erection and Additional Inscription Applications during the month of December 2019
(1)

Received and Agreed.

- (d) Ashes interred in Burial Plots during the month of December 2019
(2)

Received and Agreed.

19.150 To Approve Cemetery Fees and Charges.

Approved.

19.151 To Approve Financial Regulations.

Approved.

19.152 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.
A site meeting was held to discuss trimming and straightening of two conifers and a birch in the cemetery away from the overhead cables.
Positive comments have been received from visitors to the cemetery regarding the woodcarving.

- (d) Christmas Tree Working Party.
No meeting was held this month.
The Christmas Tree is due to be taken down shortly.

- (e) Complaints Procedure Committee
No meeting was held this month.
- (f) Finance Working Party
A meeting was held on Friday 20th December 2019 at 9:30am in Belmont Community Centre - see attached notes*
It was agreed at Full Parish Council meeting that both schemes to be approved.
- (g) Friends of Belmont Scrambles
A report has been received and circulated to Councillors*
- (h) Parish Newsletter Working Party
No meeting was held this month.
A meeting to be arranged for Monday 20th January 2020 at 5:00pm in the Parish Office.
- (i) Personnel and Training Advisory Panel
No meeting was held this month.
- (j) Planning Committee
A Special Planning Meeting was held on Friday 13th December 2019 at 9:30am in Belmont Community - see attached notes*
- (k) Planting Scheme Working Party
A meeting was held on Friday 6th December 2019 at 9:30am in Belmont Community Centre - see attached notes*
- (l) Playground Development Committee
No meeting was held this month.
- (m) Public Arts Group
No meeting was held this month.
Councillor EM reported he had done some research on seating for the parish and had obtained a quote for fixing, removal and fitting. A meeting to be called to discuss locations of seats and also look at un-parished area in order to progress further.

Agreed: the Chairman to approach the appropriate officer at Durham County Council to look at what 106 monies were available and report back with the information.
- (n) Area Action Partnership (AAP)
No report given.
- (o) National Association of Local Councils (NALC)
No report given.

Councillor CL left the meeting at 8.05 pm.

19.153 To Receive Reports from Ward Councillors.

Belmont

The proposed Belmont Community Centre sign was approved at a recent Belmont Community Association meeting, an example of the sign and suggested wording was shown

to Councillors which received positive feedback.

A recent concern regarding a damaged light on Moorfield has now been fixed.

A site meeting to be arranged with the appropriate officer Durham County Council to discuss incomplete white lines at Willowtree Avenue, Hornbeam Close.

Carrville

A concern was raised regarding the temporary traffic lights in place at A690 Carrville junction causing problems for pedestrians when crossing.

A concern was raised regarding pedestrians finding it difficult to cross over to Lidl from Tesco as there is no pedestrian light in place. It was agreed to contact the appropriate officer at Durham County Council to look into the matter.

Gilesgate Moor

Toys were presented to the Womens Refuge on Christmas Eve from Belmont Parish Council and Tesco, lots of selection boxes for foodbank and gifts for single parents were also donated.

A pledge from the County Councillor said he would be donating monies from his budget for next year towards installing 20 mph speed zone in the un-parished area of Gilesgate.

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

None.

19.155 Date of Next Meeting Thursday 6th February 2020 at 6:30pm in Belmont Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8:30pm