



	<p>2. Funding to be made available to The Green area to reinstate the fencing, possibly provide some boulders and possibly some seating to make improvements to the area, including cutting trees back.</p> <p>3. Quad bike issues - Cllr Peeke had raised with the Clerk previously regarding signage that would give the policy powers to remove quad bikes. It was agreed that the Council would pay for the signage, and this was expected soon.</p> <p>4. Cllr Peeke was open to requests for funding for next year. Council felt one area may be the play area behind the village hall. This to be looked at in the spring.</p> <p>5. Trees - Cllr Peeke had been looking at the DCC Tree Policy. Cllr Peeke had raised the issue of old trees that were close to buildings and very large. It was hoped that this would be included in the new Tree Policy. These discussions raised issues with trees in Bishop Middleham. Cllr Peeke advised that DCC would be assessing all trees in the coming months, and this would be reported back to the Council.</p> <p>Cllr Neve expressed thanks to Cllr Peeke for her continued support and hard work in the area.</p>	
7.10/23	<p><b>Outdoor Activities</b></p> <p><b>a) The Park Regeneration</b></p> <p>i) The Park had been started - concern raised by the Clerk regarding the position of the swings. Contractor had informed the Clerk that the swing set had been moved back due to the safety zone. Council felt we should have been informed before this change was made. <b>Resolved:</b> Clerk to speak to Kevin (KOMPAN) to get further information.</p> <p>ii) First funding claim had been submitted and would be in our bank account within the week.</p> <p><b>b) Environment Contract</b> - Clerk had met with Scott from SE Landscaping to go through the schedule of works. The Clerk felt it would be beneficial to meet with Cllr MacCallam to look at this further as she had been involved in setting the contract originally. It was suggested that A Shaw also be asked to be involved.</p> <p><b>c) Events</b></p> <p>i) Michaelmas Fair - the event was successful. Unsure whether we will be charged for the bar usage. Ideas were put forward for next year, eg car boot/table top sale, live music, stalls. It was agreed for Events to be put forward for the January/February meeting to make plans for next years events. Must remember to let the football team know when event is next year. Cllr. Neve expressed thanks to the Clerk and Cllr Turner for their work to being this event together. <b>Resolved</b> - to move to January / February 2024 meeting.</p> <p>ii) Fireworks event. Tickets were now with the Post Office and posters provided. All providers had been booked and confirmed. Cllrs to meet on the afternoon of the display to put the fencing in place, as usual. WhatsApp to be used to confirm actions needed. Thanks to be made to Joanna at the Post Office. Walkie-Talkies to be charged - Cllr Peeke to contact Cllr Cooke.</p> <p>iii) Christmas Lights - confirmed date of the event was Sunday 3 December. It was agreed to continue with the Mulled wine and mince pies again this year - Cllr Jacobs had agreed to do this</p>	<p><b>AH</b></p> <p><b>AH</b></p> <p><b>AH</b></p> <p><b>AH</b></p>

	<p>again. Other suggestions were to ask the school choir to attend and sing a couple of songs/carols. Cllr Neve to try to speak to a member of Ferryhill band to confirm attendance. It was also thought to be a nice idea to provide a bag of sweets to the children who attend. Discussion also took place regarding who would turn the lights on. A number of options were discussed but it was felt it would be nice to ask Joanna Younger (post office) to turn the lights on this year.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> Clerk to approach the school regarding the choir attending. Cllr Neve to approach a member of Ferryhill Town Band to confirm their attendance. Clerk to write to Joanna Younger regarding switching on of the lights. Sweets to be purchased.</p>	<b>AH/HN</b>
8.10/23	<b>Health and Safety</b> - No issues to raise	<b>AH</b>
9.10/23	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>a) Payments and receipts for September 2023 had been circulated to all Members prior to the meeting - no issues were raised. <b>Resolved:</b> Approved payments</p> <p><b>b) Annual Accounts / Audit</b> - members were informed that there had only been one minor scope for improvement from Mazars as the Clerk had missed a tick from a box. Copies of the completed letter and Mazars signed audit report had been forwarded to the Members and would be made available on the website. <b>Resolve:</b> to approve the annual audit and for the Clerk to publish the findings.</p> <p><b>c) Change of Bank Account</b> - members were informed that all accounts had now been transferred to Unity Trust Bank from Barclays. We have a current account and 2 savings accounts. At present signatories on the account are Cllr Neve, Cllr MacCallam, Cllr Brownlee and the Clerk.</p> <p>d) <b>Leases</b></p> <p>i) Savills confirmed the arboriculturist had concluded their survey and the tree was found to be healthy but needed some remedial work completed. Savills have agreed to carry out this work. The Clerk had emailed Savills to start discussions regarding the lease of the village green land but, as yet, no response had been received.</p>	<b>AH</b>
10.10/23	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>A planning application had been looked at by Members for an area near Town End Farm. A detailed discussion took place, looking at the proposed plans and how it would look.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> Cllr Turner to speak to local residents to gather views on the plans and feedback to members.</p>	<b>GT</b>
11.10/23	<b>Lending Libraries</b> - The Clerk reported that red telephone boxes for £1 are only available if still in situ. Further options to be looked at.	
12.10/23	<p><b>Changing the name of the Parish Council</b> - A letter had been sent from MP Paul Howell to John Hewit (CEO of Durham County Council) in support of our application to change the name of the Parish Council. Cllr Peeke has also agreed to write a letter of support. Consultations within the community was required. Further support was being sought from the local AAP board and ways of consulting with local residents were being refined.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> Members agreed to move forward with the proposals to change the name of the Parish Council as it was felt this change better reflected the communities represented and would further bring together the communities.</p>	

13.10/23	<b>Correspondence</b> Members acknowledge receipt of the correspondence but requested the letter regarding the polling review to be emailed to members.	
12.10/23	<b>Member Sharing</b> Cllr G Turner The next meeting of the Relief in Need Sedgefield Charities was due to take place next week and Cllr Turner was attending. Cllr Turner gave a report on the spend of this group for the previous year and will report back to the next meeting of the Parish Council on the outcome of the meeting.	<b>GT</b>
13.10/23	<b>Next Meeting:</b> Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7pm	

The meeting closed 9pm

Signed: - Chair.

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023