



FISHBURN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held remotely via video conferencing on Thursday 8th October 2020 at 6.30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors A. Pearson (Chairman); M. Barker; K. Dowson; S. Dowson; P. McNeil; M. Parkin; P. Pearson; S. Tinkler. **IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. K. Murray-Hetherington (Parish Clerk).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: There were no members of the public present.

Minute No.	Agenda item
568.	APOLOGIES: RESOLVED: To accept apologies and reasons for non-attendance from Cllr. A. Dillon [travel delay]. Cllr. M. Hodgson was absent [no apology or reason given].
569.	DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS: There were no declarations of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) in any items on the agenda. Cllr. Barker declared a Personal Interest (PI) in matters affecting Fishburn Community Football Club [treasurer]; Fishburn Allotment Association [treasurer]; and the Memorial Children's Playing Field [trustee].
570.	REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION: There were no requests received from any member who had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest for dispensation to participate in discussions and vote.
571.	DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL: Cllrs. J. Robinson and D. Brown were not present. Members expressed concerns about a section of street-lighting between Sedgfield and Fishburn; and fat dripping onto the pavement from the pizza shop's external flue again; and requested an update on a request to contact Paul Howell MP regarding Fishburn crossroads.
572.	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: RESOLVED: To approve as a correct record and authorise signing of the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10th September 2020.
573.	MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.
574.	FINANCIAL MATTERS:
574.1	RESOLVED: To receive the schedule of monthly expenditure and to approve payment of those invoices presented to the meeting and issue cheques.
574.2	RESOLVED: To receive the most recent budget report.
574.3	On the motion of Cllr. Barker, seconded by Cllr. S. Dowson, it was RESOLVED: To approve a request for a donation from <i>Great North Air Ambulance Service</i> in the sum of £100.00.
574.4	On the motion of Cllr. S. Dowson, seconded by Cllr. Barker, it was RESOLVED: To approve a request for a donation from <i>Alice House Hospice</i> in the sum of £100.00.
575.	GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES: Members considered a grounds maintenance report from Mr. S. Ellwood and the current action. RESOLVED: To approve a request from <i>Fun Fanatics Flyballers</i> to have a key for the padlock at the pit wheel field gate.
575.1	A site visit had been held on Saturday 3rd October. RESOLVED: To defer consideration of a proposal to set in the gate at the pit wheel field until the next financial year 2021/22.
575.2	RESOLVED: To keep the gate locked at the pit wheel field due to anti-social behaviour.
576.	CEREMONIAL BEACON PROJECT: Members received an update on the 'Queen Elizabeth Beacon of Hope' from Cllr. Tinkler. He had met Geoff Gibson at <i>Dale Fabrications</i> who had been asked to produce his interpretation of Cllr. Tinkler's design. Andrew Homer at <i>Bullfinch Gas Equipment Ltd.</i> had left the company. Cllr. Tinkler suggested lighting the beacon by means of an oily rag instead of an ignitor.

577. **CEMETERY MEMORIAL GARDEN PROJECT:** Members received a report on the memorial garden and wall from Cllr. S. Dowson and fund-raising events to secure £7,500.00 match-funding. On the motion of Cllr. Barker, seconded by Cllr. Parkin, it was unanimously **RESOLVED:** To approve the process of transferring funds [£2,134.00] from one part of the budget for 2020/21 [Christmas event] to a different one [memorial garden and wall] by means of 'virement' to reflect changes in plans and policies.
- 577.1 It was agreed that a memorial wall with plaques and garden with water feature, hanging baskets, plants, and benches would require separate rules and regulations as well as separate fees and charges. Cllr. S. Dowson agreed to prepare a pricing strategy for the purchase of plaques to cover the costs and to obtain an artist's impression of the garden.
578. **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY:** A very short wreath laying ceremony by Cllrs. Tinkler and Barker would take place at the war memorial at 11.00 a.m. on Sunday 8th November 2020. On the motion of Cllr. Tinkler, it was **RESOLVED:** To request a bugler from Ferryhill Town Band to play *The Last Post* and "*Reveille*".
579. **CHRISTMAS EVENT: RESOLVED:** To cancel the arrangements for the carols around the Christmas tree event due to coronavirus and to book '*Mr. Santa Claus*' for December 2021.
- 579.1 On the motion of Cllr. P. Pearson, seconded by Cllr. Parkin, it was **RESOLVED:** To obtain a quotation from *Thinford Nurseries* for the cost of watering the replacement Nordmann fir tree on the village green about 3 or 4 times per week.
580. **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:** Any items for consideration shall be sent to the Parish Clerk.
581. **NEXT MEETING: RESOLVED:** That the next meeting shall be on Thursday 12th November 2020 at 6.30 p.m. held remotely via video conferencing.
- 581.1 On the motion of Cllr. Tinkler, it was **RESOLVED:** To invite Paul Howell MP to the next parish council meeting.
- 581.2 **RESOLVED:** That setting of the Parish Council's budget and precept requirement for 2021/2022 shall take place at the next parish council meeting.
582. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS: RESOLVED:** That the public shall be excluded from the meeting in accordance with Paragraph 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 on the basis that if they were present there would be a likelihood of disclosure of exempt (confidential) information, i.e. terms of commercial tenders.
583. **BUDGET PLANNING:** Members considered the indicative Council Tax Base and Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS) grant for the 2021/2022 financial year and discussed the most recent budget report.
584. **CONCLUSION OF MEETING:** The meeting closed at 8:26 p.m.