



**Bishop Middleham
& Mainsforth**

Conserving our Past Building our Future

Minutes of a meeting of Bishop Middleham and Mainsforth Parish Council held Wednesday 8th January 2020 in the Village Hall Bishop Middleham.

140.0/19 Present: - Cllr. H. Neve (Chairman), N. Dexter, M. MacCallam, V. Cooke, A. Shaw, J. Brownlee, D. Hardy.

In attendance PCSO and Neighbourhood Warden Neil Broxton.

1 member of the public from Mainsforth area of the Parish.

Parish Clerk J. Robinson

141.0/19 Apologies: - Councillor G. Turner and County Councillor P. Crathorne. Cllr. N. Dexter had submitted an apology for lateness.

142.0/19. Notice of meeting: - It was moved by Cllr. H. Neve that the meeting be opened.

143.0/19 Declaration of Interest: - Cllrs. M. MacCallam and A. Shaw regarding precept setting due to Council tenancy.

144.0/19 Members dispensations: - none required

145.0/19 Co-option

Members discussed the current vacancy and made specific reference to the need to increase representation from the Mainsforth area of the Parish. The member of the public present advised he would discuss the matter with fellow residents to see if a volunteer could be found. The member of the public advised he would be attending future meetings, work and family issues allowing.

146.0/19 Chairman's Report.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and as usual reminded members of the need to respect other people's views. He asked members to complete the register of Interest forms as soon as possible and return to the Clerk who will then forward them onto DCC for them to be added to the County Website.

147/19 Public Participation.

A resident from Mainsforth addressed the meeting and raised the following issues: -

- a. Across Mainsforth there is concern regarding anti-social and dangerous driving especially speeding
- b. Injury has occurred to animals and family pets causing great upset to residents
- c. It not only involves cars but also large vehicles, vehicles literally racing through the hamlet
- d. Member of Parliament and County Councillor have been written too by residents
- e. Residents are asking for both support and positive action from not only the Parish Councilors but also other stakeholders
- f. Residents are trying to attract Business Sponsorship to support the campaign
- g. It was suggested a major feature be added to the next Parish newsletter referencing the issue and seeking support

Members Action Plan: -

- a. Cllr. V.Cooke suggested Community Speed Watch could be of assistance, it was agreed he liaise with residents of Mainsforth to link in with Bishop Middleham. It was suggested a new publicity campaign seeking new recruits across the Parish for Community Speed Watch be undertaken. PCSO agreed to take forward
- h. A meeting between residents, Parish Council, County Council and Police was suggested specifically to address the issues. The resident agreed to speak to neighbours and report back if this is acceptable
- i. Members agreed to ask Highways to install a speed monitoring exercise
- j. Chair, Cllr. H. Neve agreed to meet all residents if this was felt helpful

Cllr. N. Dexter joined the meeting at this point

148/19 PACT and Police Report

Members noted the figures available covered a 2-month period

Burglary - nil, Theft - nil, Assault- nil, ASB 1 case, Criminal Damage - nil, Drugs - nil, Vehicle Crime 1.

There had been other issues covering, dog fouling, suspicious males around private property, and in the DWT nature area and its immediate vicinity, inappropriate behaviour. Members were extremely concerned and requested action by both Police and Neighborhood Warden in respect of the DWT Nature Reserve. Members commented on not only adults, but young people and elderly use this area.

Members expressed concern regarding parking on footpaths in front of the school, Park estate, Broadoaks, Bishop Garth blocking disabled access, dropped kerbs and danger to residents with prams/wheelchairs. PCSO agreed to take forward and report back to the Council. Concern was also expressed by several members of a white van regularly blocking the access onto High Row. PCSO agreed to also take this forward.

PCSO raised the next meeting of Farm Watch on 27th February 2020, members agreed to sponsor as per agreement.

149/19 Neighbourhood Warden

Cllr. H. Neve welcomed Neil Broxton local warden to the meeting. Cllr. H. Neve advised him of the Councils concern over the use of the covert camera purchased by the Council and requested an update of usage and prosecutions. Members were advised Neil deploys the cameras himself, having access to 4 cameras including the Parish Council one. He has issued 3 fixed penalty notices and instigated 4 prosecutions within the Parish Boundary. Members and warden all agreed there has been increased fly tipping on Stoney Beck Lane especially around the DWT Nature Reserve and Pitt Lane. The warden advised there is always a covert camera deployed within the area but for both GDPR and Security reasons he is unable to detail where. 3 hotspots have been highlighted and are continually being monitored by DCC within the Parish. Members also agreed

to write to the Director of Environment DCC asking what action the Highways department can do to assist.

Members asked if DCC would either provide or agree for the Parish Council to provide large Notices to go at each end of the Quarry Road advising members of the public cameras are monitoring, members anxious to make it more visible that it is illegal to dump anywhere within the Parish. Members agreed to publicise any successful prosecutions via local press or Parish Newsletter. The aim being to reduce dumping. The Warden agreed to raise the issue with his manager and report back. He also agreed to approach landowners to gain permission to use cameras on their lands associated with areas highlighted by members.

Members also raised concern regarding dog fouling. Neil advised members he is not responsible for dog monitoring, but he would raise the issues of how many complaints have been made, how many prosecutions and how many successful. He agreed to contact the relevant dog fouling officer and ask him to attend a future meeting of the Parish Council.

Members also expressed concern at the state of the playing field, particularly the football ground, covered in broken glass. S.E. Landscapes have removed them. PCSO agreed to monitor usage of The Park area. Cllr. N. Dexter also agreed to approach Cornforth House to discuss the youth outreach programme they are currently running.

150/19 County Councillor Report

Cllr. Crathorne had submitted her apologies as attending the AAP Board meeting.

151/19 Minutes of the meeting held on 11th December 2019

The minutes were agreed proposed Cllr. H. Neve and seconded Cllr. V.Cooke

152/19 MTFP 2020/21

Members considered the proposed MTFP submitted to members at the December meeting by the Chairman. Members agreed the budget on a proposal by Cllr. H. Neve and seconded by Cllr. N. Dexter

153/19 Precept

Members considered the 2020/21 Civic year and the additional costs expected which include the review of the environment contract, improvements to the Park and general inflationary increase on the Council budget.

Cllr. V.Cooke proposed and Cllr. N. Dexter seconded a 5% increase on the precept for the Civic year 2020/21. This was carried unanimously.

The Chairman and Clerk were authorised to sign DCC Form requesting same.

154/19 Members information sharing

- a) Cllr. M. MacCallam queried whether Cllr. P. Crathorne could consider funding traffic calming measures as discussed earlier in the meeting for Mainsforth, matter to be raised with her directly
- b) Cllr. M. MacCallam queried if highways engineers would consider speed bumps like those in Coxhoe for installation on High Row. Cllr. P. Crathorne to be asked to enquire
- c) Cllr. V.Cooke asked for extra litter bins at the bus stop on High Row, again to be referred to Cllr. P. Crathorne for action

155/19 Correspondence

- a. Various emails circulated to members for information
- b. CDALC updating legal position on minute recording. ALL discussions including those in exempt matter must be recorded in the minutes and available for the public to see. Only decisions should be recorded in the minutes.

156/19 Highways meeting

Awaiting update from DCC officers.

157/19 Environmental issues

Issues raised earlier in the meeting. Members received and noted the work report from S.E. Landscape for the work undertaken during December.

158/19 The Park/Play Areas

Cllr. V.Cooke advised members of the decisions taken in between the meeting to replace the changing room outer door. It had been badly damaged. Cost as per financial report. Actions taken by sub-group endorsed.

Cllr. N. Dexter reported on the recent meeting she had attended where residents discussed establishing an Under 11 football team. It is only in the planning stage at the present time but if proceeded with, it would affect usage of the football pitches. Members felt it was necessary to inform the Ladies/girls teams of this expression of interest and its potential effect on their usage. Parish Clerk to write to Girls team.

Members expressed concern at the state of the changing pavilion. It was agreed Parish Clerk arrange for it to be deep cleaned early February after all teams have been asked to remove items from the changing rooms. Following deep cleaning letters to be sent to all users of the facility advising them to ensure it is left in a clean and tidy state. The facility is to be regularly checked after use by members and if found not to be in an acceptable state members will invoke leasing rules.

159/19 Monthly Accounts

Please see Appendix 1 for Accounts approved for payment at the meeting.

160/19 Planning

Nil directly affecting the Parish currently.

Cllr. H. Neve proposed and Cllr. N. Dexter seconded that due to the nature of the business to be discussed members of the public and press be excluded from the meeting. This was agreed.

161/19 Review of Environmental Contract

Cllr. A. Shaw and M. MacCallam presented the draft contract and other details they have prepared for the contract review. Members accepted the draft and thanked them for the work undertaken. The Councilors agreed to meet again to firm up all documentation ready for circulation to those expressing an interest to tender.

161/19 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 12th February 2020 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm