



FISHBURN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on 9th January 2020 at 6.30 p.m.
in Fishburn Community Centre, Butterwick Road, Fishburn, County Durham

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

- | Minute No. | Agenda item |
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| 471. | APOLOGIES: RESOLVED: To accept apologies and reasons for non-attendance from Cllrs. C. Luke [work]; M. Parkin [holiday]; A. Dillon; [unwell]; and S. Dowson [unwell]. |
| 472. | DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr. Barker declared a registerable interest on matters affecting the Football Club; Allotment Association; and Memorial Children's Playing Field. |
| 473. | CASUAL VACANCY: There was an expression of interest regarding one casual vacancy from a resident who was unable to attend due to a work commitment and it was RESOLVED: To consider the matter at the next meeting. |
| 474. | DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL: Cllrs. J. Robinson and D. Brown gave a report on matters relating to Durham County Council and agreed to contact the Area Action Partnership (AAP) the following day to check the amount of money remaining in the Neighbourhood Budget with a view to awarding a grant for the ceremonial beacon brazier. |
| 475. | PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: A member of the public commented on Skerne Medical Group. |
| 476. | MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: RESOLVED: To approve as a correct record and authorise signing of the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th December 2019. |
| 477. | MATTERS ARISING: Cllr. K. Dowson reiterated that further barrel planters along Butterwick Road was necessary to address the problem of parking on the village green. |
| 478. | CORRESPONDENCE: A report of correspondence was considered. |
| 478.1 | A resident had been advised that the grounds maintenance contractor is required to sweep and disinfect all parish council's bus shelters weekly all year round and his concerns would be raised with the contractor to make sure this meets the required standard. |
| 478.2 | RESOLVED: That the seat within the bus shelter opposite The Beehive shall be retained. |
| 478.3 | RESOLVED: That the gates of the playground at the Memorial Children's Playing Field shall remain locked as a temporary measure until it is made safe, and the gate at the football fields shall remain locked, to be reviewed when the nights get lighter. |
| 479. | PLANNING APPLICATIONS: Ref: DM/19/03970/FPA - Permanent gas-fuelled ceremonial beacon (5 metre height) to be sited on a concrete base on open space at Front Street as part of the commemoration of the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE Day). |
| 480. | REPORTS: Members received a report on meetings attended on behalf of the Council. |
| 480.1 | Cllr. Tinkler gave a report on a meeting with representatives of Fishburn Allotment Association to discuss issues concerning the allotments' devolved management scheme. RESOLVED: To approve and authorise signing of the revised Service Level Agreement. |
| 480.2 | Cllr. Tinkler pointed out that the meeting with the Allotment Association was to discuss issues concerning the devolved management scheme, and <i>not</i> to discuss a tenant's application for leave to appeal. Arrangements had been made to remove from the Service Level Agreement a requirement for the Council to be involved in the appeals process. |
| 480.3 | Cllr. Barker reported that there had been a massive improvement in the presence of waste |

since the gates at the football fields had been locked at the request of Durham Police.

- 481. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES:** Members considered a grounds maintenance report from Mr. S. Ellwood and the current action plan.
- 482. REVIEW OF CHRISTMAS EVENT: RESOLVED:** That the carols around the Christmas tree event shall be held on Wednesday 9th December 2020 at 7.00 p.m.
- 482.1 On the motion of Cllr. A. Pearson, it was **RESOLVED:** That a song sheet with lyrics shall be published for residents in *Fishburn News* before the event.
- 482.2 **RESOLVED:** To confirm the booking for *Mr. Santa Claus* at a cost of £275.00, and to purchase 100 *Cadbury's* selection packs at an estimated cost of £89.00.
- 482.3 **RESOLVED:** To ask an electrician to provide a quotation to install proper electrical boxes and to extend the existing cable beyond the living tree to supply any future marquee/shed.
- 482.4 On the motion of Cllr. Barker, seconded by Cllr. Tinkler, it was **RESOLVED:** That there would be no children's ride, and to provide additional entertainment, e.g. LED stilt walkers.
- 482.5 **RESOLVED:** To review nearer the date of the event the hire of a mini marquee; the range of catering options; and whether to purchase a fresh-cut Christmas tree of good quality again.
- 483. PLAY AREAS:** Cllr. Barker had submitted an application for 'pocket park' funding for the Memorial Children's Playing Field charity. Cllr. Robinson agreed to contribute £5,000 each [total £10,000] from a Neighbourhood Budget grant to fund much-needed improvements to the children's play equipment at Stobart Terrace within the next financial year 2020/21. A meeting would be arranged with DCC officials before 30th January.
- 484. CEMETERY:** Cllr. S. Dowson had offered to obtain quotations for the cost to erect a wall with memorial plaques but she had three times submitted apologies for her non-attendance. **RESOLVED:** To defer the item until the next parish council meeting. **RESOLVED:** To retain the notice board and obtain a quotation for the cost to re-locate nearer to the water tap.
- 485. GAS BEACON PROJECT:** An application to *County Durham Community Foundation* for funding would be considered by *Butterwick Moor Wind Farm Fund* at the end of January. A quotation for a concrete base had been received from *AA Paving*.
- 486. VE DAY COMMEMORATION:** Cllr. Tinkler gave a report on proceedings for the VE Day 75 commemoration event on Friday 8th May 2020. **RESOLVED:** To approve the booking of a bugler from Ferryhill Town Band at £30.00 to cover expenses.
- 487. FINANCIAL MATTERS: RESOLVED:** To receive the schedule of monthly expenditure and approve payment of those invoices presented to the meeting and issue cheques.
- 488. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND 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.
- 489. ALLOTMENTS:** Members considered two quotations for an asbestos survey report at the allotment site. **RESOLVED:** To ask *Lucion Services Limited* to carry out the survey report and bulk sampling exercise for the whole allotment site [117 plots] at the price quoted [£235.00], and to allow time for Fishburn Allotment Association to give one month's notice to all the allotment holders to warn them that access will be required.
- 490. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:** There were no items for consideration on the next agenda.
- 491. NEXT MEETING: RESOLVED:** That the next meeting shall be on Thursday 13th February 2020 at 6.30 p.m. in Fishburn Community Centre, Butterwick Road.
- 492. CONCLUSION OF MEETING:** The meeting closed at 8:27 p.m.