



# FISHBURN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Thursday 12th March 2020 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; S. Dowson; C. Luke; M. Parkin; P. Pearson, S. Tinkler. **IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. K. Murray-Hetherington (Parish Clerk); Councillor D. Brown (Durham County Council) and seven members of the public.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** The Clerk to the Council reported a complaint that had not been resolved and the complainant was offered an opportunity to make representations orally about the boundary of a grave space in the new Garden of Remembrance at Fishburn cemetery.

**EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC:** The Council considered whether the circumstances of the complaint warranted the matter being discussed in the absence of the public. It was unanimously **RESOLVED:** That the public shall be excluded from the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 on the basis that there would be a disclosure of exempt information and to ensure that confidential issues were appropriately respected.

**RESOLVED:** That the Deed of Exclusive Right of Burial dated 12th December 2019 for the plot in section F; plot no. 16, which had not been received, shall be ordered null and void and a new deed issued for the space at no. 18 instead. The complainant was notified of the decision and the action to be taken. Members of the public were then invited back into the room at 7:09 p.m.

Minute  
No.

## Agenda item

510. **APOLOGIES: RESOLVED:** To accept an apology and reason for non-attendance from Cllr. M. Hodgson [holiday].
511. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr. Barker declared a registerable interest on matters affecting the Football Club; Allotment Association; and Memorial Children's Playing Field.
512. **CASUAL VACANCY:** There were no expressions of interest regarding one casual vacancy.
513. **DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL:** Cllr. D. Brown gave a report on matters relating to Coronavirus; road safety strategy consultation; VE Day grant; parking ban on pavements in London and Scotland; and it was generally agreed that the response by the civil contingencies service to the sinkhole at Clervaux Terrace had not been very satisfactory.
514. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: RESOLVED:** To approve as a correct record and authorise signing of the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13th February 2020.
515. **MATTERS ARISING:** There were no matters arising from the above minutes.
516. **CORRESPONDENCE: RESOLVED:** To defer until the next meeting a request from North East Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust to confirm who is responsible for checking the defibrillator weekly and making a monthly return to confirm that it is in good working order.
517. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** There were no planning applications received.
518. **REPORTS:** Members received a report on meetings attended on behalf of the Council.
- 518.1 Cllr. Barker gave a report on the dissolution of the community partnership and publication of future editions of *Fishburn News* by the community centre to save costs.
- 518.2 Cllr. Tinkler gave a report on meetings held with Fishburn Youth and Community Centre.
519. **GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES:** Members considered a grounds maintenance

- report from Mr. S. Ellwood and the current action.
- 519.1 An asbestos management survey report had been received but a quotation for the cost of removing all the asbestos-containing material referred to (remediation works) was awaited.
- 519.2 **RESOLVED:** That all members shall be invited to attend a site inspection meeting on Sunday 29th March 2020 at 11.00 a.m. [outside the Co-op store on Butterwick Road] to decide a suitable location for eight new barrel planters, and afterwards to visit the cemetery and decide the best place to relocate the notice board nearer to the water tap.
- 519.3 Cllr. S. Dowson donated several bird boxes. **RESOLVED:** That a vote of thanks be recorded.
- 520. PLAY AREAS:** Cllr. Barker reported that County Councillor John Robinson had arranged for a representative from playground equipment supplier, *Kompan UK Ltd.*, to inspect the children's play equipment at Stobart Terrace and the Memorial Children's Playing Field to review what is needed to make the areas safe. There had been no update received on the outcome from the site visit with the supplier. The Clerk was asked to remind Cllr. Robinson of an election pledge to fund the play area at Stobart Terrace.
- 520.1 **RESOLVED:** That the Clerk shall be authorised to order from *Kompan UK Ltd.* new slide equipment up to £400.00 to enable the Memorial Children's Playing Field to be re-opened.
- 521. CEMETERY:** Cllr. S. Dowson had obtained two further quotations for the cost of her proposal for a memorial wall and solar water feature at the cemetery. [*Cllr. S. Dowson declared a pecuniary interest and remained in the room during the discussion, made representations, but took no part in the discussion or vote on the contract in which she or her spouse/partner had an interest*]. **RESOLVED:** To approve Cllr. S. Dowson's proposal for a fund-raising event.
- 521.1 On the motion of Cllr. Barker, seconded by Cllr. Luke, it was unanimously **RESOLVED:** To ask *S.E. Landscaping Ltd.* to proceed with phase two improvement works and gravelling to damaged graves if the cost quoted in February 2019 [£4,200.00] still applied.
- 522. VE DAY 75 EVENT:** Members considered progress of the gas-fuelled ceremonial beacon project and what would happen in the event that the VE Day 75 commemoration could not go ahead due to the coronavirus outbreak. [*Cllr. Luke left the meeting and did not return*].
- 522.1 **RESOLVED:** That an order shall only be placed with *Dale Fabrications* after an offer letter from the Neighbourhood Budget has been received as funding cannot be retrospective.
- 522.2 **RESOLVED:** That the Council shall make up the shortfall not covered by grant aid funding.
- 522.3 **RESOLVED:** To hire one 14ft tall beacon brazier as a contingency for the VE DAY 75 event at the price quoted [£100.00 + VAT + shipping costs], suitable for lighting with wood..
- 522.4 **RESOLVED:** To approve the purchase of 38 flags at a cost of £269.00.
- 523. CHRISTMAS EVENT: RESOLVED:** To defer consideration of suggestions for entertainment and of a proposal for festive tree lighting or column displays until the next meeting.
- 524. STANDING ORDERS: RESOLVED:** To suspend Standing Order no. 3, which states 'a meeting shall not exceed a period of two hours', in order to progress the business.
- 525. FINANCIAL MATTERS: RESOLVED:** To receive the schedule of monthly expenditure and approve payment of those invoices presented to the meeting and issue cheques; and to receive the most recent budget report. There were no applications for grants or donations.
- 526. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:** To consider an asbestos management survey report and a quotation for the cost of removing all the asbestos-containing material referred to therein.
- 527. NEXT MEETING: RESOLVED:** That the next meeting shall be on Thursday 9th April 2020 at 6.30 p.m. in Fishburn Community Centre, Butterwick Road.
- 528. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING: RESOLVED:** To defer confirmation of the date, time, and venue of the Annual Parish Meeting until the next meeting.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE MINUTES ARE DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING