

Minutes of the Belmont Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 4th February 2021

DUE TO THE CURRENT SITUATION, THERE WAS NO ACTUAL PHYSICAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 4th FEBRUARY 2021 COUNCILLORS RESPONDED TO AGENDA ITEMS BY TELEPHONE AT THE REQUEST OF THE CHAIRMAN.

20.153 To Receive Apologies for Absence.

Received.

20.154 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.

Councillor MW Declared an Interest under agenda item

20.161. To Consider Financial Matters

(c) To Consider Donation requests during the month of January 2021

Stef's Animal Rescue

Received.

20.155 To Receive Miscellaneous Reports.

(a) Police.

(b) Community Warden.

The Neighbourhood Warden reported that an issue with an untidy garden has now been resolved and that there had been no anti-social behaviour issues reported.

20.156 To Consider and make Comment on Planning Matters*.

A list of Weekly Planning Applications and Countywide Delegated for the month of January 2021 was e- mailed to members for information – see attached *

Planning Report for 4th February 2021 from the Chair of the Planning Committee.

Five letters sent to the relevant Planning Officers Durham County Council.

Received and Agreed.

20.157 To Confirm and sign as a correct record of the Minutes of the meeting of Belmont.

Parish Council held on 7th January 2021 - Minutes attached *.

Agreed.

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

There were no Matters Arising.

20159 To Receive Matters of Information, Clerk's Report, Correspondence Tabled Items – for information.

1. A thank you letter from the Right Worshipful The Mayor of Durham, Councillor Katie Corrigan has been received regarding our recent donation to the Mayors Appeal which is supporting The Fire Fighters Charity.
2. For information Durham Constabulary hopes to build a single 48-cell custody facility at Durham Gate near Spennymoor to replace the four aging custody suites currently in use at Durham, Bishop Auckland, Darlington and Peterlee.
3. All members received information regarding consultations that Durham County Council will soon be undertaking and one of particular importance to the Parish is Proposed Article 4 Direction relating to Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs) for Carrville and Belmont. The Article 4 Direction would mean that any change from a family home to an HMO would require planning permission. The proposed Article 4 Direction area if implemented would adjoin the existing Article 4 Directions in place, with the impact of enlarging the Article 4 Direction area in Durham City. Gilesgate Moor is already included in the existing Durham City Article 4 Direction and enlarging the area to include Carrville and Belmont would mean that throughout the whole Parish Area any Change of Use from a family home to a House of Multiple Occupation would require Planning Permission.
If there is agreement, we can follow the consultation guidelines, formulate our views, and submit them in an email in good time within the consultation period.

A document requesting AGREEMENT is presented with other Full Council papers and requires your attention.

20.160 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 February meeting and has been incorporated into reports and presented to members.

Received.

20.161 To Consider Financial Matters*

- (a) To Receive Receipts and Payments during the month of January 2021 – see attached*

Received and Agreed.

- (b) To Receive Bank reconciliation during the month of January 2021 – see attached*

Received and Agreed.

- (c) To Consider Donation requests during the month of January 2021 – see attached*

Stef's Animal Rescue
£50.00

Received and Agreed.

20.162 To Consider and make Comment on Cemetery Reports.

(a) To Receive the report of burials during the month of January 2021

(0)

Received and Agreed.

(b) To Receive the report of Grave & Ashes Purchases during the month of January 2021

(0)

Received and Agreed.

(c) To Consider Memorial Erection and Additional Inscription Applications during the month of January 2021

(3)

Received and Agreed.

(d) Ashes interred in Burial Plots during the month of January 2021

(0)

Received and Agreed.

20.163 To Approve Durham County Councils Consultation on the Proposed Article 4 Direction for Carrville and Belmont – see agenda item 20.07 for further information.

For members to AGREE to if they support the proposal below.

I support the inclusion of Carrville and Belmont in an Article 4 Section area and the proposal that any Change of Use from a family home to a House of Multiple Occupation (HMO) should require planning permission.

I agree that on behalf of Belmont Parish Council an email expressing that support should be sent to the consultation process.

Agreed.

20.164 To Receive Confirmation of Approval of Application for Section 106 Monies for the Memorial Bench Project.

The application was considered at the most recent meeting of Durham County Councils section 106 Working Group, at this meeting it was resolved to support the application for the Memorial Bench Project.

Received.

20.165 To Support National Association of Local Councils (NALC) Consultation regarding Double Taxation.

Belmont Parish Council has completed the County Durham Association of Local Councils Double Taxation Survey to agree *‘there is a commitment by Durham County Council to reconsider the issue of double taxation and possible options to alleviate the unfairness that this causes for local council taxpayers in County Durham’*.

Agreed.

20.166 To Support Application form for 106 funding for development of Dragon Park (unparished area)
A request has been made on behalf of Gilesgate Residents Association and Dragon Park to the Parish Council for a letter of support to be submitted with their Application for 106 funding to renovate Dragon Park which needs urgent repairs.

Agreed.

20.167 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.

No meeting was held this month.

(e) Complaints Procedure Committee

No meeting was held this month.

(f) Finance Working Party

A meeting was held on Tuesday 15th December 2020 at 9:45am in Belmont Community Centre – see attached notes*

(g) Friends of Belmont Scrambles

No report has been received.

(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

No meeting was held this month.

(k) Planting Scheme Working Party/The Friends of Kepier Woods group report.

No meeting was held this month for the Planting Scheme Working Party.

A report from the Friends of Kepier Woods group is attached*

(l) Playground Development Committee

A site meeting was held on Tuesday 26th January 2021 at 11.00 am with members of the Playground Committee and a representative from Pentagon Play to discuss various issues - see attached notes*

A site meeting was held on Thursday 28th January 2021 at 12.00 noon with members of the Playground Committee and representative from Wicksteed to discuss various issues - see attached notes*

(m) Public Arts Group

No meeting was held this month.

(n) Area Action Partnership (AAP)

No report received.

(o) National Association of Local Councils (NALC)

No report received.

20.168 To Receive reports from Ward Councillors.

Belmont

The Neighbourhood Warden has been notified of dog fouling issues at the footpath alongside the Ramside Hall Golf Course that reaches the Scrambles.

A request for a pedestrian guardrail on the Belmont Link Road has been refused by Durham County Council.

Carrville

An issue with rubbish escaping from the communal bin area at the back of Pickering Place, Carrville has been reported to the relevant officers.

Gilesgate Moor

A concern with dog fouling issues on the Kepier Woods footpath from the car park into the woods has been reported to the Neighbourhood Warden.

A request for a salt bin at the Kepier Woods carpark has been forwarded to Durham County Council.

An issue with a dead Hawthorn tree on Moorfield Park has been removed by Durham County Council.

Two damaged fences have now been repaired one at the entrance to the alley way between Gilesgate Park and Long Acres street Gilesgate and the second one which borders the A690 that is located in the Gilesgate Park.

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

20.170 Date of next meeting Thursday 4th March 2021.