



FISHBURN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on 12th December 2019 at 6.30 p.m.
in Fishburn Community Centre, Butterwick Road, Fishburn, County Durham

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors A. Pearson (Chairman); M. Barker; A. Dillon; K. Dowson; P. Pearson, S. Tinkler. **IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. K. Murray-Hetherington (Parish Clerk); Councillor D. Brown (Durham County Council) and four members of the public.

- | Minute No. | Agenda item |
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| 451. | APOLOGIES: RESOLVED: To accept apologies and reasons for non-attendance from Cllrs. C. Luke [work] and S. Dowson [unwell]; M. Parkin [work]; M. Hodgson [medical]. |
| 452. | DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr. Barker declared a registerable interest on matters affecting Fishburn Community Football Club and Fishburn Allotment Association. |
| 453. | CASUAL VACANCY: There were no expressions of interest regarding one casual vacancy |
| 454. | DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL: Cllr. D. Brown gave a report on matters relating to Durham County Council and issues which had been taken forward. He agreed to contact the Parking and Transport Infrastructure Team Leader to request further periods of targeted enforcement to deter motorists from parking on the restrictions on Front Street. |
| 455. | PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: |
| 455.1 | An allotment holder requested removal of asbestos-containing material (ACM) from an allotment. RESOLVED: To request an asbestos survey report for the whole allotment site [117 plots]. One quotation had already been received [£1,850.00] but a minimum of TWO quotations was required. The allotment holder was content to wait until after the survey. |
| 455.2 | A member of the public asked members to consider some signs to address the problem of parking on the village green, and further barrel planters along Butterwick Road. It was agreed to defer the matter until the item on the agenda relating to grounds maintenance. |
| 455.3 | An allotment holder queried an eviction notice issued by Fishburn Allotment Association. He was advised that he had not taken immediate steps to remove any geese from the plot in accordance with a decision notice; that the common interpretation of 'immediate' means <i>at once, without delay, or very soon after the date of the hearing</i> ; and that any further appeal might be viewed as an abuse of process. |
| 456. | MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: RESOLVED: To approve as a correct record and authorise signing of the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14th November 2019. |
| 457. | MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising from the previous minutes. |
| 458. | CORRESPONDENCE: A report of correspondence was considered. |
| 458.1 | Durham County Council - Notification of tax base for 2020/21. |
| 458.2 | RESOLVED: To meet representatives of Fishburn Allotment Association's representatives on Tuesday 7th January 2020 at 6.30 p.m. in Fishburn Social Club to discuss issues concerning the allotments' devolved management scheme. |
| 458.3 | Sedgefield Town Council - Annual Civic Ball on Friday 6th March 2020. |
| 459. | PLANNING APPLICATIONS: Comments had been submitted in support of planning application reference no. DM/19/02883/FPA - 14 Maughan Terrace, Fishburn, TS21 4BY - for a proposed change of use from retail (A1) to personal training unit (D2). |
| 460. | REPORTS: Members received a report on meetings attended on behalf of the Council. |

- 460.1 The Chairman gave a report on some community bulb planting.
- 460.2 Cllr. Barker gave a report on a community litter pick.
- 460.3 Cllr. Barker reported that PCSO 6849 Amy Jorgeson had attended the PACT meeting. **RESOLVED:** To lock the gates at the football fields at the request of Durham Police due to incidents of substance abuse.
- 461. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES:** Members considered a grounds maintenance report for October 2019 from Mr. S. Ellwood and the current action plan.
- 461.1 **RESOLVED:** To purchase a minimum of SIX and a maximum of EIGHT new barrel planters for along Butterwick Road in the current financial year 2019/2020. Members wished to consider the best places for them but wanted them installed and planted for the Spring.
- 461.2 **RESOLVED:** To continue with additional planters in the next financial year 2020/2021. There was no decision made regarding a request to install signs on the village green.
- 462. REVIEW OF CHRISTMAS EVENT:** It was agreed that the carols around the Christmas tree event held on Wednesday 4th December 2019 has been successful. **RESOLVED:** To consider at the next meeting anything that should be taken into account for next year.
- 462. PLAY AREAS:** Cllr. Barker expressed concerns about a lack of response to a request on 5th November to obtain the necessary support in writing from the relevant official at Durham County Council for 'pocket park' funding for the Memorial Children's Playing Field charity. The Clerk offered to contact the Head of Service to ask him to give the matter urgent attention. Trustees were looking to replace the missing tyre swing and damaged slide.
- 463. CEMETERY:** Cllr. S. Dowson had offered to obtain quotations for the cost to erect a wall with memorial plaques but she had submitted an apology for her non-attendance. The Clerk had obtained a quotation for foundations; wall; planting area; paving stones [£15,529.00] without any water feature or hanging baskets, plants or benches. **RESOLVED:** To defer the item until the next parish council meeting.
- 464. STANDING ORDERS: RESOLVED:** To suspend Standing Order no. 3 ['a meeting shall not exceed a period of two hours'] in order to progress the business.
- 465. GAS BEACON PROJECT:** The Clerk had submitted an application to *County Durham Community Foundation - Butterwick Moor Wind Farm Fund* and was awaiting a quotation for a concrete base from *AA Paving* and *East Durham Solutions Ltd.* A quotation had been obtained from *Bullfinch Gas Equipment Limited* to supply and fit the required burner [£1,012.50 + VAT + delivery] and a battery operated ignitor [£295.75 + VAT + delivery]. **RESOLVED:** To approve the submission of an application for planning permission.
- 466. VE DAY COMMEMORATION:** Cllr. Tinkler gave a detailed report on a proposed order of proceedings for the VE Day 75 commemoration event on Friday 8th May 2020. **RESOLVED:** To pursue the request for a bugler from Ferryhill Town Band.
- 467. FINANCIAL MATTERS: RESOLVED:** To receive the schedule of monthly expenditure and approve payment of those invoices presented to the meeting and issue cheques.
- 467.1 **RESOLVED:** To approve payment of £100.00 donation to Butterwick Hospice Care.
- 467.2 **RESOLVED:** To refuse an application for a donation from Alice House Hospice [£100.00 had already been donated on 9th May 2019].
- 467.3 **RESOLVED:** To refuse an application for a donation from NEPCAS (prison after care).
- 468. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:** To review the carols around the Christmas tree event.
- 469. NEXT MEETING: RESOLVED:** That the next meeting shall be on Thursday 9th January 2020 at 6.30 p.m. in Fishburn Community Centre, Butterwick Road.
- 470. CONCLUSION OF MEETING:** The meeting closed at 8:55 p.m.