



**Bishop Middleham
& Mainsforth**

Conserving our Past Building our Future

Minutes of a meeting of Bishop Middleham and Mainsforth Parish Council held Wednesday 12th February 2020 in the Village Hall Bishop Middleham.

162.0/19 Present: - Cllr. H. Neve (Chairman), M. MacCallam, V. Cooke, A. Shaw, D. Hardy.

County Councillor Pauline Crathorne

4 members of the public from across the Parish in attendance.

Parish Clerk J. Robinson

163.0/19 Apologies: - Councillor G. Turner, N. Dexter and J. Brownlee had submitted their apologies and accepted by the meeting. Cllr. M. MacCallam had submitted an apology for lateness.

164.0/19. Notice of meeting: - It was moved by Cllr. H. Neve that the meeting be opened.

165.0/19 Declaration of Interest: - There were no declarations of interest submitted.

166.0/19 Members dispensations: - none required

167.0/19 Co-option

Members discussed the current vacancy and made specific reference to the need to increase representation from the Mainsforth area of the Parish. It was agreed to place on March agenda for consideration.

168.0/19 Chairman's Report.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and as usual reminded members of the need to respect other people's views.

169/19 Public Participation.

- a. Representatives from the proposed Under 11 Boys Football Team presented the current position regarding the establishment of the new club. It is hoped the Team will be established in time to join the 2020 Season, and representatives asked Council for permission to use the Football Pitch at The Park on Saturday mornings. The representatives of the Football Club advised members the organiser's of the girl's team are

aware of both the establishment of the Club and request to use the pitch. Cllr. V.Cooke proposed and Cllr. D.Hardy seconded that the under 11 Boys Club be allowed to use the pitch on a Saturday morning in the 2020 Season. Girls Team to be advised of this impact on their own usage. Fee to be agreed when the usage is confirmed. This was agreed.

- b. A member of the public raised the issue of the churning up of the grass verges adjoining Broadoaks. He also referred to an email sent to the Chairman by residents, previously circulated to members, that included photographs of the area. Members also expressed concern regarding the issue and the Chairman advised it had been raised at the January meeting and passed onto the Head of Highways by the Council for them to act. He also agreed to upload onto the Bishop Middleham website the issue and concerns being expressed by residents. A member suggested the quarry, Thompsons, be approached at this time to put stones on the verges but it was agreed to wait at this time till a response from Durham County Council. Cllr. P. Crathorne agreed to raise the matter with Officers as well.

Cllr. M.McCallam joined the meeting at this point.

- c. The owner of a property abutting the Council Nature Reserve advised he is considering erecting a fence on the boundary between his and the Council land. He was asking the Council as landowners for their agreement to the fence. He will erect, retain ownership and maintain the fence. The fence will be 200 meters in length, initially mesh fencing to allow buddleia to grow and form hedging. After discussion, it was proposed Cllr. M. MacCallam and seconded Cllr. H. Neve that permission be given for the fence on the terms as advised by the resident, this was agreed.

170/19 PACT and Police Report

Cllr. V.Cooke advised the next meeting is to be held in March.

171/19 County Councillor Report

Cllr. P. Crathorne raised the following issues: -

- a. The February County Council meeting will set 2020/21 Council Tax
- b. There will be 68 new Police over the next 2 years, Central Government will pay first year amount
- c. Stroke Unit Consultation for BAGH has been stopped
- d. The Quarry Road is now being cleaned daily by Thompsons. Members agreed to monitor
- e. A177 sign has been replaced
- f. Discussion took place regarding fly tipping. Members expressed concern that nothing appears to be being done to resolve the matter. Cllr. P. Crathorne agreed to raise the matter with Officers and report back to members. It was agreed both Cllr. Crathorne and Clerk chase up the issue of signs at either end of Quarry Road with the Neighbourhood Wardens.

172/19 County Councillor Report

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

173/19 Member sharing

Members raised the following issues for colleague's information: -

- a. It is an average of 3 times per. Week Scarlet Band Bus Company are not fulfilling their contract. Cllr. Crathorne agreed to raise with relevant Officer at DCC
- b. Women's Institute have attracted £150 grant to purchase whips and asking for suggestions for planting. It was suggested in Castle Lake area. Cllr. M. MacCallam agreed to advise them accordingly

- c. It was queried if the Parish could purchase their own speed camera to go on High Row and Mainsforth. Clerk to obtain costings
- d. It was suggested a members Walkabout be arranged for the Spring; Clerk agreed to co-ordinate
- e. Cllr. H. Neve agreed to chase up Mainsforth speeding meeting with residents
- f. Members expressed concerns in regard to fly tipping at Turnbull Yard.

174/19 Environment issues

- a. Cllr. A. Shaw asked if 2 Sycamores in The Park could be inspected by DCC Re future management. It was agreed to contact Mr. Simon McGinty at DCC to undertake
- b. Cllr. A. Shaw reported that DCC had received a £500,000 grant over the next 2 years for tree planting. It was agreed to approach Mr. J. Talbot at DCC asking if/when the Parish will be included in the scheme

177/19 Website

Members agreed to meet with the website provider to look at updating content and also look into uploading the past 5 years accounts. Clerk to arrange same.

178/19 Play areas

The Clerk advised Kompan Play Company have agreed to a meeting with the council 10am, Wednesday 19th February 2020, it was agreed any member available to attend

Members received the Chronos Legionella Risk Assessment Report for Council property. No action required.

Deep cleaning of Pavilion to take place Thursday 27th February.

179/19 Correspondence

- a. Various emails circulated to members for information
- b. CDALC advising Council nominations for Royal Garden Party had not been successful
- c. Offer from new Neighbourhood Warden to meet members to discuss his roles including dog fouling and fly tipping. Agreed to accept Monday 24th February 2pm, meeting at the Post Office.
- d. Clerks and Councils Direct newsletter, received
- e. DCC advising of 1500 meter no parking zone next to Hardwick Country Park/Sands Hall Roundabout
- f. CDALC advising S137 Annual Figure to be £8.32 for the coming Financial Year
- g. Planning Application Training by CDALC, Cllr. M. MacCallam agreed to attend
- h. Report from County Durham and Darlington Fire Authority in response to queries raised by members regarding a recent fire on Stoney beck Estate, letter received. Members had been approached by residents asking if burnt tyres could be carcinogenic. Clerk to contact Environmental health for clarification.
- i. CDALC advising of SCAM training, no member wished to attend
- j. CDALC Play Area training, Cllrs. M. MacCallam, N. Dexter, A. Shaw and Clerk agreed to attend.
- k. CDALC advising of grants for Armed Forces Day events, receive

180/19 Monthly Accounts

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

Members agreed to request RFO be added to Bank Account access/bank statements but not as a signatory. Cllr. V. Cooke and M. MacCallam agreed to inform bank accordingly.

181/19 Village Hall Lease

Members considered a request from the Village Hall Committee to pay the legal fees as previously agreed by the Council. The Council had previously agreed to pay up to £500 but excluding VAT the amount has risen to £700. It was proposed Cllr. D.Hardy and seconded Cllr. M.McCallam that the Council increase its contribution to £700 due to the favorable renegotiated lease bring in favor of the Parish/Village Hall. This was agreed.

182/19 Planning

An application to extend agricultural barns at Spruceley Farm. It was agreed members submit any comments to the Clerk by 24th February who will then forward onto DCC.

183/19 VE Planning

Cllr. M. MacCallam asked that the church be advised of what is expected to take place over the celebration weekend. Clerk to forward.

Cllr. V.Cooke proposed and Cllr. H. Neve seconded and carried that due to the nature of the business to be transacted that members of the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

184/19 Review of Environmental Contract

The Clerk advised that following the advert for expressions of interest to tender 4 companies had shown an interest and relevant documents sent.

It was agreed Cllr. A. Shaw and Cllr. M. MacCallam assisted by the Clerk open and evaluate the tenders received reporting to Council for decision. It was agreed the tender meeting be Friday 28th February at 3.30pm followed by Full Council at 6pm.

Members unanimously agreed to place on record they're thanks to both Cllr. A. Shaw and M. MacCallam for the work they undertook on this matter.

185/19 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 11th March 2020 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm