

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday June 8th at 6.30 pm
in Belmont Community Centre

Present: Vice-Chair Councillor C.A. Fletcher, Councillors, J. Appleby, M.P. Bennett, P.J. Conway, P.S. Conway, V. Hawes, K. Noble, C.A. Lattin, and Mrs S. Overton (Parish Clerk).

23.25 To Receive Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Chair, Councillor L. Mavin, Councillors J. Knight, E.S. Mavin. A.C. Walker, A.P. Watkins, M. Watson and S.C. White.

RECEIVED.

Councillor Lesley Mavin was congratulated in her absence on her role as THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL, THE MAYOR OF DURHAM.

23.26 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.

23.27 To Receive Miscellaneous Reports.

(a) Police.

There were no Police present.

CF reported there has been several car thefts in the area in particular relating to Ford and Fiat models, police are aware of the issue and are working with the Neighbourhood Wardens.

CL suggested the Parish Council considers signing up to the Neighbourhood Watch Community Safety Charter to encourage people to make a commitment to take positive, concrete steps to contribute to making the area safer for everyone.

(b) Community Warden.

There was no Neighbourhood Warden present.

(c) Members of the Public.

There were no members of the public present.

23.28 To Confirm and sign as a correct record of the Minutes of the meeting of Belmont Parish Council held on 11th May 2023 – Minutes attached*
AGREED.

23.29 To Receive matters of information, Clerk’s Report, Correspondence Tabled Items – for information.

The Clerk reported painting works have now been completed in Poplar Play Park. Notification of the Exercise of Public Rights is now displayed on the Parish website.

RECEIVED.

23.30 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 and has been incorporated into reports and presented to members.

RECEIVED.

23.31 To Consider draft recommendations for new electoral arrangements in County Durham.

Draft recommendations for new electoral arrangements in County Durham were considered and the following agreed.

AGREED: to respond by reiterating that Belmont Parish Council considered the draft recommendations and regrets the Boundary Commission has not considered the views of Belmont Parish Council.

23.32 To Consider Community Resilience Plan.

A training exercise meeting for councillors to be arranged with Laura Dobson, Civil Contingencies Unit at Durham County Council on Community Emergency Planning.

PC proposed the plan should be reviewed annually.

AGREED: all councillors present are happy to be added to the contact list.

23.33 To Receive completed risk assessments.

Risk Assessments for Newsletters and Noticeboards have been completed by LM, Chair of Communications Committee.

RECEIVED AND AGREED.

23.34 To Receive Committee Reports:

(a) Finance

(1) To Receive Receipts and Payments during the month of May 2023 - see attached*

RECEIVED AND AGREED.

- (2) To Receive bank reconciliation during the month of May 2023 – see attached*

RECEIVED AND AGREED.

- (3) To Consider Donation requests during the month of May 2023

Belmont United Football team U8's - £50.00

AGREED.

Defibrillator proposal

A discussion took place regarding a proposal for a 24/7 defibrillator to be placed outside the Daisy Rose Cafe, Cheveley Park shops. Following discussion it was agreed to check whether the nearby Doctors had one in place outside the Surgery and also consider Belmont Library as a more suitable position.

AGREED: to defer further discussion regarding installation, maintenance and location until next full council meeting on 13th July 2023.

Councillor MB was thanked for his report.

- (b) Planning – to consider and make comment on Planning matters – see attached*

PC made comment on the list of Weekly Planning Applications during the month of May 2023 – see attached*

PC gave a planning report to councillors - see attached*

PC gave a report on the Belmont & Gilesgate Neighbourhood Plan Working Group notes 18th May 2023 - see attached*

RECEIVED AND AGREED.

PC was thanked for his reports.

- (c) Communications – to consider communication matters

The parish newsletters are ready for delivery.

- (d) Environment – to consider environment matters – see attached*

Vice-Chair KN in the absence of Chair MW, gave an update on the following items:-

The Northumbria in Bloom judging is scheduled for Monday 17th July.

Moorfield Park gates completed and are now in place.

The next litter pick will take place on Sunday 11th June 2023 at 2:00pm.

Wildflowers have been sprayed with weed killer by Durham County Council -
AGREED: no wildflower planting to be undertaken in Carrville High Street.

The date for planting the new three new sustainable beds is confirmed for Saturday 17th June 2023.

Councillors were given a written update from SW (in his absence) by KN regarding recent activity concerning Northumbria in Bloom and Belmont Scrambles – see attached full report*

KN, SW and MW were thanked for their reports.

23.35 To Receive reports from Ward Councillors.

Belmont

A concern was raised by a resident regarding the state of the road between Thorndale and Brackendale Road in need of repair.

Carrville

A concern was raised regarding delivery drivers, bin wagons and motorists allegedly speeding down the back lane of Carrville High Street, CF to approach Highways Officer to request ‘slow markings’ to be painted on the road.

JA raised concerns regarding dog fouling issues in Carrville vennels, the Clerk to email the Neighbourhood Warden for advice on preventive measures.

A concern was raised regarding a large pothole near ‘The Belmont’ the matter to be reported to Durham County Council for attention.

Residents living in the estate opposite Bristol Street Motors are complaining about congestion issues occurring during delivery times by the firms car transporter. A letter to be compiled to Bristol Street Motors to request whether the car transporter delivery times could be re-arranged to a more quieter period of the day.

Gilesgate Moor

A concern was raised regarding overgrown weeds on the footpath near Birchgrove Avenue.

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

23.37 Date of next meeting Thursday 13th July 2023.