



Bishop Middleham
& Mainsforth

Bishop Middleham Parish Council

Please reply to:

c/o Hutton House

Durham Road

Chilton

County Durham

DL17 0HE

Conserving our Past: Building Our Future

Chairman Cllr. Harvey Neve

Minutes of a meeting of Bishop Middleham Parish Council held Wednesday 28th September 2022, in
Bishop Middleham Village Hall

Present: Cllr. H. Neve (Chairman), Cllr. G. Turner (Vice Chairman), Cllr. J Brownlee, Cllr. M MacCallam,
Cllr. E. Peeke (County Councillor)
Mr. S. Ellwood (Grounds Maintenance Contractor)
A. Hall (Parish Clerk)

1 member of the public was in attendance

1.9/22 **Apologies:** G. Jacobs

2.9/22 **Notice of meeting:** - It was moved by Cllr. H. Neve that the meeting be opened.

3.9/22 **Declarations of Interest** – none required.

4.9/22 **Public Participation** – no issues raised.

5.9/22 **Minutes of meeting held 13th July 2022** were agreed in principle with the following amendment and reissue to the next Council meeting.

Amendment requested to 162.7/22 – to read:

Action – Advertise vacancies requesting expressions of interest in writing. **HN**

Discussions took place regarding a number of items in the minutes:

- To revisit the Baby Bees Community Fund application – this applicant who initially submitted the application has left the village. Another resident has expressed an interest to be involved in the project but is hoping to join with the Busy Bees group. This would require an updated application to be submitted.
ACTION: To contact new interested party to gather information and submit new application to the Community Fund for equipment. **JB / AH**
- Bishop Middleham village sign has still not been replaced.
ACTION: To follow up with DCC **EP**

6.9/22

Grounds Maintenance

Issues raised by S. Ellwood (S E Landscaping)

- Issue with trees on the brewery site – rounds ordered to make safe and secure
- Wild flowers have been successful this year – although these are annuals the area would need to be trimmed and will hopefully self-Seed
- Bench (Glasdon) – this is a commemorative bench to be installed on the main walkway in the wildlife garden. **ACTION:** installations costs to be sent to Clerk by contractor **SE**
- Discussed providing new trees in place on the trees that have not survived – (opposite entrance to Drackers) costings required
- Dog fouling – issues raised regarding residents allowing their dogs to foul on the football field and not cleaning up. **ACTION:** letter to be sent home with school children **HN** and review what signs are available requesting dogs to be kept on a lead and requesting dog mess is cleaned up. **AH**
- Planting has been difficult this year due to the weather conditions, continuing to monitor. Suggested to look at more sustainable planting for next year. This could be looked at by the Environmental Group. **ACTION:** Set up Environmental Group **HN**
- Christmas Lights – we are currently down to 9 working lights (2 of which are working but dim). Some timers are broken and this will be an additional cost to get repaired. **ACTION:** Look into costs for hiring a number of new lights for this year and other options available **GT, SE, AH**
- Mr Ellwood requested the Council to consider his proposal to extend his contract (which ends in April 2023) for a further 2 years. For this consideration the current contract price will be held for the 2 year extension period. **ACTION:** To be considered by the Council at the next meeting and the decision reported to Mr Ellwood **HN / AH**

Issues raised by Council

- Councillors requested that the plastic flags attached to some trees on the brewery site be removed **ACTION: SE**
- There is a fence in the wildlife garden that has started to lean and needs to be repaired **ACTION: SE**
- Meeting required to adopt the Wildlife Garden and to handover to Durham Wildlife Trust. Suggested this involved the Environmental Group when established. **ACTION: HN**
- Issue on the path created by the golf course – path established but raised wood stumps/twigs are a tripping hazard. **ACTION:** Contact Dennis Craggs (Golf Club) to request the path be improved **AH**.

7.9/22

Events (Michaelmas Fayre, Halloween, Fireworks Display and Christmas Light Event)

Michaelmas Fayre – majority of the event has been arranged by Brightwater, who will be arriving on Friday night. Arrangements have been made for the park to be kept open. Brightwater are providing security for the weekend. Signs required for the toilets at the pavilion. The Merry Tipple organised (Council applied for TEN). 2 rides for younger children have been arranged. Requested to continue to the Sunday. This has

been arranged and the details for Brightwater passed to Turners for payment for the Sunday. **ACTION:** Ask Turners if they can provide Shuggy Boats for the weekend **AH**

Firework Display – Friday 4th November 2022. **ACTIONS:** Tickets to be produced (same pricing as last year) and given to the Post Office **AH**. Contact Merry Tipple to attend – request that they apply for the TEN **AH** Request information regarding the rides being provided by Turners **AH**

Discussion took place regarding other activities.

ACTION: Speak to the Carrot Club about Halloween Event **HN**
is a Scarecrow Event planned for next year? **EP**

Christmas – light up to take place on Sunday 4th December 2022 at 4pm. Ferryhill Town Band has been booked. Funding has been planned to provide mulled wine and mince pies.

8.9/22 **Update on the Park**

Finances for the project were as follows:

Phase 1 £75,000 (excl VAT)
Phase 2 £62,951 (excl VAT)

Funding had been approved as follows:

AAP & Neighbourhood Fund	£52,129
Tarmac	£62,950

Discussion took place regarding placing the order.

ACTION: Submit signed agreement for AAP / Neighbourhood Funding application **AH**

It was felt that Phase 1 was viable this current financial year, however, it was understood that the current financial status was to be confirmed.

Letter had been received from Tarmac to confirm funding of £62,950 – contents of the offer to be looked at in more detail. **ACTION: AH**

Phase 2 of the project will be looked at when funding arrangements have been confirmed.

9.9/22 Communication / IT / Emails - This item was not discussed and will move to the next Meeting

10.9/22 External Audit Report – This item was not discussed and will move to the next meeting.

11.9/22 Member Sharing

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 12th October 2022

The meeting closed 10pm

Signed: - Chair.

Date: _____

